

'Go; your faith has made you well'

Of course, our time today looks forward to next week, when we can fling open our church doors and welcome everyone in. Today however, we acknowledge our fellowship via Zoom, which is no less real. We at least are managing much better than those who must meet together in secret and tremble.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Let us come together. Let us come together to be together in the presence of God. This is the moment that God has shaped and fashioned. It is a precious moment, full of possibilities. It is a moment full of grace and joy. Let us worship. Let us celebrate together the goodness of God!

In our living rooms, we can join in with [our first spiritual song](#):

Million little miracles - Elevation Worship
<https://youtu.be/2UXkAYO5hwg>

Well certainly, our first singer has a **wholesome** attitude!

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

God, today may our eyes be opened to the wonders of your creation, to the energy of your world that is all around us and in us. May we see the grace-filled moments that make up our days and may we live in the truth of your care for all that you have made and sustain. Amen.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION God, when Jesus passed through Jericho a blind man cried out to him. There were many in the crowd who told him to be quiet. Now is not the time; this is not the place; you are not the person. Be quiet. We confess God that we have taken the voice of the crowd to heart. We have allowed the voices of those in need to be sidelined. We have told them to wait for a more opportune time, for a different environment. We have told the desperate to wait. And we have taken these voices into ourselves as well. We have kept our own pain and desperation hidden. We have let ourselves be silenced.

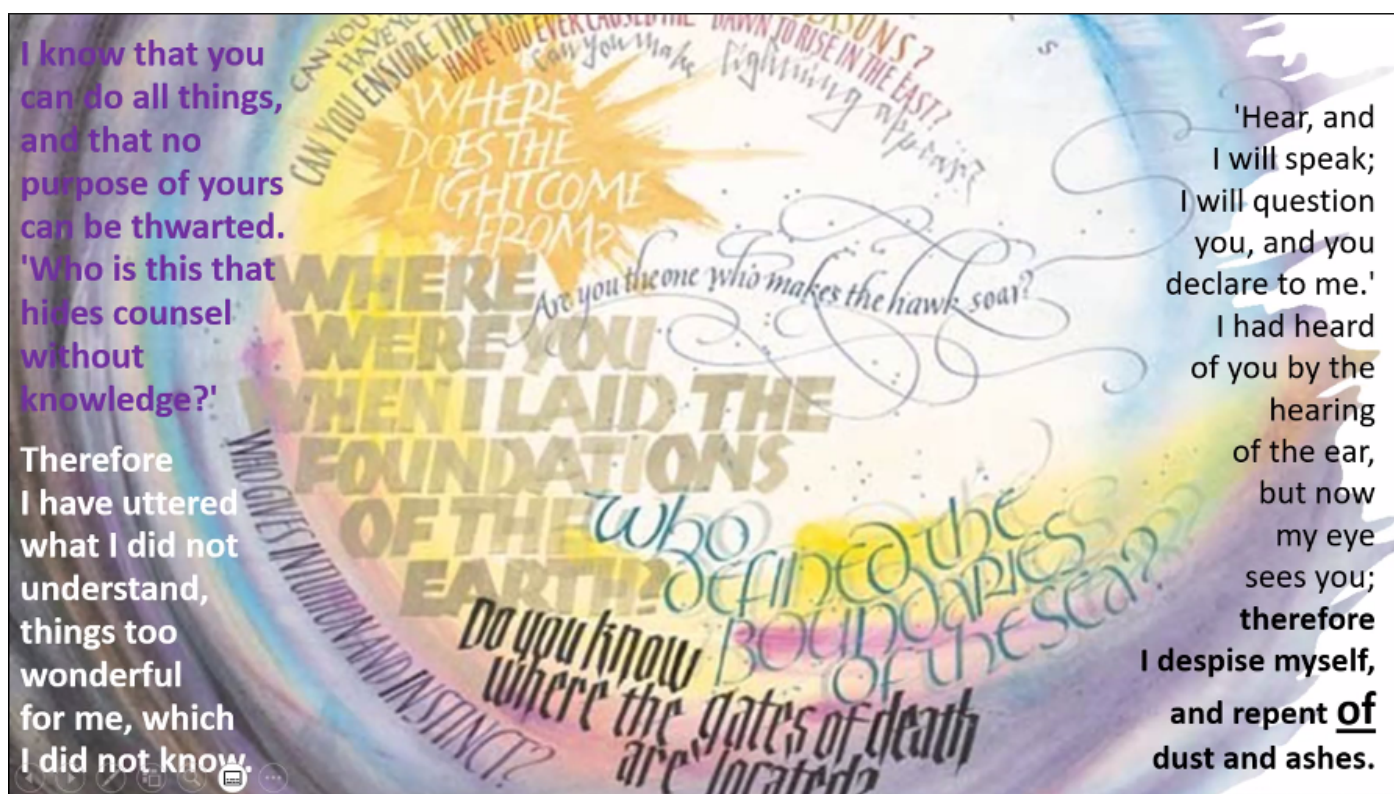
We have pretended that all is fine, and it is best for us not to make a fuss. We confess that we have so often not experienced or shared the all-encompassing, all-welcoming love that you have for us. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE Hear this! There is no pain too great or hurt too small that it not be held in the heart of God. Jesus welcomed the blind man, God welcomes us. All is forgiven. Come, we are forgiven. We are free!

PRAYER OF ADORATION AND THANKSGIVING The psalm tells us that God restored his people and it was so extraordinary they felt they were living a dream, their mouths were filled with laughter, and their tongues with shouts of joy. The people experienced the goodness of God. God of all goodness we too, in all our days, are recipients of grace upon grace. Welcome fills our days and forgiveness fills our night. And we too wonder how it can possibly be. We too can hardly believe that your love and care can be so freely given and so abundant. But it is the very truth of our lives and we give you, our thanks. Amen.

First Bible Readings:

Firstly from the misery guts who spoke to us last time we had a service in our church building. Through a long process of discussion and debate, Job leaves behind his misery, understood when he says he repents of his dust and ashes:



Job Is Humbled and Satisfied

42 Then Job answered the LORD:

- 2 'I know that you can do all things, and that no purpose of yours can be thwarted.
- 3 "Who is this that hides counsel without knowledge?" Therefore I have uttered what I did not understand, things too wonderful for me, which I did not know.
- 4 "Hear, and I will speak; I will question you, and you declare to me."
- 5 I had heard of you by the hearing of the ear, but now my eye sees you;
- 6 therefore I despise myself, and repent of dust and ashes.

Psalm 126

A Harvest of Joy

⁶ Those who go out weeping,
bearing the seed for sowing,
shall come home with shouts of joy,
carrying their sheaves.

Kids' Talk (See separate link)



As Peter says in his sermon this week, "We have to look after them!"

Our next Hymn:

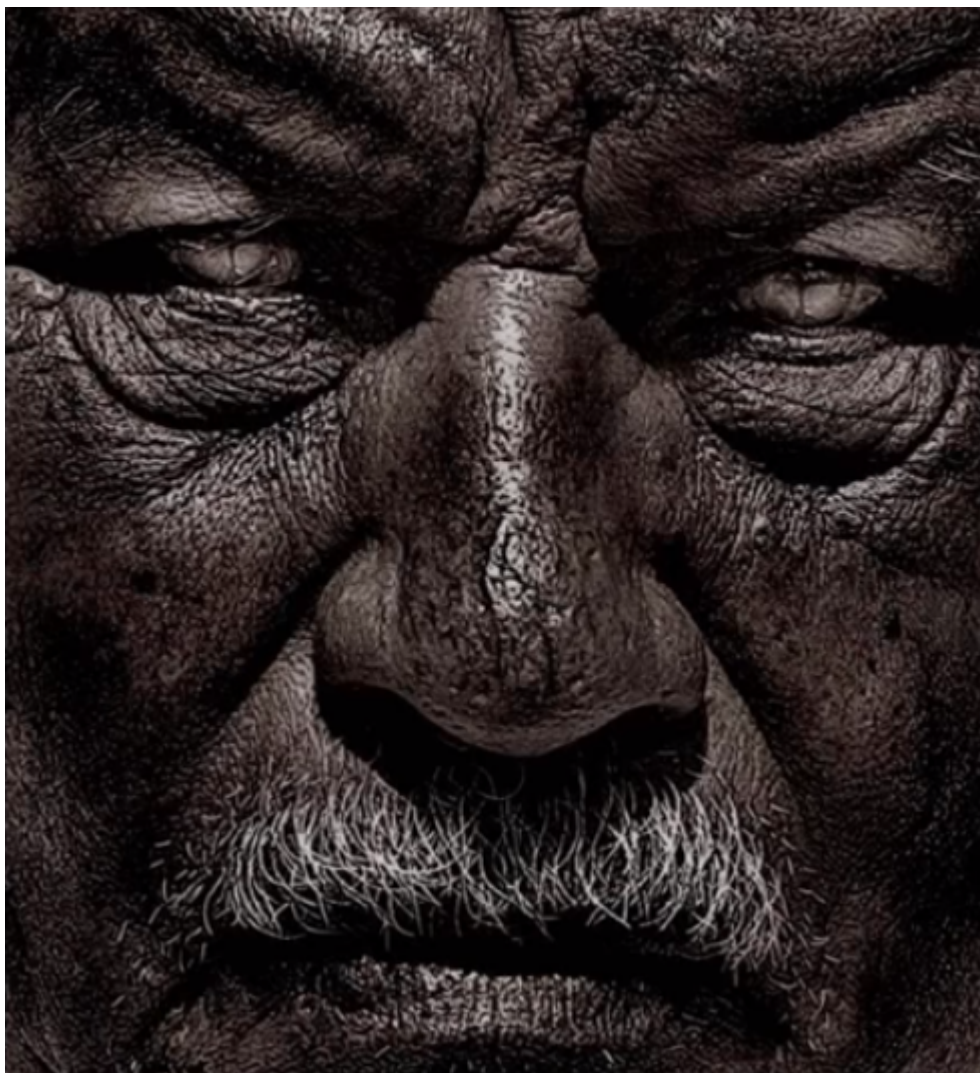
Beautiful things - Gungor
<https://youtu.be/1spkhp41iq4>

Next Bible Reading:

Mark 10:46-52

The Healing of Blind Bartimaeus

⁴⁶ They came to Jericho. As he and his disciples and a large crowd were leaving Jericho, Bartimaeus son of Timaeus, a blind beggar, was sitting by the roadside. ⁴⁷When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout out and say, 'Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!' ⁴⁸Many sternly ordered him to be quiet, but he cried out even more loudly, 'Son of David,



have mercy on me!' ⁴⁹Jesus stood still and said, 'Call him here.' And they called the blind man, saying to him, 'Take heart; get up, he is calling you.' ⁵⁰So throwing off his cloak, he sprang up and came to Jesus. ⁵¹Then Jesus said to him, 'What do you want me to do for you?' The blind man said to him, 'My teacher, let me see again.' ⁵²Jesus said to him, 'Go; your faith has made you well.' Immediately he regained his sight and followed him on the way.

SERMON: See separate link to Peter's talk and to the song following:

[He saw it all](#) - Booth Brothers

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

What would our giving look like if we experienced every blessing we have received as a gift to us?

OFFERTORY PRAYER

God of all the earth, of all that is and ever was, we donate money by direct debit that which represents our labours and our security.

We know, as we share this with others that our true security is in our relationship with you and with your creation. We know that our labours, if they are to be of lasting value must be for the good of all that you have made – the earth, its creatures and each other. Amen.

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION 'Take heart,' the crowd tell Bartimaeus in our reading for this week, 'take heart.' Today, God we pray for all those among us and around us who have lost heart. We pray for those who have heard over and over, 'be quiet!' We pray for a new community, a new culture, a

new set of relationships where no one in pain or distress, no one who struggles to make a life for themselves will be required to be quiet, where no one will have to cry out again and again. We pray, God of all hopefulness, for a world where every person will know themselves heard. We pray for a world where the deep needs of every human being will be able to be spoken aloud and where we will, together address those needs. Make us a community that seeks, prays for, and works for such a community, such a culture. Give us courage to speak and courage to act. We pray in the name of the one who pays attention to the needs of all. Amen.

COMMISSIONING AND BLESSING 'Take heart; get up, he is calling you.' We go in the name of Christ. 'TAKE HEART; GET UP, HE IS CALLING YOU.'

We go in the grace of God 'TAKE HEART; GET UP, HE IS CALLING YOU.'

We go in the power of the Spirit. 'TAKE HEART; GET UP, HE IS CALLING YOU.'

Final spiritual song:

Waymaker - Voices of Lee

<https://youtu.be/D-KgQllvP3Q>

Please join the Zoom morning Tea at 11 a.m. for Holy Communion and fellowship. Michael will send the link.