

Sunday, 26 September 2021

The church of God which He bought with His own blood...

Acts 20:28 (NIV)

Today's preacher is:
Jerry Middleton

Morning Service

Welcome and Notices

Praise

Hark how the adoring hosts above

with songs surround the throne!

Ten thousand thousand are their tongues;
but all their hearts are one.

Worthy the Lamb that died, they cry,
to be exalted thus;
worthy the Lamb, let us reply;
for He was slain for us.

Thou hast redeemed us with Thy blood,
and set the prisoners free;
Thou mad'st us kings and priests to God,
and we shall reign with Thee.

From every kindred, every tongue,
Thou brought'st Thy chosen race;
and distant lands and isles have shared
the riches of Thy grace.

To Him who sits upon the throne,
the God whom we adore,
and to the Lamb that once was slain,
be glory evermore.

Scottish Paraphrases 1781

Prayer

Reading

Acts 20:25-32

²⁵ "Now I know that none of you among whom I have gone about preaching the kingdom will ever see me again. ²⁶ Therefore, I declare to you today that I am innocent of the blood of any of you. ²⁷ For I have not hesitated to proclaim to you the whole will of God. ²⁸ Keep watch over yourselves and all the flock of which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers. Be shepherds of the church of God, which he bought with his own blood. ²⁹ I know that after I leave, savage wolves will come in among you and will not spare the flock. ³⁰ Even from your own number men will arise and distort the truth in order to draw away disciples after them. ³¹ So be on your guard! Remember that for three years I never stopped warning each of you night and day with tears.

³² "Now I commit you to God and to the word of his grace, which can build you up and give you an inheritance among all those who are sanctified.

Children's Talk

Praise

The Lord's my Shepherd, I'll not want,

He makes me lie in pastures green.

He leads me by the still, still waters,

His goodness restores my soul.

And I will trust in You alone.

And I will trust in You alone,

*for Your endless mercy follows me,
Your goodness will lead me home.*

He guides my ways in righteousness,
and He anoints my head with oil,
and my cup, it overflows with joy,
I feast on His pure delights.
And I will trust in you alone....

And though I walk the darkest path,
I will not fear the evil one,
for You are with me, and Your rod and staff
are the comfort I need to know.
And I will trust in you alone....

*Stuart Townend
© 1996 Kingsway's Thankyou Music*

Prayer

Praise

The church's one foundation

is Jesus Christ her Lord;
she is His new creation
by water and the word:
from heaven He came and sought her
to be His holy bride;
with His own blood He bought her
and for her life He died.

Elect from every nation
yet one through all the earth;
her charter of salvation –
one Lord, one faith, one birth:
one holy name she blesses,
partakes one holy food;
as to one hope she presses
with every grace endued.

Mid toil and tribulation
and tumult of her war,
she waits the consummation
of peace for evermore:
till with the vision glorious
her longing eyes are blessed;
and the great church victorious
shall be the church at rest!

Yet she on earth hath union
with God the Three in One,
and mystic sweet communion
with those whose rest is won,
O happy ones and holy!
Lord, give us grace that we
like them, the meek and lowly,
on high may dwell with Thee.

Though with a scornful wonder
men see her sore oppressed,
by schisms rent asunder,
by heresies distressed;
yet saints their watch are keeping,
their cry goes up, "How long?"

And soon the night of weeping
shall be the morn of song.

Samuel J Stone 1839-1900

Prayer

Message

The Flock's The Future

Why Church Matters
Acts 20:17-38

Praise

How deep the Father's love for us,
how vast beyond all measure,
that He should give His only Son
to make a wretch his treasure.
How great the pain of searing loss:
the Father turns his face away,
as wounds which mar the chosen one
bring many sons to glory.

Behold the man upon a cross,
my sin upon His shoulders:
ashamed, I hear my mocking voice
call out among the scoffers.
It was His love that held Him there
until it was accomplished
His dying breath has brought me life
I know that it is finished.

I will not boast in anything,
no gifts, no power, no wisdom;
but I will boast in Jesus Christ,
His death and resurrection.
Why should I gain from His reward?
I cannot give an answer,
but this I know with all my heart,
His wounds have paid my ransom.

Behold the man upon the throne,
the sons all brought to glory,
cry 'Hallelujah' to the lamb
and sing redemption's story.
And all creation bows in awe,
the wretch is now a treasure.
By faith alone through grace alone,
in Christ alone forever.

Stuart Townend

©1995 Kingsway's Thankyou Music

Benediction

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God and the fellowship
of the Holy Spirit be with us all. Amen

Evening Service

Welcome and Notices

Praise

All hail the power of Jesus' name!

Before Him angels fall.
Bring forth the royal diadem
and crown Him, crown Him,
crown Him, crown Him Lord of all.

Crown Him, you martyrs of our God,
who for His justice call;
exalt the one whose path you trod,
and crown Him, crown Him,
crown Him, crown Him Lord of all.

Descendants of His chosen race,
redeemed from Adam's fall,
hail Him who saves you by His grace,
and crown Him, crown Him,
crown Him, crown Him Lord of all.

Sinners, whose love cannot forget
the bitterness and gall,
go, spread your trophies at His feet
and crown Him, crown Him,
crown Him, crown Him Lord of all.

Let every people, nation, tribe,
on this terrestrial ball,
to Him all majesty ascribe
and crown Him, crown Him,
crown Him, crown Him Lord of all.

O that in heaven, with glory's throng,
we at His feet may fall,
join in the everlasting song
and crown Him, crown Him,
crown Him, crown Him Lord of all.

Edward Perronet and John Rippon
©in this version Praise Trust

Prayer

Reading

Deuteronomy 30:1-20

Prosperity After Turning to the LORD

30 When all these blessings and curses I have set before you come on you and you take them to heart wherever the LORD your God disperses you among the nations, ²and when you and your children return to the LORD your God and obey him with all your heart and with all your soul according to everything I command you today, ³then the LORD your God will restore your fortunes and have compassion on you and gather you again from all the nations where he scattered you. ⁴Even if you have been banished to the most distant land under the heavens, from there the LORD your God will gather you and bring you back. ⁵He will bring you to the land that belonged to your ancestors, and you will take possession of it. He will make you more prosperous and numerous than your ancestors. ⁶The LORD your God will circumcise your hearts and the hearts of your descendants, so that you may love him with all your heart and with all your soul, and live. ⁷The LORD your God will put all these curses on your enemies who hate and persecute you. ⁸You will again obey the LORD and follow all his commands I am giving you today. ⁹Then the LORD your God will make you most prosperous in all the work of your hands and in the fruit of your womb, the young of your livestock and the crops of your land. The LORD will again

delight in you and make you prosperous, just as he delighted in your ancestors, ¹⁰if you obey the LORD your God and keep his commands and decrees that are written in this Book of the Law and turn to the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul.

The Offer of Life or Death

¹¹Now what I am commanding you today is not too difficult for you or beyond your reach. ¹²It is not up in heaven, so that you have to ask, "Who will ascend into heaven to get it and proclaim it to us so we may obey it?" ¹³Nor is it beyond the sea, so that you have to ask, "Who will cross the sea to get it and proclaim it to us so we may obey it?" ¹⁴No, the word is very near you; it is in your mouth and in your heart so you may obey it.

¹⁵See, I set before you today life and prosperity, death and destruction. ¹⁶For I command you today to love the LORD your God, to walk in obedience to him, and to keep his commands, decrees and laws; then you will live and increase, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land you are entering to possess.

¹⁷But if your heart turns away and you are not obedient, and if you are drawn away to bow down to other gods and worship them, ¹⁸I declare to you this day that you will certainly be destroyed. You will not live long in the land you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess.

¹⁹This day I call the heavens and the earth as witnesses against you that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Now choose life, so that you and your children may live ²⁰and that you may love the LORD your God, listen to his voice, and hold fast to him. For the LORD is your life, and he will give you many years in the land he swore to give to your fathers, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.

Praise

Who is on the Lord's side?

Who will serve the King?

Who will be His helpers
other lives to bring?

Who will leave the world's side?

Who will face the foe?

Who is on the Lord's side?

Who for Him will go?

By Your call of mercy,
by Your grace alone,
we are on the Lord's side,
Saviour, all Your own.

Jesus, You have bought us,
not with gold or gem,
but with Your own lifeblood,
for Your diadem.

With Your blessing filling
all who come in need,
You have made us willing,
made us free indeed.

By Your great redemption,
by Your grace alone,
we are on the Lord's side,
Saviour, all Your own.

Fierce may be the conflict,
strong may be the foe;
but the King's own army
none can overthrow.

Round His standard ranging,
victory is secure;
for His truth unchanging
makes the triumph sure.

Joyfully enlisting
by Your grace alone,

we are on the Lord's side,
Saviour, all Your own.

Chosen to be soldiers
in a hostile land,
chosen, called and faithful,
for our captain's band.
In His service royal
let us not grow cold;
let us then be loyal,
steadfast, true and bold.
Master, You will keep us
by Your grace alone,
always on the Lord's side,
Saviour, all Your own.

Frances R Havergal 1836-79
© Praise Trust

Prayer

Message

Life On The Heights

You'd Better Believe It!
2 Timothy 2:8-13

Prayer

Praise

In Christ alone my hope is found,
He is my light, my strength, my song;
this Cornerstone, this solid Ground,
firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
What heights of love, what depths of peace,
when fears are stilled, when strivings cease!
My Comforter, my All in All,
here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone! - who took on flesh,
fullness of God in helpless babe!
This gift of love and righteousness,
scorned by the ones He came to save:
till on that cross as Jesus died,
the wrath of God was satisfied -
for every sin on Him was laid;
here in the death of Christ I live.

There in the ground His body lay,
light of the world by darkness slain:
then bursting forth in glorious Day
up from the grave He rose again!
And as He stands in victory
sin's curse has lost its grip on me,
for I am His and He is mine –
bought with the precious blood of Christ.

No guilt in life, no fear in death,
this is the power of Christ in me;
from life's first cry to final breath,
Jesus commands my destiny.
No power of hell, no scheme of man,
can ever pluck me from His hand;

till He returns or calls me home,
here in the power of Christ I'll stand.

Stuart Townend
©2001 Kingsway's Thankyou Music

Benediction

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God and the fellowship
of the Holy Spirit be with us all. Amen

Calendar for October

Sundays 3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th, 31st

Morning Service 11am

Evening Service 6.30pm

Wednesday 6th, 13th, 20th, 27th

mainly music 10am

ReLaunch 12.30pm

Saturdays 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd, 30th

Prayer Meeting at 7pm

Also

3rd Youth Group at 4.00pm in the Hall

7th Leadership Team Meeting at 7pm on Zoom

12th Elders' Meeting at 7.30pm on Zoom

26th Deacons' Meeting at 7.30pm on Zoom

All Church Services (Sunday and Wednesday) will be available on the home page of our website, on Facebook or YouTube.

Prayer Meetings will take place via Zoom (please download Zoom Cloud Meetings to your smart phone or open a free account on your computer, then email rosie.mckie@gilcomston.org to be placed on the mailing list).

Download our sermons from www.gilcomston.org/sermons

Subscribe to our podcasts on iTunes or Spotify

Find us on facebook

Gilcomston Church is a Scottish Charity No SC0 43281, regulated by the Scottish Charity Regulator