

3 Though nature's strength decay,
and earth and hell withstand,
at his command we fight our way
to Canaan's land:
the watery deep we pass
with Jesus in our view,
and through the howling wilderness
our path pursue.

4 He by himself has sworn -
we on his oath depend -
we shall, on eagles' wings upborne,
to heaven ascend;
there we shall see his face,
his power we shall adore,
and sing the wonders of his grace
for evermore.

Scripture Reading

Nehemiah 9:1-37 (p. 482)

Sermon

Rev. Dr. Stephen Dancer

The Offering *An act of worship to the Lord, taken up before our final hymn.*

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

Charles Wesley (1707-88)

Tune: Blaenwern

1 Love divine, all loves excelling,
joy of heaven, to earth come down:
fix in us your humble dwelling,
all your faithful mercies crown.
Jesus, you are all compassion,
boundless love that makes us whole;
visit us with your salvation,
enter every trembling soul.

2 Breathe on us your loving Spirit;
every troubled heart be blessed:
let us all in you inherit,
let us find your promised rest.

5 There dwells the Lord our King,
the Lord our righteousness,
victorious over death and sin,
the Prince of peace:
on Zion's sacred height
his kingdom he maintains,
and glorious with his saints in light
for ever reigns.

6 Triumphant hosts on high
give thanks eternally
and 'Holy, holy, holy,' cry,
'great Trinity!'
Hail, Abraham's God and ours!
One mighty hymn we raise,
all power and majesty be yours
and endless praise!

Take away the love of sinning,
Alpha and Omega be;
end of faith, as its beginning,
set our hearts at liberty.

4 Finish then your new creation,
pure and sinless let us be;
let us see your great salvation
perfect in eternity:
changed from glory into glory
till in heaven we take our place,
till we lay our crowns before you,
lost in wonder, love and praise.

Benediction

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Meeting at: Cranmore Infant School,
Northland Road, B90 4SA
Sunday 10.30am

A congregation of the
Evangelical Presbyterian Church
in England and Wales

Order of Service

7 March 2010

Prelude

Welcome and Notices

Today:

Welcome to our service of worship today. If there is anything you would like to ask about Christianity or our church, please feel free to ask Stephen Dancer, the minister, afterwards during tea/coffee.

After the service we will have a SPC Forum. If you have any questions to ask about the sermons, about the church or anything else, please prepare to ask! There will be no Inquirers' Class.

Tuesday 9th March 12.40 to 1.10pm:

"30 Minute Service" at the Manor House, High Street, Solihull. The first of four leading up to Easter. Please come if you can.

Wednesday 10th March, 7.30pm:

There will be no Bible Study this week.

Sunday 14th March, 10.30am:

We meet for worship, and continue our studies in Nehemiah.

www.solihullpres.org.uk

Call to Worship

Psalm 99:9

*Exalt the Lord our God,
and worship at his holy mountain;
for the Lord our God is holy!*

Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven (Psalm 103)

Henry F Lyte (1793-1847)

Tune: Praise, My Soul

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| 1 Praise my soul, the King of heaven,
to his feet your tribute bring;
ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,
who like me his praise should sing?
Praise him! Praise him!
Praise him! Praise him!
Praise the everlasting King. | Praise him! Praise him!
Praise him! Praise him!
widely as his mercy flows. |
| 2 Praise him for his grace and favour
to our fathers in distress;
praise him, still the same for ever,
slow to anger, swift to bless.
Praise him! Praise him!
Praise him! Praise him!
glorious in his faithfulness. | 4 Frail as summer's flower we flourish;
blows the wind and it is gone;
but while mortals rise and perish
God endures unchanging on.
Praise him! Praise him!
Praise him! Praise him!
Praise the high eternal One. |
| 3 Father-like he tends and spares us,
well our human frame he knows;
in his hands he gently bears us,
rescues us from all our foes. | 5 Angels, help us to adore him;
you behold him face to face;
sun and moon, bow down before him,
all who dwell in time and space.
Praise him! Praise him!
Praise him! Praise him!
Praise with us the God of grace. |

Prayer of Invocation

Reading of Isaiah 6:4,5 in preparation for confession:

And the foundations of the thresholds shook at the voice of him who called, and the house was filled with smoke. And I said: "Woe is me! For I am lost; for I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; for my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts!"

Prayer of Confession

Almighty God,
you are rich in mercy to all those who call upon you; hear us as we come to you humbly confessing our sins, and imploring your mercy and forgiveness. We have broken your holy laws by our deeds and by our words and by the sinful affections of our hearts.

We confess before you our disobedience and ingratitude, our pride and willfulness, and all our failures and shortcomings towards you and toward our fellow men.

Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father, and of your goodness grant that we may hereafter serve and please you in newness of life, through the merit and mediation of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Assurance of Pardoning Grace

Then one of the seraphim flew to me, having in his hand a burning coal that he had taken with tongs from the altar. And he touched my mouth and said: "Behold, this has touched your lips; your guilt is taken away, and your sin atoned for."

Isaiah 6:6,7

Do Not Withhold Your Mercy, Lord

Psalm 40:11-17

Tune: Rockingham

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| 11 Do not withhold your mercy Lord;
Surround your servant constantly
With your great love and faithfulness, | May all who plot my overthrow
Turn back, disgraced, the way they came. |
| 12 For many troubles threaten me. | 15 May those who mock me face to face
Become appalled at their own shame. |
| My sins have overtaken me;
they're more than hairs upon my head.
My heart within me fails for grief;
I cannot see the way ahead. | 16 But let all those who seek your face
Be joyful in you all their days;
Let those who love salvation say,
"Exalted be the Lord always!" |
| 13 Be pleased, O Lord, to rescue me;
O Lord come quickly to my aid. | 17 Yet I am poor and in great need;
Lord, think on me, I humbly pray. |
| 14 May all who seek to take my life
With shame and turmoil be repaid. | You are my saviour and my help;
Come, O my God! Do not delay. |

Scripture Reading

Romans 8:18-39 (p.1137)

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Request

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name.
Your Kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our debts,

as we also have forgiven our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
*For yours is the kingdom,
the power and the glory
forever and ever. Amen*

The God of Abraham Praise

Thomas Olivers (1725-99)

Tune: Leoni

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| 1 The God of Abraham praise
who reigns enthroned above;
the Ancient of eternal days
and God of love!
The Lord, the great I AM,
by earth and heaven confessed,
we bow before his holy name
for ever blessed. | 2 To him we lift our voice
at whose supreme command
from earth we rise to seek the joys
at his right hand:
we all on earth forsake,
its wisdom, fame and power;
the God of Israel we shall make
our shield and tower. |
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