



# Gilcomston Church

**Sunday 16 July**

***...He is not served by human hands...  
Acts 17:25***

# **Morning Service**

**Growing Christ's Church  
Engaging The Culture  
Acts 17:16-34  
Rev Jerry Middleton**

**To God be the glory!  
Great things He has done;  
so loved He the world  
that He gave us His Son  
who yielded His life an atonement for sin,  
and opened the life-gate  
that all may go in.**

***Praise the Lord, praise the Lord!***

***Let the earth hear His voice!***

***Praise the Lord, praise the Lord!***

***Let the people rejoice!***

***O come to the Father***

***through Jesus the Son***

***and give Him the glory;***

***great things He has done.***

**O perfect redemption,  
the purchase of blood!**

**To every believer the promise of God:  
the vilest offender who truly believes,  
that moment from Jesus  
a pardon receives.**

***Praise the Lord, praise the Lord!***

***Let the earth hear His voice!***

***Praise the Lord, praise the Lord!***

***Let the people rejoice!***

***O come to the Father***

***through Jesus the Son***

***and give Him the glory;***

***great things He has done.***

**Great things He has taught us,  
great things He has done,  
and great our rejoicing  
through Jesus the Son:  
but purer and higher and greater will be  
our joy and our wonder,  
when Jesus we see!**

***Praise the Lord, praise the Lord!  
Let the earth hear His voice!  
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord!  
Let the people rejoice!  
O come to the Father  
through Jesus the Son  
and give Him the glory;  
great things He has done.***

***Frances J Van Alstyne 1820-1915***

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**Prayer**

## Acts 17. 16-34

<sup>16</sup> While Paul was waiting for them in Athens, he was greatly distressed to see that the city was full of idols. <sup>17</sup> So he reasoned in the synagogue with both Jews and God-fearing Greeks, as well as in the marketplace day by day with those who happened to be there. <sup>18</sup> A group of Epicurean and Stoic philosophers began to debate with him. Some of them asked, “What is this babbler trying to say?”

## Acts 17. 16-34

Others remarked, “He seems to be advocating foreign gods.” They said this because Paul was preaching the good news about Jesus and the resurrection. <sup>19</sup> Then they took him and brought him to a meeting of the Areopagus, where they said to him, “May we know what this new teaching is that you are presenting? <sup>20</sup> You are bringing some strange ideas to our ears, and we would like to know what they mean.”

**21 (All the Athenians and the foreigners who lived there spent their time doing nothing but talking about and listening to the latest ideas.)**

**22 Paul then stood up in the meeting of the Areopagus and said: “People of Athens! I see that in every way you are very religious. 23 For as I walked around and looked carefully at your objects of worship, I even found an altar with this inscription: TO AN UNKNOWN GOD.**

## **Acts 17. 16-34**

So you are ignorant of the very thing you worship—and this is what I am going to proclaim to you.

<sup>24</sup> “The God who made the world and everything in it is the Lord of heaven and earth and does not live in temples built by human hands. <sup>25</sup> And he is not served by human hands, as if he needed anything. Rather, he himself gives everyone life and breath and everything else.

## Acts 17. 16-34

<sup>26</sup> From one man he made all the nations, that they should inhabit the whole earth; and he marked out their appointed times in history and the boundaries of their lands. <sup>27</sup> God did this so that they would seek him and perhaps reach out for him and find him, though he is not far from any one of us. <sup>28</sup> 'For in him we live and move and have our being.' As some of your own poets have said, 'We are his offspring.'

**29 “Therefore since we are God’s offspring, we should not think that the divine being is like gold or silver or stone—an image made by human design and skill. 30 In the past God overlooked such ignorance, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent. 31 For he has set a day when he will judge the world with justice by the man he has appointed. He has given proof of this to everyone by raising him from the dead.**

## Acts 17. 16-34

<sup>32</sup> When they heard about the resurrection of the dead, some of them sneered, but others said, “We want to hear you again on this subject.” <sup>33</sup> At that, Paul left the Council. <sup>34</sup> Some of the people became followers of Paul and believed. Among them was Dionysius, a member of the Areopagus, also a woman named Damaris, and a number of others.

# Children's Talk

**My God is so big, so strong and so mighty,  
there's nothing that He cannot do.**

**My God is so big, so strong and so mighty,  
there's nothing that He cannot do.**

**The mountains are His, the rivers are His,  
the stars are His handiwork too.**

**My God is so big, so strong and so mighty,  
there's nothing that He cannot do.**

**My God is so big, so strong and so mighty,  
there's nothing that He cannot do.**

**My God is so big, so strong and so mighty,  
there's nothing that He cannot do.**

**He's called you to live for Him every day,  
in all that you say and you do.**

**My God is so big, so strong and so mighty,  
there's nothing that He cannot do.**

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**Prayer**

**See, what a morning, gloriously bright,  
with the dawning of hope in Jerusalem;  
folded the grave-clothes, tomb filled with light,  
as the angels announce Christ is risen!**

**See God's salvation plan,  
wrought in love, borne in pain, paid in sacrifice,  
fulfilled in Christ, the Man, for He lives:  
Christ is risen from the dead!**

**See Mary weeping, 'Where is He laid?'  
as in sorrow she turns from the empty tomb;  
hears a voice speaking, calling her name;  
it's the Master, the Lord raised to life again!**

**The voice that spans the years,  
speaking life, stirring hope, bringing peace to us,  
will sound till He appears,  
for He lives, Christ is risen from the dead!**

**One with the Father, Ancient of Days,  
through the Spirit who clothes faith with certainty,  
honour and blessing, glory and praise  
to the King crowned with power and authority!**

**And we are raised with Him,  
death is dead, love has won, Christ has conquered;  
and we shall reign with Him,  
for He lives, Christ is risen from the dead!**

*Stuart Townend and Keith Getty*

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**Prayer**

# Message

**Growing Christ's Church  
Engaging The Culture  
Acts 17:16-34**

**Crown Him with many crowns,  
the Lamb upon His throne;  
Hark! How the heavenly anthem drowns  
all music but its own:  
awake, my soul, and sing  
of Him who died for thee,  
and hail Him as  
thy chosen King through all eternity.**

**Crown Him the Lord of life,  
who triumphed o'er the grave,  
and rose victorious in the strife,  
for those He came to save:**

**His glories now we sing,  
who died and rose on high,  
who died eternal life to bring,  
and lives that death may die.**

**Crown Him the Lord of heaven,  
enthroned in worlds above;  
crown Him the King to whom is given  
the wondrous name of love:  
All hail, Redeemer, hail!  
For Thou hast died for me;  
Thy praise shall never, never fail  
throughout eternity.**

*Matthew Bridges and Godfrey Thring*

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**Prayer**

**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**

**Rebels Re-made  
The Best Destination  
Revelation 21:1-27**

**His large and great dominion shall  
from sea to sea extend:  
it from the river shall reach forth  
unto earth's utmost end.**

**The kings of Tarshish, and the isles,  
to Him shall presents bring;  
and unto Him shall offer gifts  
Sheba's and Seba's king.**

**Yea, all the mighty kings on earth  
before Him down shall fall;  
and all the nations of the world  
do service to Him shall.**

**His Name for ever shall endure;  
last like the sun it shall:  
men shall be blest in Him, and blest  
all nations shall Him call.**

**Now blessed be the Lord our God,  
the God of Israel,  
for He alone doth wondrous works,  
in glory that excel.**

**And blessed be His glorious Name  
to all eternity:  
the whole earth let His glory fill.  
Amen, so let it be.**

*Psalm 72*

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# Prayer

## Revelation 21. 1-27

Then I saw “a new heaven and a new earth,” for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea. <sup>2</sup> I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. <sup>3</sup> And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Look! God’s dwelling place is now among the people, and he will dwell with them.

**Revelation 21. 1-27**

They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. <sup>4</sup> 'He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death' or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away."

<sup>5</sup> He who was seated on the throne said, "I am making everything new!" Then he said, "Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true."

## **Revelation 21. 1-27**

**<sup>6</sup> He said to me: “It is done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. To the thirsty I will give water without cost from the spring of the water of life. <sup>7</sup> Those who are victorious will inherit all this, and I will be their God and they will be my children. <sup>8</sup> But the cowardly, the unbelieving, the vile, the murderers, the sexually immoral,**

## **Revelation 21. 1-27**

those who practice magic arts, the idolaters and all liars—they will be consigned to the fiery lake of burning sulfur. This is the second death.”

⁹ One of the seven angels who had the seven bowls full of the seven last plagues came and said to me, “Come, I will show you the bride, the wife of the Lamb.”

## **Revelation 21. 1-27**

**<sup>10</sup> And he carried me away in the Spirit to a mountain great and high, and showed me the Holy City, Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God. <sup>11</sup> It shone with the glory of God, and its brilliance was like that of a very precious jewel, like a jasper, clear as crystal. <sup>12</sup> It had a great, high wall with twelve gates, and with twelve angels at the gates.**

## **Revelation 21. 1-27**

On the gates were written the names of the twelve tribes of Israel. <sup>13</sup> There were three gates on the east, three on the north, three on the south and three on the west. <sup>14</sup> The wall of the city had twelve foundations, and on them were the names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb.

<sup>15</sup> The angel who talked with me had a measuring rod of gold to measure the city, its gates and its walls.

## Revelation 21. 1-27

<sup>16</sup> The city was laid out like a square, as long as it was wide. He measured the city with the rod and found it to be 12,000 stadia in length, and as wide and high as it is long. <sup>17</sup> The angel measured the wall using human measurement, and it was 144 cubits thick. <sup>18</sup> The wall was made of jasper, and the city of pure gold, as pure as glass.

## Revelation 21. 1-27

<sup>19</sup> The foundations of the city walls were decorated with every kind of precious stone. The first foundation was jasper, the second sapphire, the third agate, the fourth emerald, <sup>20</sup> the fifth onyx, the sixth ruby, the seventh chrysolite, the eighth beryl, the ninth topaz, the tenth turquoise, the eleventh jacinth, and the twelfth amethyst. <sup>21</sup> The twelve gates were twelve pearls,

## **Revelation 21. 1-27**

each gate made of a single pearl. The great street of the city was of gold, as pure as transparent glass.

<sup>22</sup> I did not see a temple in the city, because the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are its temple. <sup>23</sup> The city does not need the sun or the moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light, and the Lamb is its lamp. <sup>24</sup> The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their splendour into it.

## **Revelation 21. 1-27**

**<sup>25</sup> On no day will its gates ever be shut, for there will be no night there. <sup>26</sup> The glory and honour of the nations will be brought into it. <sup>27</sup> Nothing impure will ever enter it, nor will anyone who does what is shameful or deceitful, but only those whose names are written in the Lamb's book of life.**

# Prayer

**Were I to cross from land to land  
and sail afar by sea,  
descend the depths or climb the heights,  
my Lord remains with me.**

**Before the blood ran in these veins  
the days ordained for me  
were written in Your book, O Lord  
before I came to be.**

**I grieve to hear Your enemies  
speak hatred, Lord, of You,  
long though they scheme with ill intent,  
their days are numbered too.  
How precious are Your thoughts to me,  
how countless, Lord, they are:  
more than the shores have grains of sand,  
more than the skies have stars.**

**Come search and test this heart, O Lord,  
dispel each anxious thought  
and lead me onward evermore  
to tread the path I ought.**

**How blessed I am so bound with love,  
surrounded yet so free.**

**In doubt or blessing, life or death,  
my Lord remains with me.**

*Greg de Blieck © Greg de Blieck*

# Prayer

# **Message**

**Rebels Re-made  
The Best Destination  
Revelation 21:1-27**

# Prayer

**There is a higher throne  
than all this world has known,  
where faithful ones from every tongue  
will one day come.**

**Before the Son we'll stand,  
made faultless through the Lamb;  
believing hearts find promised grace,  
salvation comes.**

*Hear heaven's voices sing,  
their thunderous anthem rings;  
through emerald courts and sapphire skies  
their praises rise.*

*All glory, wisdom, power,  
strength, thanks and honour are  
to God, our King who reigns on high  
for evermore.*

**And there we'll find our home,  
our life before the throne;  
we'll honour Him in perfect song,  
where we belong.**

**He'll wipe each tear stained eye,  
as thirst and hunger die;  
the Lamb becomes our Shepherd King,  
we'll reign with Him.**

*Hear heaven's voices sing,  
their thunderous anthem rings;  
through emerald courts and sapphire skies  
their praises rise.*

*All glory, wisdom, power,  
strength, thanks and honour are  
to God, our King who reigns on high  
for evermore.*

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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>