

Order of Festival Praise Service

10th of October 2021

10.30 am



Worship led by Rev Dr André Groenewald
Music from Harry Thomson, guests, and the Choir

All YOU
NEED *is*
LOVE

Welcome & Announcements

Good morning...It is wonderful to have another Music Festival Praise today - something that we in the past just took for granted.

Welcome to all our friends from the Music Festival and especially to Charlie Husband whom is going to sing for us an old favourite song of his mother...

We will follow the Order of service without any announcements.

Worshipping God Together

Minister: If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing.

Beloved, I greet you in the Name of God the Father the Son and the Holy Spirit. Amen

I believe the choir will be giving us an introduction:

CH4 169 Praise the Lord with the sound of trumpet

Praise the Lord with the sound of trumpet,
praise the Lord with the harp and lute,
praise the Lord with the gentle sounding flute.

Praise the Lord in the field and forest,
praise the Lord in the city square,
praise the Lord anytime and anywhere.

Praise the Lord in the wind and sunshine,
praise the Lord in the dark of night,
praise the Lord in the rain or snow or in the morning light.

Praise the Lord in the deepest valley,
praise the Lord on the highest hill,
praise the Lord, never let your voice be still.

Praise the Lord with the crashing cymbal,
praise the Lord with the pipe and string,
praise the Lord with the joyful songs you sing.

Praise the Lord on a weekday morning,
praise the Lord on a Sunday noon,
praise the Lord by the light of sun or moon.

Praise the Lord in the time of sorrow,
praise the Lord in the time of joy,
praise the Lord in the every moment, nothing let your praise destroy.

Praise the Lord in the peace and quiet,
praise the Lord in your work or play,
praise the Lord every where in every way!

Opening prayer and Lord's prayer

O Trinity of Love, we thank you
for the love we receive from you and our neighbours.
We praise you for your goodness and mercy,
beyond what we deserve.
Teach us to love as you love us,
offering our lives in the service of others
as you offered yourself for our sake.
To the God who creates, redeems and makes us holy,
be all glory and honour and power IN WHOSE NAME WE
PRAY:.

*Our Father, who are in heaven, Hallowed be Your name. Your
kingdom come,*

*Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our
daily bread.*

*And forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us
not into temptation*

*but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, the power, the
glory for ever.*

Amen.

“How wonderful is love” sung by the Choir

Bible reading - Philippians 1:9-11

9-11 So this is my prayer: that your love will flourish and that you will not only love much but well. Learn to love appropriately. You need to use your head and test your feelings so that your love is sincere and intelligent, not sentimental gush. Live a lover's life, circumspect and exemplary, a life Jesus will be proud of: bountiful in fruits from the soul, making Jesus Christ attractive to all, getting everyone involved in the glory and praise of God.

CH4 173 Sing to God new songs of worship

Sing to God new songs of worship
all his deeds are marvellous;
he has brought salvation to us
with his hand and holy arm.
He has shown to all the nations
righteousness and saving power;
he recalled his truth and mercy
to his people Israel.

Sing to God new songs of worship
earth has seen his victory;
let the lands of earth be joyful
praising him with thankfulness.
Sound upon the harp his praises,
play to him with melody;
let the trumpets sound his triumph,
show your joy to God the King!

Sing to God new songs of worship

let the sea now make a noise;
all on earth and in the waters,
sound your praises to the Lord.
Let the hills rejoice together,
let the rivers clap their hands,
for with righteousness and justice
he will come to judge the earth.

Reflection

The Beatles once sang: All you need is love and then they split up!

Maybe their song was meant as a warning to all people that love should not be taken for granted something that our Bible reading is alluding to. Like anything else in life there are several meanings to the word love to which the apostle Paul is referring in his letter to the Philippians.

In the Greek language there are several words for love which all have different meanings namely Phileos – brotherly love, Agape, selfless love usually referring to God's love, storge familial love.

In our passage Paul made use of the Greek word “agape”. He is talking of selfless love and making a strong point in saying that it is only Selfless or sacrificial LOVE that will make others want to accept Jesus Christ as their only Redeemer. It was because of God’s selfless love that they are saved. This is the only LOVE that will be sincere and exemplary for all to witness hence why they need their love to flourish more and more. He is also saying that this LOVE is not just “blind enthusiasm”. It needs to be guided by the knowledge of God’s LOVE and depth of insight of His love for humanity.

The Christian life is intended to be fruitful not only in activity, but in character to the glory and praise of God

Someone said to me the other day that they stumbled across the following saying: “You can give without loving, but you cannot love without giving” which I think summarises what the apostle Paul meant.

So what does it mean to us?

I think we should make sure that we all aspire to the LOVE that Paul was speaking about - selfless and sacrificial love modelling the Love that God had for us.

But it is easier said than done. I find it remarkable that so many poets and artists have tried to capture this love in their paintings, sculptures, ballads and poems. Robert Burns once wrote a famous poem “My love is like a red, red rose” which, so by the way was beautifully sung last night. He tried his best to describe selfless LOVE with his words: “

“Though all the seas gang dry my dear

And the rocks melt with the sun

I would love thee still my dear

Though the sands of time may run”.

Yes the Beatles were right but with one slight amendment: We all need the real selfless LOVE of God – not just any LOVE. And the only way we will get it is by LIVING this LOVE ourselves like

Jesus once taught us. If we can manage to start today, right now, Selflessly giving of ourselves and our talents and gifts to others – then we will be able to make such a difference everywhere we go. Love that does not require any reward or money. Well through the musical festival we saw glimpse of this selfless love in the way of the many volunteers giving so much of their time – stewarding, cleaning, shifting chairs, standing at doors, selling tickets.... I can go on and on. If this is not selfless LOVE, I do not know what you might call it!

May we then, whenever we sing, volunteer, dance or talk about LOVE – mean selfless and sacrificial Love that comes from the God of love.

Amen

Sing to God with joy by Choir

Nora Magee sung by Charlie Husband

Nora, dear Nora, I can't live without you

What made you leave me to cross the wide sea?

Norah, dear Norah, oh! why did you doubt me

The world seems so dark and so dreary to me?
Why from old Ireland have you been a ranger
Why have you chosen the wide world to roam
Why did you go to the land of the stranger,
And leave your own Barney alone, all alone?

Chorus:

***Come back to old Ireland the home of your childhood
The old village well, and the old willow tree,
Come back to the mountain the valley the wild wood
I can't live without you, sweet Norah Magee.***

What have I done that my Norah should leave me?
Oh! how I loved her, and thought that she knew,
Her leaving old Ireland, so sadly would grieve me,
Was she afraid that my heart was not true?
Why was I silent when I might have spoken
And told her my heart was her own, all her own
A true Irish heart that is shattered and broken
Why did she leave her own Barney alone?

Chorus:

***Come back to old Ireland the home of your childhood
The old village well, and the old willow tree,***

Come back to the mountain the valley the wild wood

I can't live without you, sweet Norah Magee.

I wander all day by the field and the farm. I wander at night by the hill and the dell.

Life's all a blank, it has lost all of its charm

How I loved Norah, no tongue e'er could tell

Still I must wait while the pain here is burning,

I'll watch and I'll pray, when the wild billows roar

That the ship may be safely with Norah returning.

Back to old Ireland and Barney once more.

Chorus:

Come back to old Ireland the home of your childhood

The old village well, and the old willow tree,

Come back to the mountain the valley the wild wood

I can't live without you, sweet Norah Magee.

Prayer of thanksgiving David Booth

MP 987

Here is love vast as the ocean

Here is love, vast as the ocean,
loving-kindness as the flood,
when the Prince of Life, our Ransom,
shed for us His precious blood.

Who His love will not remember?

Who can cease to sing His praise?

He can never be forgotten
throughout heav'n's eternal days.

On the mount of crucifixion
fountains opened deep and wide;
through the floodgates of God's mercy
flowed a vast and gracious tide.
Grace and love, like mighty rivers,
poured incessant from above,
and heav'n's peace and perfect justice
kissed a guilty world in love.

Blessing RECEIVE THE BLESSING OF GOD AND GO IN PEACE:

Teach us, great God, to love
with our heart and soul, our mind and strength.
And then blessing of God Almighty FathEr Son and Holy
Spirit will be with all of you now and forever more.

Sing All you need is love ...

You are invited to a cup of coffee or tea in the Ogston Hall.



Prayer

Dear Heavenly Father, thank You for Your deep love towards me and thank You for sending Your only begotten Son, my Saviour Jesus Christ to suffer on the cross for my sake, so that my sins could be forgiven and that I may live with You for ever in heaven. Lord, I know that I do not warrant Your love and yet You have showered unconditional love and grace towards me through Christ, for which I praise and thank You.

But Lord, You desire all Your children to love others as Christ loved us, but my love is poor and weak and is far removed for all that You desire of me. Fill me I pray, with the love of Christ that I may love others in the same way that Christ loved me, so that as Your love pours into my soul, I may be used as a conduit for Christ's love to stream out to others with whom I come into contact.

Help me to demonstrate Your love, not only to those that are lovable, but also to those who lash out at me through pain or anger, disappointment or loss. May the love of Jesus be manifested in me, and may the love of Jesus be distributed, by grace through faith, to all with whom I come in contact. In Jesus' name I pray,

Amen.

© Source: <https://prayer.knowing-jesus.com/Prayers-for-Love>

Love
Love
Love