Morning Service

Are you listening?
Matthew 13:1-23
Rev Nathan Owens

Lord, for the years
Your love has kept and guided,
urged and inspired us,
cheered us on our way,
sought us and saved us,
pardoned and provided,
Lord of the years,
we bring our thanks today.

Lord, for that word,
the word of life which fires us,
speaks to our hearts
and sets our souls ablaze,
teaches and trains,
rebukes us and inspires us;
Lord of the word,
receive Your people's praise.

Lord, for our land in this our generation,
spirits oppressed
by pleasure, wealth and care;
for young and old,
for commonwealth and nation,
Lord of our land,
be pleased to hear our prayer.

Lord, for our world,
when we disown and doubt Him,
loveless in strength,
and comfortless in pain;
hungry and helpless,
lost indeed without Him;
Lord of the world,
we pray that Christ may reign.

Lord, for ourselves,
in living power remake us -
self on the cross
and Christ upon the throne,
past put behind us, for the future take us,
Lord of our lives, to live for Christ alone.

Timothy Dudley Smith

© Author
All words reproduced under CCLI no 293005

Prayer

Reading



O God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
our shelter from the stormy blast,
and our eternal home!



Under the shadow of Thy throne
Thy saints have dwelt secure;
sufficient is Thine arm alone,
and our defence is sure.



Before the hills in order stood,
or earth received her frame,
from everlasting Thou art God,
to endless years the same.



A thousand ages in Thy sight
are like an evening gone;
short as the watch that ends the night
before the rising sun.



Time, like an ever-rolling stream,
bears all its sons away;
they fly forgotten, as a dream
dies at the opening day.



O God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
be Thou our guard while troubles last,
and our eternal home.



Isaac Watts 1674-1748

All words are reproduced under Christian Copyright licence no. 293885

Matthew 13:1-23

That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. 2 And great crowds gathered about him, so that he got into a boat and sat down. And the whole crowd stood on the beach. 3 And he told them many things in parables, saying: "A sower went out to sow.

Matthew 13:1-23

4 And as he sowed, some seeds fell along the path, and the birds came and devoured them. 5 Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and immediately they sprang up, since they had no depth of soil,

Matthew 13:1-23

6 but when the sun rose they
were scorched. And since
they had no root, they
withered away. 7 Other seeds
fell among thorns, and the
thorns grew up and choked
them. 8 Other seeds fell on
good soil and produced
grain, some a hundredfold,
some sixty, some thirty.

Matthew 13:1-23

9 He who has ears, let him hear.”
10 Then the disciples came and said to him, “Why do you speak to them in parables?”
11 And he answered them, “To you it has been given to know the secrets of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it has not been given.

Matthew 13:1-23

12 For to the one who has,
more will be given, and he will
have an abundance, but from
the one who has not, even
what he has will be taken
away. 13 This is why I speak to
them in parables, because
seeing they do not see, and
hearing they do not hear, nor
do they understand.

Matthew 13:1-23

14 Indeed, in their case the
prophecy of Isaiah is fulfilled
that says:
“‘You will indeed hear but
never understand,
and you will indeed see but
never perceive.

Matthew 13:1-23

15 For this people's heart has
grown dull,
    and with their ears they can
barely hear,
    and their eyes they have
closed,
lest they should see with their
eyes
    and hear with their ears
and understand with their heart
    and turn, and I would heal
them.'

Matthew 13:1-23

**16 But blessed are your eyes,
for they see, and your ears, for
they hear. 17 For truly, I say to
you, many prophets and
righteous people longed to
see what you see, and did not
see it, and to hear what you
hear, and did not hear it.
18 "Hear then the parable of
the sower:**

Matthew 13:1-23

[19] When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what has been sown in his heart. This is what was sown along the path. [20] As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy,

Matthew 13:1-23

21 yet he has no root in himself,
but endures for a while, and
when tribulation or
persecution arises on account
of the word, immediately he
falls away.

Matthew 13:1-23

22 As for what was sown
among thorns, this is the one
who hears the word, but the
cares of the world and the
deceitfulness of riches choke
the word, and it proves
unfruitful.

Matthew 13:1-23

[23] As for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it. He indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.”

Children's Talk

Every word of Your Word is true,
they were all breathed out by You.
Your Spirit wrote through men
like a pen in the hand of a God who knew
that we would need to know
how much You love us so.
You wrote it down for us forever, oh.

From Genesis to Revelation
there's one story of Your great salvation,
it's all about Jesus, oh, it's all about Jesus.
Shoutin' out from every page
there's one Hero that'll save the day.
It's all about Jesus, oh,
it's all about Jesus.

Every word of Your Word gives light
like the sun that shines so bright.
It leads us day by day
to the One, the Way, the Truth, the Life.
And every time we read
You give us what we need
to grow in grace and know You better, oh.

From Genesis to Revelation
there's one story of Your great salvation,
it's all about Jesus, oh, it's all about Jesus.
Shoutin' out from every page
there's one Hero that'll save the day.
It's all about Jesus, oh,
it's all about Jesus.

From Genesis to Revelation
there's one story of Your great salvation,
it's all about Jesus, oh, it's all about Jesus.
Shoutin' out from every page
there's one Hero that'll save the day.
It's all about Jesus, oh,
it's all about Jesus.

Jon Althoff

© 2015 Sovereign Grace Worship/ASCAP (adm. by Integrity Music).
Reproduced under CCLI no 293885

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.

Keith Getty & Stuart Townend © 2005 Thankyou Music
All words reproduced under CCLI no 293885

MATTHEW 13: 1-23

ARE YOU LISTENING?

Prayer

Hear the call of the kingdom,
lift your eyes to the King,
let His song rise within you
as a fragrant offering
of how God rich in mercy
came in Christ to redeem
all who trust in His unfailing grace.

Hear the call of the Kingdom
to be children of light,
with the mercy of heaven,
the humility of Christ,
walking justly before Him,
loving all that is right,
that the life of Christ may shine through us.

King of Heaven we will answer the call,
we will follow bringing hope to the world.
Filled with passion,
filled with power to proclaim
salvation in Jesus' name.

Hear the call of the Kingdom
to reach out to the lost
with the Father's compassion
in the wonder of the cross,
bringing peace and forgiveness
and a hope yet to come,
let the nations put their trust in Him.

King of Heaven we will answer the call,
we will follow bringing hope to the world.
Filled with passion,
filled with power to proclaim
salvation in Jesus' name.

Keith Getty and Stuart Townend
© 2006 Thankyou Music
All words reproduced under CCLI no 293885

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

Do not be deceived
2 Thessalonians 2:1-12
Rev Nathan Owens

Why do the nations rage and cry,
plotting against the Lord most high?
And why do kings and people scorn
His Christ, forsaken and forlorn?

The Lord in heaven shall laugh aloud
at all the boasting of the proud:
'I set my Son, who you condemn,
as King outside Jerusalem.'

‘I will declare the Lord’s decree,
these are the words He spoke to me:
“You are my Son, with me always,
begotten from eternal days:

You shall receive both east and west,
all nations Yours at Your request;
judge them and rule them with Your rod,
and shatter those that fear not God”.’

Rulers, be warned, and kings, be wise;
God's only Son do not despise,
but serve the Lord with humble fear,
rejoice with trembling, and draw near;

Adore the Son: His sudden wrath
can soon destroy you in your path;
yet safe are all, beneath His wing,
who hide in Christ our Lord and King.

Jim Sayers

© author
All words are reproduced under Christian Copyright licence no 293885

Prayer

How blest the man who does not walk
where wicked men would guide his feet,
who stands not in the sinners' ways
nor sits upon the scorners' seat.
The law of God is his delight,
his meditation day and night.

For he is like a growing tree,
which, planted by a flowing stream,
in season yields its finest fruit;
its leaves are always fresh and green.
In all he does he finds success;
prosperity will he possess.

Not so the wicked! Like the chaff,
the wind will blow them all away.
The judgment they will not withstand,
nor sinners with the righteous stay.
God knows the way of righteous ones;
the wicked way will be undone.

Psalm 1 © 2018 Trinity Psalter Hymnal Joint Venture
All words reproduced under CCLI no 293885

2 Thessalonians 2:1-12

**Now concerning the coming
of our Lord Jesus Christ and
our being gathered together
to him, we ask you, brothers,
2 not to be quickly shaken in
mind or alarmed, either by a
spirit or a spoken word, or a
letter seeming to be from us,
to the effect that the day of
the Lord has come.**

2 Thessalonians 2:1-12

3 Let no one deceive you in any way. For that day will not come, unless the rebellion comes first, and the man of lawlessness is revealed, the son of destruction, 4 who opposes and exalts himself against every so-called god or object of worship, so that he takes his seat in the temple of God, proclaiming himself to be God.

2 Thessalonians 2:1-12

5 Do you not remember that when I was still with you I told you these things? 6 And you know what is restraining him now so that he may be revealed in his time. 7 For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work. Only he who now restrains it will do so until he is out of the way.

2 Thessalonians 2:1-12

8 And then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord Jesus will kill with the breath of his mouth and bring to nothing by the appearance of his coming. 9 The coming of the lawless one is by the activity of Satan with all power and false signs and wonders,

2 Thessalonians 2:1-12

[10] and with all wicked deception for those who are perishing, because they refused to love the truth and so be saved. [11] Therefore God sends them a strong delusion, so that they may believe what is false, [12] in order that all may be condemned who did not believe the truth but had pleasure in unrighteousness.

O great God of highest heav'n,
occupy my lowly heart.
Own it all and reign supreme,
conquer every rebel pow'r.
Let no vice or sin remain
that resists Your holy war.
You have loved and purchased me,
make me Yours forever more.

I was blinded by my sin,
had no ears to hear Your voice,
did not know Your love within,
had no taste for heaven's joys.
Then Your Spirit gave me life,
opened up Your Word to me
through the gospel of Your Son,
gave me endless hope and peace.

Help me now to live a life
that's dependent on Your grace,
keep my heart and guard my soul
from the evils that I face.
You are worthy to be praised
with my every thought and deed.
O great God of highest heav'n,
glorify Your Name through me.

Bob Kauflin © 2006 Sovereign Grace Praise
All words reproduced under CCLI no 293885

Evening Service

2 Thessalonians

DO NOT BE DECEIVED

2 Thessalonians 2: 1-12

Autumn '26

Prayer

May the peace of God,
our heav'nly Father
and the grace of Christ, the risen Son,
and the fellowship of God the Spirit
keep our hearts and minds within His love.

And to Him be praise for His glorious reign;
from the depths of earth
to the heights of heaven
we declare the name
of the Lamb once slain –
Christ eternal, the King of Kings.

May this peace
which passes understanding,
and this grace
which makes us what we are,
and this fellowship of His communion,
make us one in spirit and in heart.

And to Him be praise for His glorious reign;
from the depths of earth
to the heights of heaven
we declare the name
of the Lamb once slain –
Christ eternal, the King of Kings.

Keith Getty and Stuart Townend

All words reproduced under CCLI no 293885

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