

Worship at Home - Sunday 31 July 2022

Produced by the Methodist Church

Sent to you by Mickleover Methodist Church

Opening Prayer

“The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning. Great is thy faithfulness, O Lord.” (StF 66, Edith McNeil)
Lord, as we come into your presence, help us to remember that your love and faithfulness endure, and that we can rely on you whatever may come our way.”

Hymn: StF 341 All for Jesus

Sing/ Read /pray /proclaim the words or listen to it here
[All for Jesus - all for Jesus \(StF 341\) \(methodist.org.uk\)](#)

All for Jesus - all for Jesus,
this our song shall ever be:
for we have no hope, nor Saviour,
if we have not hope in thee.

All for Jesus - thou wilt give us
strength to serve thee, hour by hour;
none can move us from thy presence,
while we trust thy love and power.

All for Jesus - thou hast loved us;
all for Jesus - thou hast died;
all for Jesus - thou art with us;
all for Jesus crucified.

All for Jesus - all for Jesus -
this the Church's song must be;
till, at last, we all are gathered
one in love and one in thee.

W. J. Sparrow-Simpson (1859-1952)

Let us pray together
God whose love is steadfast and sure, We praise you.
God who lays for us solid foundations, We praise you.
God who can be depended on, We praise you.
God, the first and the last, We praise you.
God who shows us the way, We praise you.
In everything we do, may we praise you.
Amen.

Today's Reading from the New Testament Colossians
3:1-11

Today's Gospel Reading: Luke 12:13-21 (see over)

Time to Reflect

On the afternoon I had planned to prepare this service, I was in a shop and found that I had lost my bank card. I struggled not to panic as it was the worst time for it to happen. I thought how much chaos the next few days would be thrown into. Fortunately, I found the card and the panic was over. Little things can have a major effect on us.

Today's passages remind us to think what is truly important to us. Yes, we need money to survive personally and as a church but that is not the be all and end all. So, what do we set our minds on as individuals and as a church? Events over the last few years may have crystallised some of those thoughts. We realise how important friends are when we are deprived of them. We realise how important peace is as we hear of unrest.

Too often, our church councils are full of debates about minor things and people get very agitated about them. Yes, there are practicalities that need dealing with but we should not let them replace what is truly important. Money replaced God in the life of the man in the parable. What replaces him in our personal lives? What replaces him in our church lives? Yes, we need to pay the bills but, more importantly, we need to live out the Kingdom, engage in the mission that God has given us and share his love. Our priorities must be God's priorities – how else will the world see a better way to live than the man with his barns?

As you read this, I will be helping lead a children's residential activity. One year as I was planning for such an event, I wondered whether it was really worth the time I was putting in. I felt God say that it was worth it because the activity touched lives and helped build into eternity. Let us not build things that will decay but things that will last – and we can only do that if our priorities become God's priorities. Let's not build barns to store things that will decay but lives that speak of God's everlasting love.

A time of prayer

Let us sit quietly and bring to God those in need of a special touch at this time ...
Let's bring to him those who have messed up priorities ...
Let's bring to him those who can see no further than the next meal ...
Let's bring to him those who cannot see out of their grief and pain ...
Let's bring to him those who are looking for the way to go ...
Lord, guide, lead, heal, comfort; show those we have brought to you the way ahead. May they build on you. And may we, in our churches, get our priorities right too. Show us where to go and where to build. Help us to bring your love to those around us.

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father

Hymn: StF 447 Jesus be the Centre

Sing/ Read /pray /proclaim the words or listen to it here
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=884tPls01e0>

or sing a verse of a hymn that comes to mind

Jesus, be the centre,
be my source, be my light,
Jesus.

Jesus, be the centre,
be my hope, be my song,
Jesus.

*Chorus Be the fire in my heart,
be the wind in these sails;
be the reason that I live,
Jesus, Jesus.*

Jesus, be my vision,
be my path, be my guide,
Jesus.

Chorus

Repeat verse 1

Michael Frye

A prayer of blessing

Let us go into the world and live our lives for our God.
May we live our lives for him and experience the
spiritual riches he has to offer. Let us share them with
those around us.

Colossians 3.1-11

The New Life in Christ

So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things
that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand
of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on
things that are on earth, for you have died, and your life
is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is
your [javascript:void\(0\)](#); life is revealed, then you also
will be revealed with him in glory.

Put to death, therefore, whatever in you is earthly:
fornication, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed
(which is idolatry). On account of these the wrath of God
is coming on those who are
disobedient. [javascript:void\(0\)](#); These are the ways
you also once followed, when you were living that
life. [javascript:void\(0\)](#); But now you must get rid of all
such things—anger, wrath, malice, slander, and
abusive [javascript:void\(0\)](#); language from your
mouth. Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have
stripped off the old self with its practices and have
clothed yourselves with the new self, which is being
renewed in knowledge according to the image of its
creator. In that renewal [javascript:void\(0\)](#); there is no
longer Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised,
barbarian, Scythian, slave and free; but Christ is all and in
all!

Luke 12.13-21

The Parable of the Rich Fool

Someone in the crowd said to him, 'Teacher, tell my
brother to divide the family inheritance with me.' But he
said to him, 'Friend, who set me to be a judge or
arbitrator over you?' And he said to them, 'Take care! Be
on your guard against all kinds of greed; for one's life
does not consist in the abundance of possessions.' Then
he told them a parable: 'The land of a rich man produced
abundantly. And he thought to himself, "What should I
do, for I have no place to store my crops?" Then he said,
"I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger
ones, and there I will store all my grain and my
goods. And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample
goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be
merry." But God said to him, "You fool! This very night
your life is being demanded of you. And the things you
have prepared, whose will they be?" So it is with those
who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich
towards God

Original Materials by Alan Darlington, local preacher in
the Sherwood Forest Circuit

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Local Churches CCCLi 35421

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For more worship resources see
[The Bible \(methodist.org.uk\)](http://The Bible (methodist.org.uk))