



Gilcomston Church

Sunday 16 April

***..living in the fear of the Lord and
encouraged by the Holy Spirit...
Acts 9:31***

Morning Service

**Growing Christ's Church
Reaching A Crossroad**

Acts 9:1-31

Rev Jerry Middleton

**The Saviour died, but rose again
triumphant from the grave;
and pleads our cause at God's right hand,
omnipotent to save.**

**Who then can e'er divide us more
from Jesus and His love,
or break the sacred chain that binds
the earth to heav'n above?**

**Let troubles rise, and terrors frown,
and days of darkness fall;
through Him all dangers we'll defy,
and more than conquer all.**

**Nor death nor life, nor earth nor hell,
nor time's destroying sway,
can e'er efface us from His heart,
or make His love decay.**

**Each future period that will bless,
as it has bless'd the past;
He lov'd us from the first of time,
He loves us to the last.**

Paraphrase 48 v5-9

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Prayer

Acts 9. 1-19

Meanwhile, Saul was still breathing out murderous threats against the Lord's disciples. He went to the high priest ² and asked him for letters to the synagogues in Damascus, so that if he found any there who belonged to the Way, whether men or women, he might take them as prisoners to Jerusalem. ³ As he neared Damascus on his journey, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him.

⁴ He fell to the ground and heard a voice say to him, “Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?”

⁵ “Who are you, Lord?” Saul asked.

“I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting,” he replied. ⁶ “Now get up and go into the city, and you will be told what you must do.”

⁷ The men traveling with Saul stood there speechless; they heard the sound but did not see anyone.

⁸ Saul got up from the ground, but when he opened his eyes he could see nothing. So they led him by the hand into Damascus. ⁹ For three days he was blind, and did not eat or drink anything.

¹⁰ In Damascus there was a disciple named Ananias. The Lord called to him in a vision, “Ananias!”

“Yes, Lord,” he answered.

¹¹ The Lord told him, “Go to the house of Judas on Straight Street and ask for a man from Tarsus named Saul, for he is praying. ¹² In a vision he has seen a man named Ananias come and place his hands on him to restore his sight.”
¹³ “Lord,” Ananias answered, “I have heard many reports about this man and all the harm he has done to your holy people in Jerusalem.”

¹⁴ And he has come here with authority from the chief priests to arrest all who call on your name.”

¹⁵ But the Lord said to Ananias, “Go! This man is my chosen instrument to proclaim my name to the Gentiles and their kings and to the people of Israel. ¹⁶ I will show him how much he must suffer for my name.”

¹⁷ Then Ananias went to the house and entered it. Placing his hands on Saul, he said, “Brother Saul, the Lord—Jesus, who appeared to you on the road as you were coming here—has sent me so that you may see again and be filled with the Holy Spirit.” ¹⁸ Immediately, something like scales fell from Saul’s eyes, and he could see again.

Acts 9. 1-19

He got up and was baptized, ¹⁹ and after taking some food, he regained his strength.

Saul spent several days with the disciples in Damascus.

Children's Talk

**For God so loved the world
He gave His only Son,
and whoever believes in Him
shall not die but have eternal life.**

**L is for the love that He has for me.
I am the reason He died on the tree.
F is for forgiveness and now I am free,
E is to enjoy being in His company.**

**For God so loved the world
He gave His only Son,
and whoever believes in Him
shall not die but have eternal life.**

John Hardwick

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Prayer

**Speak, O Lord, as we come to You
to receive the food of Your holy word.**

**Take Your truth, plant it deep in us;
shape and fashion us in Your likeness,
that the light of Christ might be seen today
in our acts of love and our deeds of faith.**

**Speak, O Lord, and fulfil in us
all Your purposes, for Your glory.**

**Teach us Lord full obedience,
holy reverence, true humility.
Test our thoughts and our attitudes
in the radiance of Your purity.
Cause our faith to rise
cause our eyes to see
Your majestic love and authority.
Words of power that can never fail;
let their truth prevail over unbelief.**

**Speak, O Lord, and renew our minds;
help us grasp the heights of Your plans for us.
Truths unchanged from the dawn of time,
that will echo down through eternity.
And by grace we'll stand on Your promises;
and by faith we'll walk as You walk with us.
Speak, O Lord, 'til Your church is built
as You fill the earth with Your glory.**

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Message

**Growing Christ's Church
Reaching A Crossroad
Acts 9:1-31**

Prayer

**O for a thousand tongues, to sing
my great Redeemer's praise,
my great Redeemer's praise,
the glories of my God and King,
the triumphs of His grace!**

**My gracious Master and my God,
assist me to proclaim,
assist me to proclaim,
to spread through all the earth abroad
the honours of Thy Name.**

**He speaks, and, listening to His voice,
new life the dead receive,
new life the dead receive,
the mournful, broken hearts rejoice,
the humble poor believe.**

**Hear Him, ye deaf; His praise, ye dumb,
your loosened tongues employ;
your loosened tongues employ;
ye blind, behold your Saviour come;
and leap, ye lame, for joy!**

**Glory to God, and praise, and love
be ever, ever given
be ever, ever given
by saints below and saints above,
the Church in earth and heaven.**

Charles Wesley 1707-88

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

Evening Service

**The Day Of Salvation
Rebuilding The Ancient Ruins
Isaiah 61:1-9**

**Thou shalt arise, and mercy yet
Thou to mount Sion shalt extend:
her time for favour which was set,
behold, is now come to an end.**

**Thy saints take pleasure in her stones,
her very dust to them is dear.**

**All heathen lands and kingly thrones
on earth Thy glorious name shall fear.**

**God in His glory shall appear,
when Sion He builds and repairs.
He shall regard and lend His ear
unto the needy's humble pray'rs:**

**Th' afflicted pray'r He will not scorn,
all times this shall be on record:
and generations yet unborn
shall praise and magnify the Lord.**

Psalm 102 vv 13-18

Prayer

**The Spirit of the
Sovereign LORD is on me,
because the LORD has
anointed me
to proclaim good news to
the poor.
He has sent me to bind up the
broken-hearted,
to proclaim freedom for the
captives
and release from darkness
for the prisoners,
² to proclaim the year of
the LORD's favour**

and the day of
vengeance of our God,
to comfort all who mourn,
³ and provide for those who
grieve in Zion—
to bestow on them a crown of
beauty
instead of ashes,
the oil of joy
instead of mourning,
and a garment of praise
instead of a spirit of
despair.
They will be called oaks of
righteousness,

a planting of the LORD
for the display of his
splendour.

⁴ They will rebuild the ancient
ruins

and restore the places long
devastated;
they will renew the ruined
cities

that have been devastated
for generations.

⁵ Strangers will shepherd your
flocks;

foreigners will work your
fields and vineyards.

**6 And you will be called
priests of the LORD,
you will be named ministers
of our God.**

**You will feed on the wealth of
nations,
and in their riches you will
boast.**

**7 Instead of your shame
you will receive a
double portion,
and instead of disgrace
you will rejoice in your
inheritance.**

**And so you will inherit a
double portion in your land,
and everlasting joy will be
yours.**

**⁸ “For I, the LORD, love justice;
I hate robbery and
wrongdoing.**

**In my faithfulness I will reward
my people
and make an everlasting
covenant with them.**

**⁹ Their descendants will be
known among the nations
and their offspring among
the peoples.**

Isaiah 61. 1-9

**All who see them will
acknowledge
that they are a people
the LORD has blessed.”**

**Restore, O Lord, the honour of Your name!
In works of sovereign power
come shake the earth again,
that men may see, and come with reverent fear
to the Living God,
whose Kingdom shall outlast the years.**

**Restore, O Lord, in all the earth Your fame,
and in our time revive
the Church that bears Your name,
and in Your anger, Lord, remember mercy,
O Living God,
whose mercy shall outlast the years.**

**Bend us, O Lord, where we are hard and cold,
in Your refiner's fire, come purify the gold:
though suffering comes,
and evil crouches near,
still our Living God is reigning,
He is reigning here.**

Graham Kendrick and Chris Rolinson

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Prayer

Message

**The Day Of Salvation
Rebuilding The Ancient Ruins
Isaiah 61:1-9**

Prayer

**Lord, who in Thy perfect wisdom
times and seasons dost arrange,
working out Thy changeless purpose
in a world of ceaseless change;
Thou didst form our ancient nation,
guiding it through all the days,
to unfold in it Thy purpose
to Thy glory and Thy praise.**

**To our shores remote, benighted,
barrier of the western waves,
tidings in Thy love Thou sentest
tidings of the cross that saves.
Saints and heroes strove and suffered
here Thy gospel to proclaim;
we, the heirs of their endeavour,
tell the honour of their name.**

**Still Thine ancient purpose standeth
every change and chance above;
still Thine ancient Church remaineth,
witness to Thy changeless love.
Grant us vision, Lord, and courage
to fulfil Thy work begun;
in the Church and in the nation,
King of kings, Thy will be done.**

Timothy Rees, 1874-1939 (altered)

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

Church Calendar

You'll find dates for your diary on our
website:

<http://www.gilcomston.org/calendar>