

Morning Praise – Sunday 25th October 2026

Bible Sunday

Welcome and Notices

Today we will be celebrating Bible Sunday. We mark the importance of the Bible as the foundation of the Christian faith, giving thanks for God's word and reflecting together on its impact on individual lives and communities.

Opening Prayer:

Heavenly Father, in our worship
help us to sing your praises,
confess our sins,
hear your word and bring our prayers to you,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen

Opening Sentences of Scripture - Psalm 119: 103, 105

How sweet are your words to my taste,
sweeter than honey to my mouth!
Your word is a lamp for my feet,
a light on my path.

Opening Song: Ancient Words

Holy words long preserved
For our walk in this world,
They resound with God's own heart
Oh, let the ancient words impart.

Words of life, words of hope
Give us strength, help us cope
In this world, where e'er we roam
Ancient words will guide us home.

*Ancient words ever true
Changing me, and changing you.
We have come with open hearts
Oh let the ancient words impart.*

Holy words of our faith
Handed down to this age.

**Came to us through sacrifice
Oh heed the faithful words of Christ.**

**Holy words long preserved
For our walk in this world.
They resound with God's own heart
Oh let the ancient words impart.**

***Ancient words ever true
Changing me, and changing you.
We have come with open hearts
Oh let the ancient words impart.*** (repeat chorus 3 times)

**We have come with open hearts
Oh let the ancient words impart**

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Saying Sorry:

[not on screen but fyi I have included this verse because it is my favourite!!]

He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.

(Micah 6:8)

(moment of silence)

**God of mercy,
we acknowledge that we are all sinners.
We turn from the wrong
that we have thought and said and done,
and are mindful of all that we have failed to do.
For the sake of Jesus, who died for us,
forgive us for all that is past,
and help us to live each day
in the light of Christ our Lord. Amen.**

We receive God's Forgiveness:

May God who loved the world so much
that he sent his Son to be our Saviour
forgive us our sins
and make us holy to serve him in the world
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
Amen

First Testimony (Mary)

Song: Great Is Thy Faithfulness

Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father,
There is no shadow of turning with thee;
Thou changest not, thy compassions, they fail not
As thou hast been thou forever wilt be.

*Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
All I have needed thy hand hath provided—
Great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!*

Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest,
Sun, moon and stars in their courses above,
Join with all nature in manifold witness
To thy great faithfulness, mercy and love.

*Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
All I have needed thy hand hath provided—
Great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!*

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!

*Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
All I have needed thy hand hath provided—
Great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!*

Thomas O. Chisholm Copyright © 1923. Ren. 1951 Hope Publishing Co.

Second Testimony (Tammy)

Song: Thy Word Is A Lamp

*Thy word is a lamp unto my feet
and a light unto my path.
Thy word is a lamp unto my feet
and a light unto my path.*

When I feel afraid, think I've lost my way,
still you're there right beside me.
And nothing will I fear as long as you are near;
please be near me to the end.

*Thy word is a lamp unto my feet
and a light unto my path.
Thy word is a lamp unto my feet
and a light unto my path.*

I will not forget, your love for me, and yet
my heart forever is wandering.
Jesus, be my guide and hold me to your side,
and I will love you to the end.

And nothing will I fear as long as you are near;
please be near me to the end.

*Thy word is a lamp unto my feet
and a light unto my path.
Thy word is a lamp unto my feet
and a light unto my path.*

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Reading: Matthew 24: 30-35 (Marion)

³⁰ 'Then will appear the sign of the Son of Man in heaven. And then all the peoples of the earth will mourn when they see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven, with power and great glory. ³¹ And he will send his angels with a loud trumpet call, and they will gather his elect from the four winds, from one end of the heavens to the other.

³² 'Now learn this lesson from the fig-tree: as soon as its twigs become tender and its leaves come out, you know that summer is near. ³³ Even so, when you see all these things, you know that it is near, right at the door. ³⁴ Truly I tell you, this generation will certainly not pass away until all these things have happened. ³⁵ Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Song: Speak O Lord

**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 may 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, till your Church is built
and the earth is filled with your glory.**

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Sermon *(Lindsey)*

Creed (with actions)

**We believe in God, the Father, Almighty *(hands in the air with arms bent)*
who sent Jesus into the world. *(arms out in front)*
He came as a baby, born of the Holy Spirit, *(cradling motion)*
was crucified, *(arms as on a cross)*
died, *(head down)*
and was buried. *(crouch down)*
On the third day, He rose again from the dead, *(leap in the air)*
He ascended into heaven, *(arms lifted high)***

where he prays for us continually. (*hands together in prayer above head*)

Praise the Lord, Alleluia! (*hands in the air at 45 degrees*)

Intercessions, Collect and Lord's Prayer (*Lindsey*)

Responses

Lord in your mercy

Hear our prayer

Merciful Father

Accept these prayers

for the sake of your Son

our Saviour Jesus Christ.

Amen.

Collect for Bible Sunday

Merciful God,

teach us to be faithful in change and uncertainty,

that trusting in your word

and obeying your will

we may enter the unfailing joy

of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

The Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray

Our Father in heaven,

hallowed be your name,

your kingdom come,

your will be done,

on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins

as we forgive those who sin against us.

Lead us not into temptation

but deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,

and the glory are yours

now and forever.

Amen.

Offertory Song: The Lords My Shepherd (Psalm 23)

The Lord's my Shepherd, I'll not want
He makes me lie in pastures green
He leads me by the still, still waters
His goodness restores my soul.

*And I will trust in you alone
And I will trust in you alone
For your endless mercy follows me
Your goodness will lead me home.*

He guides my ways in righteousness
And he anoints my head with oil
And my cup, it overflows with joy
I feast on his pure delights.

*And I will trust in you alone
And I will trust in you alone
For your endless mercy follows me
Your goodness will lead me home.*

And though I walk the darkest path
I will not fear the evil one
For you are with me, and your rod and staff
Are the comfort I need to know.

*And I will trust in you alone
And I will trust in you alone
For your endless mercy follows me
Your goodness will lead me home.*

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Offertory Prayer

Yours, Lord, is the greatness,
the power, the glory,
the splendour, and the majesty;
for everything in heaven and on earth is yours.
**All things come from you,
and of your own do we give you.
Amen**

The Peace

Let the Word of God dwell in our hearts and keep us in peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

Sharing Time

Closing Sentence: 2 Tim 3: 15-17

[not on screen - this passage was the text when I was confirmed 50 years ago!]

But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have become convinced of, because you know those from whom you learned it. From infancy you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

Amen.

The Blessing

In the presence of God, and of the Lord Jesus
who is the Word made flesh,
let us proclaim the message in the power of the Spirit
with the utmost patience, in teaching and by example;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,
be among us and remain with us always.

Amen

Final Song: Be Thou My Vision

**Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
Naught be all else to me, save that thou art.
Thou my best thought, by day or by night,
Waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.**

**Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true Word;
I ever with thee and thou with me Lord;
Thou my great Father, and I thy true son;
Thou in me dwelling, and I with thee one.**

**Be thou my battle shield, sword for the fight;
Be thou my dignity, thou my delight;
Thou my soul's shelter, and thou my high tower:
Raise thou me heavenward, O power, of my power.**

**Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise,
Thou mine Inheritance, now and always:
Thou and thou only, first in my heart,
High King of heaven, my treasure thou art.**

**High King of heaven, my victory won,
May I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
Still be my vision, O ruler of all.**

Mary Byrne (1880-1931)

Refreshments at the back; prayer ministry at the front with Julie.

**We are here as God's family, to draw closer to God, to live out our faith
and welcome all into the love of God.**