

# Mickleover and Dean Street Methodist Churches Service Sheet

## Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> July 2021

Worship in Mickleover MC is at 10am and on Zoom, AAW led by Revd Gill Sharp  
Worship in Dean St MC is at 10.30am, preacher Janet Patmore

### Call to Worship

God the Father who blesses us,  
God the Son who saves us,  
God the Spirit who fills us,  
calls us now to worship.

### Hymn StF 24 Come now is the time to worship

### Prayers of adoration and confession

Lord of all creation,  
we come humbly before you;  
not puffed up with our own achievements or  
strength,  
but ready to lay ourselves open  
before the supreme planner,  
ready to take our part in your world.  
As the stars shine brightly in the sky,  
we want to light up our world for you.

Lord, we confess that sometimes we find it hard  
to understand the here and now, never mind  
creation and what came before. There are so  
many things about you that go way beyond our  
understanding.

We are sorry for the times we don't appreciate  
how truly amazing it is to be loved by you,  
And to be a part of all that you have created.  
Open our hearts and lives to you and bless us,  
Lord. **Amen.**

### The Lord's Prayer

### Treasure

What is the first thing you think about when you  
hear the word treasure? And the second thing?

What things do you treasure?  
Why do you treasure them?  
Where do you keep your treasure?

### Reading Matt 13: 44 (ERV)

<sup>44</sup> "God's kingdom is like a treasure hidden in a  
field. One day a man found the treasure. He hid it  
again and was so happy that he went and sold  
everything he owned and bought the field.

### Prayer of thanks - written by Olivia

Dear Lord,  
We thank you for all the wonderful treasures we  
have in this world. Lots of people think that  
treasure is all about gold, chocolate, jewellery  
and many more things but it is more about the  
love of God for us and his everlasting goodness  
which shines throughout all of us and his  
goodness and love make us better people each  
day. And the most, best treasure of all is God's  
love and goodness towards us. **Amen**

### Reading 2 Cor 4:3-7 (ERV)

<sup>3</sup> The Good News that we tell people may be  
hidden, but it is hidden only to those who are  
lost. <sup>4</sup> The ruler of this world has blinded the  
minds of those who don't believe. They cannot  
see the light of the Good News—the message  
about the divine greatness of Christ. Christ is the  
one who is exactly like God. <sup>5</sup> We don't tell people  
about ourselves. But we tell people that Jesus  
Christ is Lord, and we tell them that we are your  
servants for Jesus. <sup>6</sup> God once said, "Let light  
shine out of the darkness!" And this is the same  
God who made his light shine in our hearts to let  
us know that his own divine greatness is seen in  
the face of Christ.

<sup>7</sup> We have this treasure from God, but we are  
only like clay jars that hold the treasure. This is to  
show that the amazing power we have is from  
God, not from us.

### Reflection

Treasure is often hidden, unseen by many. The  
objects we treasure are important to us,  
sometimes their value is obvious, but what is a  
treasure to one person is often of little  
importance to another person because of what is  
unseen. What makes something a treasure to one  
person is hidden to another unless the person  
chooses to reveal what the object means to them.  
The memories that a simple object contains can  
be immense, and it is these unseen memories  
that make it a treasure.

The people we treasure in our lives because of  
the relationship we have with them, and the love  
we share, may be more obvious by our actions.

Paul says the Good News of Jesus, that He is Lord, is hidden to many, but like the treasure hidden in the field, it is there waiting to be found by any who seek him. Those who find this treasure, and willingly give up all else to have it, live in God's kingdom and the light of God shines within them.

The gospel, the good news of Jesus, is our true treasure and all of us who know Jesus is Lord have this treasure from God within. But Paul says we are like clay jars. Clay jars are ordinary, everyday items usually used for ordinary, everyday things. Like our ordinary plates we use every day, not the best crockery we get out when visitors come! Clay jars are made by a potter for his purpose, the potter moulds the clay for and forms it into the shape he wants. We are made of nothing special, but we are made by God, the potter, for something extraordinarily special. We are a vessel created to be filled by God and to pour out God's love and light to those in need around us. We have a treasure within for sharing with all.

Through the constant use, and occasional accident, everyday plates and jars get chipped or cracked. So too we as clay pots can become chipped, or cracks can appear, through our personal experiences and suffering. It is through these cracks that God's light within us can shine even more strongly. Our treasure within gives us the strength we need in our lives, and we know it is by his amazing power that we live.

God chooses to put his treasure in us, the clay jars, so that his power and glory shine through our lives and so that others may find the greatest treasure, Jesus, and live in God's kingdom, the kingdom of heaven, here on earth.

*Take time to reflect on what it means to you to have this treasure from God within.*

**Song 'We Seek Your Kingdom'** to tune of 'Abide with me'

We seek your kingdom throughout every sphere  
We long for heaven's demonstration here  
Jesus your light shine bright for all to see  
Transform, revive, and heal society

Before all things, in him were all things made  
Inspiring culture, media, and trade  
May all our work serve your economy  
Transform, revive, and heal society

Peace, truth, and justice reigning everywhere  
With us be present in our public square  
Fill all who lead with your integrity  
Transform, revive, and heal society

Forgive us Lord, when we have not engaged  
Failing to scribe your heart on history's page  
Make us again what we were made to be  
Transform, revive, and heal society

Faithful to govern ever may we be  
Selfless in service, loving constantly  
In everything may your authority  
Transform, revive, and heal society

### **Prayers for the world, for others and ourselves - written by Josh**

Father God

We pray for the world. A world with hidden treasures. Treasures, good and bad. Give thanks to each country as we try to fight the virus as one. We pray that each country around us have treasures to be loved.

We pray for our country. A country where we share treasures, special moments and monuments, also we share our love for God. God is a treasure, guiding us, encouraging us and testing us. We pray for his time, and forgiveness. Yet he is always present whether we know or not.

We pray for Mickleover, for all our friends in Church and the community. Hoping you seek treasure in each and everyone. We treasure the schools, the shops and our health care. Give thanks to them all.

We pray for our Church. You make each one of us your treasures. In different ways, you always manage to seek the positives in us, and forgive us, in times when we find it difficult to communicate to you.

In our own hearts, we all treasure you, our God, for being a good leader, a good listener and for being there in times of need.

O Thankful Lord we treasure you. **Amen**

**Hymn StF 59 Lord the Light of your love is shining**

**The Grace**

*To join the Zoom service by telephone dial 0203 481 5237 and use meeting details below*