**Westfield URC 10.30am 7th February 2021**

**Call to worship.**

O God, our Father, for this short time of worship direct and control our thoughts that we may think only of you. Grant us reverence as we remember your glory; penitence as we remember your holiness; gratitude as we remember your love, in Jesus’ Name.

**Hymn MP 109** Crown him with many crowns

Crown Him with many crowns,

the Lamb upon His throne;

Hark! how the heavenly anthem drowns

all music but its own:

awake, my soul, and sing

of Him who died for thee,

and hail Him as thy chosen King

through all eternity.

Crown Him the Son of God

before the worlds began;

and ye who tread where He hath trod,

crown Him the Son of Man,

who every grief hath known

that wrings the human breast,

and takes and bears them for His own,

that all in Him may rest.

Crown Him the Lord of life,

who triumphed o'er the grave,

and rose victorious in the strife,

for those He came to save:

His glories now we sing,

who died and rose on high,

who died eternal life to bring,

and lives that death may die.

Crown Him the Lord of heaven,

enthroned in worlds above;

crown Him the King to whom is given

the wondrous name of Love:

all hail, Redeemer, hail!

for Thou hast died for me;

Thy praise shall never, never fail

throughout eternity.

Matthew Bridges (1800- 94) and Godfrey Thring (1823- 1903) CCLI 150801

**Prayers of Adoration**

**Bible Readings**

 Psalm 113:1-9

 Ephesians 4:1-6

**Notices.**

**Prayers of Intercession and Mission Prayer**

**Offering and Dedication.**

We thank you Father, for all your goodness toward us, for food and clothing – for friends and loved ones – accept these gifts of money, may they be used wisely in Your service. Accept them and use both for your glory and the extension of your kingdom. Amen.

**Hymn MP 374** Jesus my Lord will love me for ever.

Jesus my Lord will love me for ever,

from Him no power of evil can sever,

He gave His life to ransom my soul,

now I belong to Him:

*Now I belong to Jesus,*

*Jesus belongs to me,*

*not for the years of time alone,*

*but for eternity.*

Once I was lost in sin's degradation,

Jesus came down to bring me salvation,

lifted me up from sorrow and shame,

now I belong to Him:

*Now I belong* ...

Joy floods my soul,

for Jesus has saved me,

freed me from sin

that long had enslaved me,

His precious blood He gave to redeem,

now I belong to Him:

*Now I belong ..*.

Norman J Clayton © 1938, 1943 The Rodeheaver Co/CopyCare CCLI 150801

**Communion**

Come to this sacred table, not because you must, but because you may; come not to testify that you are righteous but because you truly love the Lord Jesus and desire to be His disciple.

Come, not because you are strong, but come in your weakness.

Come, not because you have any claim on heaven’s reward, but because in your frailty and sin you stand in constant need of His mercy and forgiveness.

Reading: 1 Corinthians 11:23-29

The Bread: Take this in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on

Him in your heart with thanksgiving.

The Wine: Drink this in remembrance that Christ’s blood was shed for you,

and be thankful.

**Message:** Continuing with the Apostle’s Creed – Part Two.

“I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son our Lord.”

Here there is the Name, the Title.. the Relationship.. and here, as in our earlier studies we need to be precise with our wording..

Our Lord:- the greek word is Kurious.. it is a word that has three different shades of meaning:- if you are being polite.. yes sir/no sir.. or talking to a superior .. teacher at school.. foreman at work.. wife?? or when talking to the Lord of Lord’s .. it is the same word.. it is the attitude of the heart that gives meaning to the word. Is He Lord of all you have and are?? If He is not Lord of all then He is not Lord at all! This is why some Christians have a closer walk with the Lord. There are degrees of Lordship.. some have a precious time in the morning.. others are too rushed.. some are Sunday morning only Christians .. others attend the house of God on every possible occasion. Some tithe.. others have never even thought of it (not heard a sermon on tithing and giving for many years). (We are not under law.. but it is a freewill offering.. a scriptural principle). To what degree is He Lord! Is He Lord of your time.. of your ambitions.. Lord of your bank balance.. Lord of your life??

Lord.. means to have power and authority.. and Jesus had both.

Lord over Disease. They brought the sick to Him and He healed them all...

Matthew 9 tells of the woman with issue of blood.. she said “If I can just touch Him..” and when she did virtue flowed from Him and she was healed.. others touch him.. (thronged.. jostled) but hers was a touch of faith.

Some go to church all their lives but never seem to touch Him.. we need to press through.. people and things get in the way – don’t become too occupied with the things of this world.. be determined.. and tenacious. Hymn – Take time to be holy, speak oft with the Lord (MP 625).

Lord over sin. Mark 2:3-7 and they came unto Him, bringing one sick of the palsy, which was borne of four, and when they could not come nigh unto him for the press they uncovered the roof where he was and, when they had broken it up they let down the bed wherein the sick of the palsy lay. When Jesus saw their faith, he said unto the sick of the palsy, “Son, thy sins be forgiven thee. But there were certain of the scribes sitting there, and reasoning in their hearts, “Why does this man speak blasphemies? Who can forgive sins but God only?”

What about the man whose house it was – what about those underneath? Pandemonium! How do you get a stretcher up those outside stairs?? It would appear we can have faith for others!!

However, the Scribes were right.. it was their reasoning that was at fault. Here, in front of them was the One who could forgive sins.. and He demonstrated it by forgiving this sick man and healing him.. yet their minds were blinded they could not.. or would not let the truth alter their opinions. They had great knowledge but no understanding. I think of those on TV.. great knowledge of the universe and natural world but totally ignorant as to a Creator God.

Lord over the power of nature. That great storm on the lake.. was it demonically inspired to try to drown the Christ??

Mark 4. And there arose a great storm of wind, and the waves beat into the ship, so that it was now full. And he was in the hinder part of the ship asleep on a pillow, and they awake him, and say unto him, “Master carest thou not that we perish??” And, he arose and rebuked the wind and said to the sea, “Peace, be still.” And the wind ceased and there was a great calm. And he said to them: “Why are you so fearful? How is it that you have no faith?” And they feared exceedingly, and said on to another, “What manner of man is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?”

Here we see Christ’s humanity.. utterly exhausted.. His words brought peace and calm.. to those in the boat with him, but also to others out fishing that night.

Lord over pain. Hanging on the cross.. in physical pain and mental anguish.. yet, as was prophesied “He opened not His mouth .” (Isaiah 53:7, 1 Peter 2) He committed no sin, He was guilty of no falsehood, when He was abused he did not retaliate, when He suffered He uttered no threats, but delivered himself up to him who judges justly. He carried our sins in His own person on the gibbet, so that we might cease to live for sin and begin to live for righteousness.

Satan could gain no satisfaction even when Christ was on the cross.

Lord over death itself. Now risen, ascended and glorified.. King of Kings and Lord of Lords and this Lord is my Lord.. He is the one I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s only Son our Lord.

This, is the God we adore, our faithful, unchangeable friend, whose love is as great as His power and knows neither measure or end.

And He has promised to come again that “where I am, there you may be also.. the signs of His coming again are growing in number.. none remain to be fulfilled.. are you ready?. Is He your Lord?. This Jesus of Nazareth.. God’s only Son, Our Lord.

Then, as Handel’s MESSIAH sings “He will be King of Kings and Lord of Lord’s”

Hallelujah!

**Shine share what they have been doing.**

**Hymn 426** Look, ye saints, the sight is glorious

Look, ye saints, the sight is glorious,

see the Man of sorrows now

from the fight returned victorious!

Every knee to Him shall bow:

Crown Him! Crown Him!

Crown Him! Crown Him!

Crowns become the victor's brow.

Crown the Saviour, angels, crown Him!

Rich the trophies Jesus brings;

in the seat of power enthrone Him,

while the vault of heaven rings:

Crown Him! Crown Him!

Crown Him! Crown Him!

Crown the Saviour King of kings!

Sinners in derision crowned Him,

mocking thus the Saviour's claim;

saints and angels crowd around Him,

own His title, praise His name:

Crown Him! Crown Him!

Crown Him! Crown Him!

Spread abroad the victor's fame.

Hark, those bursts of acclamation!

Hark, those loud triumphant chords!

Jesus takes the highest station:

O what joy the sight affords!

Crown Him! Crown Him!

Crown Him! Crown Him!

King of kings, and Lord of lords!

Thomas Kelly (1769-1854) CCLI 150801

**Benediction**

May the Lord himself, who is our source of peace, give you peace at all times and in every way. Go with God and may the God of peace go with you. Amen.