

Haven Worship Sheet

17th May 2020

Opening Scripture

“In my vision at night I looked, and there before me was one like a son of man, coming with the clouds of heaven. He approached the Ancient of Days and was led into his presence. ¹⁴He was given authority, glory and sovereign power; all nations and peoples of every language worshiped him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion that will not pass away, and his kingdom is one that will never be destroyed. Daniel 7:13-14

Opening Prayer

Lord, thank you that we can come and worship you this morning. Thank you that because of your sacrifice and because of your grace and mercy we can come and worship the Ancient of Days. Lord we come in awe and wonder when we recognise the authority, glory and power that you carry and yet you welcome us into your presence and call us your children. We would ask your Holy Spirit to open up our hearts and minds to you so that we can draw closer to you as we worship.

Song: Great are you Lord - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hpb02shcAis>

Song: The Joy of the Lord - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q09aLjPnEns>

Song: (Power to) Glow - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4I14jwJyquc> (from this year's Spring Harvest children's work. So, one for the young and the young at heart. We all need to 'glow' .

Prayer of repentance

Lord our God,
in our sin we have avoided your call.
Our love for you is like a morning cloud,
like the dew that goes away early.
Have mercy on us;
deliver us from judgement;
bind up our wounds and revive us;
in Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen

Song: Abba Father - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cGq1RRzb3-4>

Song: King of Kings, Majesty - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qs2uWU75Vmw>

Intercessions

(Contributed by Ann)

"Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves receive from God."(Corinthians 1 v 3+4)

We bring the Haven before you and pray for those in the fellowship not well at this time, those who are lonely, the anxious, those waiting for treatment or operations, please enable them to know and feel the comfort of Your arms around them. For those recovering, especially Martin, we pray your continued strengthening and restoring.

Thanks to all who continue to phone, text, email, arrange links on line, all involved in keeping us in touch with one another in these challenging times.

We hold before you those people in Derby who are especially anxious about their job situation. We pray that companies and businesses will do everything they can to continue to employ as many people as possible. Have mercy on our City, Lord we pray.

" God is our refuge and strength, an ever present help in trouble." (Psalm 46 v 1) Amen.

God of mercy we pray that an effective vaccine against Covid 19 will be speedily developed and tested. May there be good co-operations and sharing of information among all globally working on this vaccine.

Please continue to uphold and protect, mentally, physically and spiritually, all doctors, nurses ,and carers treating and caring for those in hospitals, care homes or attending people in their own homes.

Father we ask that You would grant wisdom to our Government, especially in decisions being made for the gradual easing of lockdown. We pray that everyone will act responsibly and respect and maintain the social distancing. The Corona virus has turned our lives upside down and although we hope to return to some version of normality in the coming months, it is probable that things will not be quite the same again. However, we praise and thank you Lord that You are constant.

Many places in the world are in turmoil at this time, not just the challenge of Covid 19 but wars, brutality, there is injustice, and oppression, especially in the Middle East. We pray that you will come in power, over rule and lead all nations into the ways of righteousness and peace. May many people turn to You in the midst of their uncertainty, fear and great need.

We thank You for the gift of your Holy Word. May it be a lantern to our feet, a light to our paths and a strength to our lives day by day.

Amen.

Song: Show Your Power - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kA8OrTji8hl>

Reading: Matthew 28:16-20

If you would like to listen to the reading and reflection then please click on the following link to YouTube <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MNL0gYDKPDA>

The Great Commission

¹⁶ Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. ¹⁷ When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. ¹⁸ Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹ Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

Sermon / reflection on scripture

(Contributed by Mary Rawson)

In Matthew's account of what we have come to call 'the Great Commission' the disciples are in Galilee. This feels like a continuation from the account in John last week where the disciples had gone to Galilee and were fishing. Last week they met Jesus by the sea shore this week they are on a mountain where Jesus and we recall that Jesus had told them to go there. They were expecting to meet with Jesus and this account talks of just the 11 disciples. That core group of men who had followed Jesus for the last 3 years.

When they see Jesus there are two responses worship and doubt. When our eyes are opened and we see Jesus how can we respond other than in worship? That word can also be translated as fall down, or kneel down. When the disciples saw Jesus they bowed down in awe and wonder. But there was also a hesitancy amongst some of the disciples. I wonder what thoughts were going through their heads? They had seen Jesus raise others from the dead. They had been there when Lazarus walked out of the tomb but this was different. Since His resurrection they had seen Jesus at least three times but in all the accounts there is some sense of uncertainty, or initially lack of recognition of Jesus. Was this Jesus? Had he really risen from the dead. Was He the Messiah, God's anointed one who they had been waiting for to bring salvation?

Then Jesus comes to them. Isn't that a wonderful picture of how, when we approach the Lord in worship He draws us closer into His presence. Then He speaks and as if to counter their doubts says 'All authority has been given to me in Heaven and in earth'. He confirms in one sentence that yes, He is God's anointed one, and as the Son of God He carries God's authority.

He continues with the word 'therefore'. Because Jesus carries all authority He can instruct His followers to go and make disciples. This is their commission, their life purpose! Not to be important or rich but to go and make disciples, baptise them and teach them. There is nothing passive about this – 'go' and 'make' are active verbs. They are to do more than make disciples though, they are to baptise them. That word means 'immerse'. They are to immerse them in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. There is a significant point

here though. The disciples have not yet themselves been immersed in the Holy Spirit and perhaps that is part of the doubt. They need to be immersed before they can immerse others.

They are to teach them to obey everything Jesus has commanded them. The command that springs to my mind is from John 13:34-35: "A new command I give you: Love one another as I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another." What a powerful message to leave them with.

Jesus reassures them though that they don't have to do this by themselves. He will be with them and we now know that is through the power of the Holy Spirit.

Reflection

What is our response when we see Jesus? Do we fall down in worship? What does our worship look like? Or do we have doubts? Bring those doubts to God in prayer now.

What do we see as our purpose in life? Do we see our purpose as making disciples? What does that look like for you as an individual? Spend some time in prayer asking God to show you how He is calling you to live out your purpose in Him.

We can't pass on what we don't have. Are you immersed in the Holy Spirit? How are you using this time during lock down to draw closer to God and to ask Him to prepare you for what the next season will look like.

Jesus instructed the disciples to teach others to obey everything He had commanded them. One of the best ways to teach is by example. What sort of example do we demonstrate as current day disciples of Jesus?

Jesus commanded his disciples to love one another as He had loved them. How do we demonstrate that love during this season of lockdown?

If you have been challenged by this reflection remember – you are not walking this pathway alone Jesus promises that He will be with us until the very end of the age.

Prayer

We praise you and we bless you, our risen Lord Jesus, King of glory,
for you took the risk of passing your mission to frail disciples.

As you commissioned them to go into all the world,
so may all the world come to you, the King of nations.

To you, Lord Jesus,
with us to the end of the age,
be honour and glory, now and for ever.
Amen.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus:
Dying you destroyed our death,
rising you restored our life:
Lord Jesus, come in glory.

Closing song: Yet Not I But Through Christ in Me -
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rNXd0KQaYXg>

Closing Blessing:

The Spirit of truth lead us into all truth,
give us grace to confess that Jesus Christ is Lord,
and strengthen us to proclaim the word and works of God;
and the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
be among us and remain with us always.
Amen

Young Peoples church link

The Church of England have produced some material for young people which can be accessed by the link below. One section is for those of primary age and one for secondary age. When you have accessed the site just click on the button to choose the appropriate section. Both sections look fun and this week they are focussing on hope.

<https://www.thenational.academy/extracurricular/faith-at-home>