



In The Beginning - One Flesh

Welcome: Rachel Meynell / Kate Wheatley

O LORD MY GOD! WHEN I IN AWESOME WONDER

1. O Lord my God! When I in awesome wonder
consider all the works thy hand hath made;
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder,
thy power throughout the universe displayed.

*Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to thee:
'how great thou art, how great thou art!'*

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'how great thou art, how great thou art!'*

2. When through the woods and forest glades I wander
and hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees;
when I look down from lofty mountain grandeur,
and hear the brook, and feel the gentle breeze:

Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to thee:...

3. And when I think that God his Son not sparing,
sent him to die - I scarce can take it in.
That on the cross my burden gladly bearing,
he bled and died to take away my sin:

Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to thee:...

4. When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation
and take me home - what joy shall fill my heart!
Then I shall bow in humble adoration
and there proclaim, my God, how great thou art!

Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to thee:...

Confession

Most merciful God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we confess that we have sinned in thought, word and deed. We have not loved you with our whole heart. We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves. In your mercy forgive what we have been, help us to amend what we are, and direct what we shall be; that we may do justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with you, our God. Amen.

Declaration of Forgiveness

JESUS IS THE KING

*Jesus is the King, ruler over everything
Jesus is the one, promised one, the Son of God
Jesus is the Lord, he's the one you can't ignore
Jesus, Jesus: he is the King*

1. He commanded the fishermen,
"Hey, Come follow me!"
And they did, and they did, and they did!
Because...
Jesus is the King, ruler over everything...
2. He commanded the evil ones,
"Hey, Come out of him!"
And they did, and they did, and they did!
Because...
Jesus is the King, ruler over everything...
3. He commanded the wind and waves.
"Hey, be still, be still!"
And they did, and they did, and they did!
Because...
Jesus is the King, ruler over everything...
4. He promised that three days after death,
He'd rise again
And he did, and he did, and he did!
Because...
Jesus is the King, ruler over everything...

Paul Sheely
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Notices

Children and young people leave for their own sessions

AS THE HEAVENS ARE HIGHER THAN THE EARTH

1. As the heavens are higher than the earth,
so His ways are higher than the ways of this world,
and His thoughts run deeper than the mind of man;
Father, break into our darkened hearts.

*I will trust in you as you speak to me,
I will turn to you as you call my name;
as the rain gives life on this arid ground,
so your word will bring your children home.*

2. Come and drink the river of his word,
if you thirst for water that can satisfy;
come and join the banquet at the master's feast,
where his love and faithfulness provide.

I will trust in you as you speak to me...

3. Come and listen to his gentle voice,
for the words he speaks to us are Spirit and life;
come and seek your Saviour while he may be found,
sure that Jesus' words can never lie.

I will trust in you as you speak to me...

Richard Simpkin
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Reading: Genesis 2:18-25 - Conor Bradshaw / Peter Crossley

¹⁸The Lord God said, 'It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him.'

¹⁹Now the Lord God had formed out of the ground all the beasts of the field and all birds of the air. He brought them to the man to see what he would name them; and whatever the man called each living creature, that was its name. ²⁰So the man gave names to all the livestock, the birds of the air and all the beasts of the field.

But for Adam no suitable helper was found. ²¹So the Lord God caused the man to fall into a deep sleep; and while he was sleeping, he took one of the man's ribs and closed up the place with flesh. ²²Then the Lord God made a woman from the rib he had taken out of the man, and he brought her to the man.

²³The man said,

'This is now bone of my bones
and flesh of my flesh;
she shall be called "woman",
for she was taken out of man.'

²⁴ For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and they will become one flesh.

²⁵ The man and his wife were both naked, and they felt no shame.

This is the word of the Lord

All: **Thanks be to God**

Reading: Ephesians 5:21-33 - Alison Bradshaw

²¹ Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ.

²² Wives, submit to your husbands as to the Lord. ²³ For the husband is the head of the wife as Christ is the head of the church, his body, of which he is the Saviour.

²⁴ Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit to their husbands in everything.

²⁵ Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her ²⁶ to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word, ²⁷ and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless. ²⁸ In this same way, husbands ought to love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself.

²⁹ After all, no one ever hated his own body, but he feeds and cares for it, just as Christ does the church – ³⁰ for we are members of his body. ³¹ 'For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh.'³² This is a profound mystery – but I am talking about Christ and the church. ³³ However, each one of you also must love his wife as he loves himself, and the wife must respect her husband.

This is the word of the Lord

All: **Thanks be to God**

Sermon: Jon Drake - *In The Beginning - One Flesh*

IN HIM I HAVE BELIEVED

1. In Him I have believed
on this my hope now rests,
that Jesus Christ is risen from the dead!
The all surpassing joy of knowing Christ my Lord,
the former things, I count them all as loss.
Called out of darkness into your goodness,
we are your children, chosen in Christ.
Now in your family, heirs of the promise,
to your purpose on the earth I give my life.

2. A people born of God, united by your call,
one faith, one Lord, one Father of us all.
Joined with the bonds of love,
established as your house,
we worship you with hearts and lives poured out.
Let us go on in the power of your Spirit,
taking your gospel to all the world,
declaring your wisdom, our great commission,
that Jesus Christ has come to save the lost.

3. Whatever trials may come,
in faith, Lord help us stand
for righteousness and justice in our land.
What fear can hold us now?
We run toward the prize,
our lives already crucified with Christ!
Through every nation your kingdom advances;
who can extinguish this spreading flame?
Through tribulations we'll stand on your promise:
'I will build my church and hell will not prevail!'

4. And on that final day, the citizens of heaven,
called out to be the new Jerusalem,
in multitudes will bow
before the throne of God:
one nation called from every tribe and tongue.
Great celebration! The glorious union:
the Lion of Judah and pure, spotless bride!
All of creation waits for this moment,
all your promises fulfilled in Jesus Christ!

Prayers: Chris Jobson / Louise Drake

**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 for ever.
Amen.**

CHRIST IS MADE THE SURE FOUNDATION

1. Christ is made the sure foundation,
Christ the head and cornerstone,
chosen of the Lord, and precious,
binding all the Church in one;
holy Zion's help for ever,
and her confidence alone.

2. We as living stones invoke you:
come among us, Lord, today;
with your gracious loving-kindness
hear your children as we pray,
and the fullness of your blessing
in our fellowship display.

3. Here entrust to all your servants
what we long from you to gain;
that on earth and in the heavens
we one people shall remain,
till united in your glory
evermore with you we reign.

4. Praise and honour to the Father,
praise and honour to the Son,
praise and honour to the Spirit,
ever Three, and ever One,
one in power and one in glory,
while eternal ages run.

Latin, 7th century, tr. J. M. Neale (1818-1866)
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Final Prayer

If you would like to pray with someone, please talk to the Service Leader or a member of the Congregation Team.

No offering is taken during the service. If you wish to make a gift, please use the collection boxes in the Welcome Area. If you wish to give regularly to the work of St Mary's, please visit www.stmarysmaidenhead.org/rgs. Thank you.