**WESTFIELD EVENING SERVICE SUNDAY 6:30pm – 7 February 2021**

**1/. Opening Welcome and Prayer.** We welcome everyone to our in-formal service and hope that the content is enjoyed by all, to the glory of God.

A Prayer of Thanksgiving

Dear Father,

We humbly come before you with grateful hearts, Praising You with all our being, For we know that every good and perfect gift comes from You - the One who never changes. We recognize those good things, both large and small, with which You've blessed us. But we also recognize our forgetfulness In giving thanks each and every day. Forgive us in our humanity, Lord. May we learn to thank you for the good; And may we trust the evil to be made good by You. For You alone are worthy of our praise and thanksgiving.

Amen.

(rachelwojo . com)

First let’s open up with that famous English hymn “Jerusalem”

**2/. YouTube Video** > type in *"Jerusalem, the Anthem, with simultaneous lyrics."* The video to select is the one that is 2:43 mins \ secs long by cantorandopera.

Now for a quiet time of reflection as we look at some of the most beautiful gardens in the world. If you have got a garden yourself thank God for it.

**3/. YouTube Video** > type in *"The Most Beautiful Gardens in the World”* Please select the video which is 10:38 mins \ secs long and by TSK-24.

Hope you enjoyed that, so what is the most beautiful flower to you and why?

**4/. Our 1st Bible Reading** - Now let’s read the first six verses of Psalm 137:

**1**By the rivers of Babylon we sat and wept
when we remembered Zion.
**2**There on the poplars
we hung our harps,
**3**for there our captors asked us for songs,
our tormentors demanded songs of joy;
they said, “Sing us one of the songs of Zion!”

**4**How can we sing the songs of the Lord
while in a foreign land?
**5**If I forget you, Jerusalem,
may my right hand forget its skill.
**6**May my tongue cling to the roof of my mouth
if I do not remember you,
if I do not consider Jerusalem
my highest joy.

(New International Version)

So this is a hymn expressing the yearnings of the Jewish people during the Babylonian exile. What also does it tell us of the faithfulness of the God of Israel, and of our God today?

Let’s hear a song now that was based on this Psalm by Boney M

**5/. YouTube Video** > type in *"Boney M Rivers of Babylon Lyrics HQ"* The video to select is the one that is 4:41 mins \ secs long.

**6/. Time of Reflection** – let us have a quiet moment now thinking of all our daily blessings from God today. When many people in the world suffer beyond our understanding, lets thank God in our heart right now for His grace, mercy and love in our lives.

Now a video from the Christian Discipleship organisation “700 Club” which includes a powerful testimony from Alexander, a man who was visited by Jesus in prison, and he never looked back!

**7/. YouTube Video** > type in “*Gangbanger Physically Encounters JESUS in Prison – Powerful Testimony!”* The video to select is the one that is 9:21 mins \ secs long, and by 700 Club Interactive.

We thank God for Alexander's deliverance and salvation, and also thank God for those in this world like his Nana who never stop praying for the saving of souls.

Now a Hillsong video:

**8/.You Tube Video** > type in "*Hosanna - Hillsong lyrics*" The video to select is 6:14 mins \ secs long and by ChristianFellowship5

**9/. Our 2nd Bible Reading** - please read Mark 12 41-44:

The Widow’s Offering

*41 Then he sat down near the offering box, watching all the people dropping in their coins. Many of the rich would put in very large sums, 42 but a destitute widow walked up and dropped in two small copper coins, worth less than a penny. 43 Jesus called his disciples to gather around and then said to them, “I tell you the truth, this poor widow has given a larger offering than any of the wealthy. 44 For the rich only gave out of their surplus, but she sacrificed out of her poverty and gave to God all that she had to live on, which was everything she had.”*

*(The Passion Translation)*

What sort of reward do you think this widow received when she went to heaven?

Now a song from The Brooklyn Tabernacle Choir (this is a treat!)

**10/. YouTube Video** > Type in *"The Brooklyn Tabernacle Choir Psalm 34"* The video to select is 7:59 mins long, and by BKTabernacleVEVO

Glynis and myself love this choir. Did you see how the choir after the the end of the song started praising God, as individuals, in the spirit - a most beautiful scene.

Let us now watch a video about another inspirational person from The Bible - Daniel.

**11/. You Tube Video >** Type in *"The Bible - Daniel in The Lions Den”.* Select the video which is 10:50 mins \ secs long and by Powerhouse TV.

What do we think about the bravery of Daniel in the Old Testament. Could we have done the same?

**12/. Now our closing Prayer:**

Dear Father, we thank you again for our service tonight. And right now we remember to you people across the world who need our prayers. Be with all those who are very poorly with COVID-19, their loved ones and the medical workers who are trying to help them. We pray for people losing jobs, people in financial turmoil, people depressed and where marriages and relationships may be breaking down, because of this terrible pandemic. Guide your church at this difficult time as many people look to the church for help and inspiraton. Lord help us - yes us - when we may be given an opportunity to encourage a family member, a neighbour, a friend or work colleague, or even someone we don't know who are asking questions about faith. Help us to tell them that Jesus is the answer. In the precious and most beautiful name of the same Lord Jesus we bring you this prayer, Amen.

And now our closing song, from Gaither - When the Saints go Marching in.

**13/. YouTube Video***>* Type in *“ Woody Wright, Ivan Parker - When the Saints Go Marching in”* Look for the video which is 3:34 mins \ secs long and by Gaither Music TV.

***14/. The Grace*** *-* May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all, now and forever. Amen.

Thank you, we hope you enjoyed our informal service. God bless you, and we send you our sincere love, in Christ, Glynis and Neil.

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