Firm in Christ Alone,” but they later changed it to “In Christ Alone My Hope Is Found.”

*Hope you have enjoyed singing some of these favourites at home – we look forward to the time we can sing together out loud in church praising God with heart, soul, mind and voice.*

*Christian Love and Blessings Kath*

 **





**Westfield URC**

**197th Anniversary**

**6pm at home 9th May - Kath**

**Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth! Serve the Lord with gladness! Come into his presence with singing! Psalm 100 v1,2.**

 

Opening Prayer

Dear God, Music is a special joy to us

Soothing us when we are upset

Moving us to tears through memories

Enabling us to be full of joy & hope

Enabling us to praise & glorify you

We give thanks today for the music of the seasons

The bird song and insect drone

The wind and flowing water

In the rustle of leaves and in the crash of thunder

We give thanks for composers

Making music of all kinds to bring pleasure

For soloists, choirs, orchestras, dance bands and

groups of all sorts.

We give thanks for different musical styles

and today we especially thankyou

for the great variety of worship music

we have to choose from

here in the power of Christ I'll stand!

Stuart Townend & Keith Getty Copyright © 2001 Thankyou Music CCLI 150801

Annette H chose this

The story behind the song is the testimony of Keith Getty, one of the song’s co-writers. It includes his personal journey towards worship. Keith Getty grew up in a home where he sang contemporary Christian songs and also traditional church music. During high school he was influenced by teachers and musicians who loved historic church music. This continued at university, when he lived beside Durham Cathedral, and experienced the music there. Around that same time he struggled to understand and fully embrace his faith amid an unbelieving and multi-religious culture. It was a journey to believe in the uniqueness of Christ, the Scriptures and the gospel story. By the time he came through this, my faith was stronger, and he really wanted to write songs for the Church that brought the full, rich, life-giving story of the gospel into believers’ hearts and minds.

He then had the privilege of connecting with songwriter Stuart Townend, who had penned the hymn “How Deep the Father’s Love for Us.” When they first met, there wasn’t an immediate personal connection. But they said, “Let’s write one song.” Keith knew he wanted the song to be story-driven, so he said, “Let’s do a song that tells the whole story of Christ coming to earth-the whole gospel story in one song. Let’s have as many verses as we want, and let’s just go for it.” The song originally was called “My Hope Rests

What heights of love, what depths of peace,

When fears are stilled, when strivings cease!

My comforter, my all in all,

Here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone - who took on flesh,

Fullness of God in helpless Babe!

This gift of love and righteousness,

scorned by the ones He came to save:

till on that cross as Jesus died,

the wrath of God was satisfied,

for every sin on Him was laid;

here in the death of Christ I live.

There in the ground his body lay,

light of the world by darkness slain,

then, bursting forth in glorious day

up from the grave He rose again!

And as He stands in victory

sin's curse has lost its grip on me,

for I am His and He is mine –

bought with the precious blood of Christ.

No guilt in life, no fear in death,

this is the power of Christ in me;

from life's first cry to final breath,

Jesus commands my destiny.

No power of hell, no scheme of man,

can ever pluck me from His hand;

till He returns or calls me home,

through our hymns, psalms and songs

we are able to express our faith

and today we do that through our

Anniversary choices.

Whether reading or singing today

We worship you alone. Amen

*I am using the second 8 hymns*

 *chosen last year*

 *for this anniversary*

 *Songs of Praise at home – enjoy.*

**The 2nd 8 hymns most chosen were:**

How great thou art

Praise to the Lord

In heavenly love abiding

The Lord’s my Shepherd, I will trust in You alone

What a friend we have in Jesus

The King of love

Immortal Invisable

In Christ alone

18 other hymns were chosen – once each

**MP 506 How great thou art**

O Lord my God! when I in awesome wonder

consider all the works Thy hand hath made.

I see the stars, I hear the mighty thunder,

Thy power throughout the universe displayed;

*Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to Thee,*

*How great Thou art, how great Thou art!*

*Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to Thee,*

*How great Thou art, how great Thou art!*

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*....

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*....

When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation

and take me home - what joy shall fill my heart!

Then shall I bow in humble adoration,

and there proclaim, my God, how great Thou art!

*Then sings my soul*....

tr STUART K HINE (1899-1989) © 1953 Stuart K Hine/The Stuart Hine Trust/Kingsway Music CCLI 150801

Audrey chose this

With his English words and his arrangement of the Swedish folk melody **Rev Stuart Hine** published this hymn. He and

Joys and sorrows

Pain and happiness

**You have called us to be your people**

**Help us to hear and respond to your word**

Give us faith and wisdom to discern your will

Vision and courage to respond to it

Give us patience and understanding in our communication

Day by day in all church and community activities

Living God

Beyond thinking of ourselves and those in this community where you have placed us to work and witness

We pray for all in the world

We pray particularly for your peace to come

And especially for all people to have the opportunity to know you - to hear about what Christ did for each one of us

Help us to play our part in sharing Christ with those we meet

**You have called us to be your people**

**Help us to hear and respond to your word**

We offer our spoken and unspoken prayers to you

In the precious name of the Risen Christ, Amen

**MP 1072 In Christ alone**

In Christ alone my hope is found,

He is my light, my strength, my song;

this cornerstone, this solid ground,

firm through the fiercest drought and storm.

Immortal, invisible, God only wise,

in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,

most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,

almighty, victorious, Thy great name we praise.

W. CHALMERS SMITH (1824-1908) CCLI 150801

Annette W chose this as it was a wedding hymn

This was written by Walter Chalmers Smith, a pastor of the free Church of Scotland. Smith was born 5th December 1824 in Aberdeen, Scotland. He studied at the university of Aberdeen and New College in Edinburgh. He was an ordained minister at Chadwell Street Scottish Church in London and several churches in Glasgow and Edinburgh. He was a distinguished preacher and had a considerable reputation as a poet. Immortal Invisible is based on 1 Timothy 1:17.

**Prayers of intercession**

Living God,

We come to pray now for your world

We come as your people through generations have come

To intercede for ourselves and others

**You have called us to be your people**

**Help us to hear and respond to your word**

We bring the life of our church and to you

All the practical and spiritual needs

The hopes and fears

his wife were missionaries in the 1930’s ministering to the people of the Ukraine. When war broke out in 1939 they had to return to England. The first 3 verses were written in the Ukraine and whilst travelling through Russia but the 4th verse was written after the war. Since the 1950’s How Great thou Art has brought inspiration to many – this was highlighted in the Top 10 Songs of Praise service in October 2005 when the viewers voted it their number 1 choice.

**MP 564 Praise to the Lord**

Praise to the Lord,

the Almighty, the King of creation;

O my soul, praise Him,

for He is thy health and salvation;

all ye who hear, brothers and sisters, draw near,

praise Him in glad adoration!

Praise to the Lord,

who o'er all things so wondrously reigneth,

shelters thee under His wings,

yea, so gently sustaineth:

hast thou not seen? all that is needful hath been

granted in what He ordaineth.

Praise to the Lord,

who doth prosper thy work, and defend thee!

Surely His goodness and mercy

here daily attend thee.

ponder anew what the Almighty can do,

who with His love doth befriend thee.

Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore Him!

All that hath life and breath

come now with praises before Him!

Let the Amen sound from His people again

gladly for aye we adore Him!

JOACHIM NEANDER (1650-80) tr CATHERINE WINKWORTH (1827-78) CCLI 150801

Robin chose this

" Praise to the Lord, the Almighty " is a hymn based on Joachim Neander 's German hymn " Lobe den Herren, den mächtigen König der Ehren ", published in 1680. John Julian in his A Dictionary of Hymnology calls the German original "a magnificent hymn of praise to God, perhaps the finest creation of its author, and of the first rank in its class."

**MP 331 in heavenly love abiding**

In heavenly love abiding,

no change my heart shall fear;

and safe is such confiding,

for nothing changes here.

The storm may roar without me,

my heart may low be laid,

but God is round about me,

and can I be dismayed?

Wherever He may guide me,

The King of Love My Shepherd is an **1868** hymn with lyrics written by Henry Baker, based on the Welsh version of Psalm 23 and the work of Edmund Prys. It is sung to four different melodies: Dominus Regit Me, a traditional Irish tune called St. Columba, “Ich dank' dir schon” by Michael Praetorius, and Remsen, the Welsh original.

**MP 327 Immortal invisible**

Immortal, invisible, God only wise,

in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,

most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,

almighty, victorious, Thy great name we praise.

Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,

nor wanting, nor wasting, Thou rulest in might;

Thy justice like mountains high soaring above

Thy clouds which are fountains of goodness and love.

To all life Thou givest, to both great and small;

in all life Thou livest, the true life of all;

we blossom and flourish as leaves on the tree,

and wither and perish but naught changeth Thee.

Great Father of glory, pure Father of Light ,

Thine angels adore Thee, all veiling their sight;

All laud we would render; O help us to see

'tis only the splendour of light hideth Thee.

Where streams of living water flow

my ransomed soul He leadeth,

and where the verdant pastures grow

with food celestial feedeth.

Perverse and foolish oft I strayed;

but yet in love He sought me,

and on His shoulder gently laid,

and home rejoicing brought me.

In death's dark vale I fear no ill

with Thee, dear Lord, beside me;

Thy rod and staff my comfort still,

Thy cross before to guide me.

Thou spread'st a table in my sight,

Thy unction grace bestoweth;

and O what transport of delight

from Thy pure chalice floweth!

And so through all the length of days

Thy goodness faileth never;

Good Shepherd, may I sing Thy praise

within Thy house for ever.

Henry Willlams Baker (1821-77) CCLI 150801

Shirley R chose this as it was a wedding hymn

no want shall turn me back;

my shepherd is beside me,

and nothing can I lack.

His wisdom ever waketh,

His sight is never dim,

He knows the way He taketh,

and I will walk with Him.

Green pastures are before me,

which yet I have not seen;

bright skies will soon be o'er me,

where the dark clouds have been.

My hope I cannot measure,

my path to life is free;

my Saviour has my treasure,

and He will walk with me.

ANNA L. WARING (1823-1910)\* CCLI 150801

Basil chose this

**Anna Waring (1823-1910)** wrote this hymn about safety in God in 1853 when she was 30 years old. She had daily pain and suffering in her life and wrote of her Christian life being a contrast of strong & tender, vigourous and gentle, brave and trusting times.  Anna was a Quaker who became a member of the Church of England, and whose particular concern was the welfare and rehabilitation of prisoners.

**MP 1008 The Lord’s my shepherd, I will trust in you alone**

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....*

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....*

Psalm 23 adapted Stuart Townend © 1996 Thankyou Music CCLI 150801

Kath chose this

This was written by Stuart Townend in 1996 who says

“I never set out to write a new musical version of this psalm – it seems very brave, or very arrogant, to think you can improve on the existing hymn version, which has been loved and sung by millions of people for so long!

I was actually working on a different song at the time, which after several hours’ hard work was not going well… I happened to flick to this psalm in my Bible while taking a break, a simple melody popped into my head, and the whole thing was written in ten minutes (something I wish as a writer would happen more often to me!).

The psalm is familiar to many as a psalm of comfort, in, for example, funeral services. But I also noticed that the psalm uses a lot of ‘movement’ imagery (walking, leading, following, etc) that speaks to me of an active response of faith to what the psalm is saying – we are to live each day believing goodness and mercy are following us, that there are still waters and green pastures to be found.

That’s why I included a response in the chorus of “I will trust…”

Just as a footnote, the song I was working so hard on at the time has pretty much been lost in the mists of obscurity, but this one has lived on… it can be a frustrating experience at times”

**MP 649 The King of love**

The King of love my Shepherd is,

whose goodness faileth never;

I nothing lack if I am His

and He is mine for ever.