**4th July 2021 Communion 10.30am Robin**

**Call to worship**

“God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship Hm in Spirit and in truth.”

**Hymn MP 41** At the name of Jesus

**Prayer and Lord’s Prayer**

Almighty and Eternal God. We set this time apart to gather in your house to worship you. We come, not with any works of righteousness or any gifts of grace, but simply because you have called us by name and made us to become sons of the living God.

Grant that the troubles and trials of this week and the expectation of similar to come, may be set aside.. help us to come, as we are, into your presence with great rejoicing.. move among us by your Spirit, touch, heal, restore, quicken.. make us a little more like Jesus.. we ask these things in His great Name.. who taught us when we pray to say: Our Father..

**Introduction to Sermon -** Prophecy for today.

This is the third attempt.. finished on the back of an envelope.. so much to tell.. of things to come, of the rapture of the church/of rewards at the judgement seat of Christ/of a wedding.. and you are the bride.. Jesus said “henceforth I will not drink of the fruit of the vine until I drink it new with you in my Father’s kingdom”.. of a great tribulation on the earth.. which those with eyes to see, can already see signs of it coming.. of a wonderful 1000 years reign on earth by Christ and His bride.. when the lion shall lay down with the lamb etc… could keep you here ‘til next Friday week.. and you’ve not brought sandwiches!!!

Most preachers have favourite texts or themes that they like to preach about.. some will follow the lectionary.. a guide that works on a three year cycle and seeks to give a sound scriptural teaching. Some will tell of the good works they are involved in and seek your concern and prayers. I have a penchant for prophecy.. where did this come from? I think it all started in 1957, when a national daily paper serialised a book called ‘The Bible as history.. proving the validity of the scriptures through archaeology.’ (I don’t think it would be printed about today)

Archaeology and prophecy are closely related.. the one states that such and such would happen to a particular city or nation because of their neglect or animosity to the Lord God.. and the archaeologist says “we have the proof, it really did happen” …fascinating.

**Hymn MP 988** How deep the Father’s love..

**O.T. Reading** Psalm 22:1-18

**COMMUNION**

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hidden; cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Christ our Lord.

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned, inn thought, word and deed.. Father forgive.. pardon and deliver us from all unrighteousness, make us more like Jesus, in thought and word and deed.. in His name. Amen.

1 Corinthians 11:23-28

This is the Lord’s table:- from east and west, from north and south people will come and take their place at the banquet in the kingdom of God.

We take the bread.. Jesus said “I am the bread of life”;

We take and eat the bread in remembrance of Him whose body was broken for you.

We take the cup.. Jesus said “Blessed are those who hunger and thirst after righteousness, for they shall be satisfied”;

We drink together.

We thank you Father for these emblems.. how blest are they.. we have partaken, not because we have earned the right.. but because You have loved us with an everlasting love.. and for this we give you thanks.

**Notices, Dedication of Offering, Mission Prayer**

**Message -** Sermon or Lecture??

A sermon seeks to touch the heart.. to help in the growth of the ‘Fruits of the Spirit’.. whereas a lecture seeks to inform.. to touch the brain rather than the heart.

In 1980 Martin and I went on a Christian tour on Israel led by Alf Ridpath.. leader of ‘Prayer for Israel’ and a leader in the Brethren Church.. well known brother.. well loved and extremely well informed. He had led many tours and had become very friendly with a particular Israeli guide, who showed him things and places not on the normal itineraries.. we met the real Indiana Jones (Ark of the Covenant). When we came home I started to get the Jerusalem Post each week and subscribed to ‘The Prophetic Witness’ magazine.

Why am I telling you all this.. in order to give you some idea of my qualifications to talk of these matters.

The peak occurred when I was invited to lead a weekend of prophecy at the Christian Endeavour holiday home in Conway. They wanted three one hour lectures.. I hour on Prophecy past i.e. prophecy that has been fulfilled.. I hour on Prophecy now and an hour on Prophecy to come.. it took months to prepare because I wanted to be able to prove what I said (and got paid for).. its been downhill.. ever since.. but these are my credentials.

One Saturday morning I opened the Jerusalem Post to be confronted on the front page with a picture of an heifer guarded by men with Kalashnikov rifles. Numbers 19 tells of the ashes of a red heifer being used to sanctify those that had had dealings with dead people.. much has been going on over the years to establish once again the Temple and its ceremonies.. and these include a red heifer.. they had searched the world for a herd that would be acceptable to the priests and found these in eastern Europe.

It is now possible to be able to tell the different tribes apart using D.N.A... the last tribe to return was Manasseh who were found in North East India.. they returned in 2016. Over 400 young men have been trained as priests and divided into the particular orders.. (John the Baptist’s father was of the order of Abia – one of 24 orders for service in the Temple. 1 Chronicles 24)

The Temple itself is ready to be erected. Since 1948 a quarry to the southeast of Jerusalem has been opened and not a single stone has come out!! Alf tells of seeing the stone cut and numbered and separated by huge sheets of cardboard. in a great cavern they have dug.. all ready to be erected. 1 Kings 6 tells of the building of Solomon’s temple and that ‘there was neither hammer or axe heard on the holy place whilst it was being erected.. and they are going to do the same again.

Whilst we were there, an exhibition was held in one of the main streets of all the instruments that will be used in the service of the Temple.. knives-pans-shovels, incense burners etc.

In 1960 I worked for Lesley Silver (one time chairman of Leeds United) and he told me of the curtain of the Temple.. remember it was torn in two.. from top to bottom when Christ died this has been woven in Leeds and was on its way to Israel.

Is this important??? Yes it is because:-

God’s word is accurate and true.. what has been prophesied will come to pass.. and we are witnessing the build up to prophecy being fulfilled right now.. the next great event will be the rapture of the church “If I go I will come again and receive you unto myself”.. 1 Thessalonians “The Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout and the trump of God and the dead in Christ shall rise first, then WE WHICH ARE ALIVE AND REMAIN shall be caught up..

We’ve been through some rough times recently.. there are worse to come.. leading to the great tribulation – we shall be with the Lord.. there is going to be a wedding.. and you are the bride.. great and wonderful things are in store for those that love Him.

A robe of white, a crown of gold, a harp, a home a mansion fair, a victor’s crown, a joy untold are mine when I get there.

**Shine share**

Hymn MP 602 Sing we the King..

**Benediction**

Now unto Him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy, unto God our saviour be glory and honour, dominion and power both now and for ever.. AMEN.

**WESTFIELD EVENING SERVICE SUNDAY 6:30pm – 4 July 2021**

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

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Heavenly Father,

Thank you for this wonderful day that you have made. I thank you for my life and the lives of my loved ones. I thank you Father for your presence In my life. For the confidence I have in you and the plans you have for me. I thank you for the immeasurable amount of love you have for me, and how comforting it is to know that your Spirit is always with me. I thank you Lord for all the big and small wins that I attain daily by the strength of your Spirit. Thank you for the things in my life that I take for granted sometimes. I thank you for a roof over my head, food to eat and clothes to wear. I recognize that these things are all a gift from you, and I'm ever grateful. May I develop an attitude of thanks in all circumstances Lord. I pray that I'll continue to remember that all things work together for good. Thank you Father, I love you. In Jesus' name, Amen. (Socialkermit)

Now our first song:

**2/. YouTube Video** > type in *“Will Your Anchor Hold in the Storms of Life”* The video to select is 3:46 mins \ secs long and by Thenba.

Well there is something special about lakes and how they show God's beauty. Here is a video that shows some of the most beautiful lakes in the world:

**3/. YouTube Video** > type in *"10 Most Beautiful Lakes on Planet Earth.” The* video to select is 6:08 mins \ secs long and by 4 Ever Green.

So what do we think about those lakes shown, and there was one from England as well - great! Why do you think God gave us beautiful scenery to enjoy? What does this say about His Heart?

**4/. Our 1st Bible Reading > Psalm 18: verses 1 to 6, then 46 to 50**

(For the director of music. Of David the servant of the Lord. He sang to the Lord the words of this song when the Lord delivered him from the hand of all his enemies and from the hand of Saul. He said):

### ***1 I love you, Lord, my strength. 2 The Lord is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer; my God is my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold. 3 I called to the Lord, who is worthy of praise, and I have been saved from my enemies. 4 The cords of death entangled me; the torrents of destruction overwhelmed me. 5 The cords of the grave coiled around me; the snares of death confronted me. 6 In my distress I called to the Lord; I cried to my God for help. From his temple he heard my voice; my cry came before him, into his ears.***

### ***46 The Lord lives! Praise be to my Rock! Exalted be God my Saviour! 47 He is the God who avenges me, who subdues nations under me, 48 who saves me from my enemies. You exalted me above my foes; from a violent man you rescued me. 49 therefore I will praise you, Lord, among the nations; I will sing the praises of your name. 50 He gives his king great victories; he shows unfailing love to his anointed, to David and to his descendants forever.*** *(NIV)*

**5/. Time of Reflection** – what is your favourite Psalm and why? Thank God in your heart for the way the Psalms encourage and uplift us. Why not try to read one Psalm per day for the next 150 days.

Now time for a bit of African:

**6/. YouTube Video** > type in *‘He Arose / Advent Harmon Choir****'*** The video to select is the one that is 3:51 mins \ secs long, and by 2 CBN TV.

Now a very strong testimony about another Muslim woman who encounters Jesus.

**7/.You Tube Video >** type in *"I audibly heard the voice of Christ - Muslim Woman Encounters Jesus"* The video to select is 10:49 mins \ secs long and by 700 Club Interactive. Please just watch the first half of the video up to the end of the Muslim ladies testimony \*\*\* which is up to about 6:03 mins \ secs of the whole video. \*\*\*\*\*

Isn't it the case (and wonderful!) that Jesus loves all people whatever religion they may have been brought up in. He also loves people who even choose not to believe in Him or who choose not to have any type of faith.

**8/.You Tube Video** *> type in “Give Me Joy in My Heart (Sing Hosanna)"* The video to select is 2:24 mins \ secs long and by Chet Valley Churches.

Now for our second Bible Reading about The Prodigal Son (well actually it’s a video from the film 'Jesus of Nazareth'!) Let’s listen to the parable of The Prodigal Son:

**9/. YouTube Video** > Type in *"Parable of The Prodigal Son from the film Jesus of Nazareth"* The video to select is 6:03 mins \ secs long, and by Goldenlight.

What can we learn from this parable. Some people even feel sympathy for the older brother. What about the gracious Father in the story and his attitude towards both sons. What can we learn from this gracious Father?

**10/. You Tube Video >** Type in *"Chris Tomlin - How Great is our God (lyrics and chords)”* Select the video which is 5:05 mins \ secs long and by christomlinmusic.

That is an amazing song. Thinking about it - is it possible in our lifetime to give God the due praise, honour and adoration He would be entitled to from us. In what ways can we do this other than with words from our lips. Think about some of the amazing things people from The Bible did for God - what actions stick out in your mind, and who sticks out in your mind?

Now a bit of classical music for us to enjoy from John Barry called 'Crazy Dog'. I like John Barry, and this is a nice bit of music which I find relaxing. Hope you like it too!

**11/. You Tube Video** > Type in *"John Barry - Crazy Dog"* The video to select is the one that is 3:04 mins \ secs long, and by Silverfox55.

We thank God for the pleasure our pets give us.

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

Dear Father

We thank you again for this special time together. Lord, as we shortly go on our way we remember people in the world tonight who are hungry, who are cold, who are lonely, who are poorly, who are homeless, who are tired, who are persecuted, and who are distressed. We pray for the many individuals, charities and organisations who are working on the fronline to bring relief, comfort and hope to these people. We pray for the many missionaries and philanthropists who are trying to make a difference, and especially those working where there is violence and danger. We pray for the World Church and the many ministries that are being carried out in the name of King Jesus to better peoples lives. Lord, we ask that your hand of protection be on all these people and may your Kingdom grow and your name be raised high through the love and grace of all such good work. To the glory of Christ. Amen

Lets finish with an old favourite famous hymn:

**13/. YouTube Video***>* Type in "CWM Rhondda Guide Me, O Thou Great Redeemer"

Look for the video which is 2:58 mins \ secs long and by HIMmaachen.

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