**SUNDAY WORSHIP 23rd AUGUST 2020**

**RUTH CHAPTER 3: ‘Wings of Mercy’**



*READ THIS SECTION BEFORE WORSHIP BEGINS:*

*Welcome to our time of worshipping together, but in different places – in our own homes (either with or without Facebook). Chris and Catherine are today broadcasting the service live from their flat near Edinburgh, where they are at the moment. There is no service in Church today.*

 *We suggest that you have a Bible by your side for your use.*

*And, as usual, we suggest that those of you who are watching live on Facebook have the links to today’s two songs already open and set to play so that you can sing them as a continuous part of our worship*

*………………..*

*WELCOME & INTRODUCTION:*

*On Facebook Chris & Catherine lead us in singing ‘You are My Hiding Place’, giving people time to gather:*

* *Let us take this moment to stop whatever else we are doing and thinking about. This is God’s time. Sit comfortably. Picture Jesus with you, sitting alongside you and be still with Him. Know He truly loves and cares for you and He can be trusted.*
* *Now picture our church family all joining you to worship God in this moment in their own homes. Know that we are worshipping together, even though we can’t see each other.*
* *Remember that we are one in the Lord.*
* *If you aren’t following the service on FB, we suggest that, if you are alone, you say the prayers and readings aloud. If you are with others, choose someone to lead and the rest of you join in with the words in bold. On FB, simply join in the words in bold.*

Church Family, we come together either on Facebook or reading this service alone at home, to praise and worship God our Father, Son and Holy Spirit. And today it’s the third of our series of sermons on the Book of Ruth – so today our focus is on Ruth Chapter 3, the chapter where Boaz shelters Ruth with the edge of his cloak. This reminds us that our Lord Jesus Christ offers to shelter us under the ‘shadow of his wings.’ Our worship today makes use of material from *Celtic Daily Prayer*, the prayer book of the Northumbria Community

*The Greeting:*

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen!**

The Lord be with you **The Lord bless you!**

*Call to Worship and Prayers of Penitence:*

My soul waits for the Lord more than those who watch for the morning

**More than those who watch for the morning!**

Out of the depths have I cried to you.

**O Lord, hear my voice**

With my whole heart I want to praise you

**O Lord, hear my voice**

If you, Lord, should mark iniquities

**Who could stand? Who could stand?**

I will wait for the Lord.

M**y soul waits and in His Word do I hope.**

*The Prayer of the Day:*

**Cast your eyes upon us, O Lord, and hide us under the shadow of your wings, that, trusting not to our own works but in the refining fire of your compassion, we come to see you face to face; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*The Bible Reading:*

**Ruth 3**

*The Sermon*

*Now either read or listen to Chris preaching, based on the third of the four sermons on Ruth by Isaac Butterworth***.**

*Summary: God takes us, sinners one and all – spiritual waifs, to be honest – and he ‘marries’ himself to us. He redeems us from the estrangement sin has caused in our lives. He takes us under his wings, he covers us with his cloak. And we are restored.*

*The Affirmation of Faith:* **Lord, you have always given bread for the coming day; and though I am poor, today I believe.**

**Lord, you have always given strength for the coming day; and though I am weak, today I believe.**

**Lord, you have always given peace for the coming day; and though of anxious heart, today I believe.**

**Lord, you have always kept me safe in trials; and now, tried as I am, today I believe.**

**Lord, you have always marked the road for the coming day; and though it may be hidden; today I believe.**

**Lord, you have always spoken when time was ripe; and though you be silent now, today I believe.**

*Now on Facebook, Catherine will lead our Prayers:*

**In the shadow of your wings I will sing your praises, O Lord.**

The Lord is my light, my salvation, whom shall I fear? The Lord is the refuge of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

**In the shadow of your wings I will sing your praises, O Lord.**

One thing I ask of the Lord, one thing I seek; to dwell in the presence of my God, to gaze on your holy place.

**In the shadow of your wings I will sing your praises, O Lord.**

I believe I shall see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living. O wait for the Lord! Have courage and wait, wait for the Lord.

**In the shadow of your wings I will sing your praises, O Lord.**

*Now I invite you to think of a person, or of a place or of a situation that needs your prayers – someone who is ill, or in particular need, or who doesn’t yet know Jesus or a place or a situation where there is conflict or division. Picture that person (or those people!) or that place or situation as we pray the following prayer together:*

**Lord, I ask You to circle this person or place that you know is on my heart.**

**I ask You to keep protection near and danger afar.**

**Lord, create Your circle.**

**Keep hope within, keep despair without. Lord, create Your circle.**

**Keep light near and darkness afar. Lord, create Your circle.**

**Keep peace within and anxiety without.**  **Eternal Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be a shield on every side.**

**Amen.**

*And now we pray together the Lord’s Prayer:* **Our Father, who art in heaven ….**

*And our Church Prayer, from the Hillsong United Worship Song, ‘Oceans:’*

**Spirit lead us where our trust is without borders
Let us walk upon the waters
Wherever You would call us. Take us deeper than our feet could ever wander
And our faith will be made stronger
In the presence of our Saviour. Amen**

*The Blessing: Chris*

See that ye be at peace among yourselves, my children, and love one another. Follow the example of good men of old and God will comfort you and help you, both in this world and in the world which is to come, and the blessing of Almighty God, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit be upon *you* and remain with *you* this day and for ever more**. Amen.**

*We invite you to end your worship today by either singing or reading aloud the worship songs whose lyrics we’ve included after the words of this service.*

**WORSHIP SONGS**

**You are My Hiding Place**

You are my hiding place
You always fill my heart
With songs of deliverance
Whenever I am afraid
I will trust in You

I will trust in You
Let the weak say I am strong
In the strength of the Lord

Source: [LyricFind](https://www.lyricfind.com/) Songwriters: Michael James Ledner You Are My Hiding Place lyrics © Universal Music Publishing Group

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3Ixt4FeNqU4>

**What a Beautiful Name it is**

You were the Word at the beginning
One with God the Lord Most High
Your hidden glory in creation
Now revealed in You our Christ

What a beautiful Name it is
What a beautiful Name it is
The Name of Jesus Christ my King

What a beautiful Name it is
Nothing compares to this
What a beautiful Name it is
The Name of Jesus

You didn't want heaven without us
So Jesus, You brought heaven down
My sin was great, Your love was greater
What could separate us now

What a wonderful Name it is
What a wonderful Name it is
The Name of Jesus Christ my King

What a wonderful Name it is
Nothing compares to this
What a wonderful Name it is
The Name of Jesus
What a wonderful Name it is
The Name of Jesus

How sweet is your name, Lord, how good You are
Love to sing in the name of the Lord, love to sing for you all?
Death could not hold You, the veil tore before You
You silenced the boast, of sin and grave
The heavens are roaring, the praise of Your glory
For You are raised to life again

You have no rival, You have no equal
Now and forever, Our God reigns
Yours is the Kingdom, Yours is the glory
Yours is the Name, above all names

What a powerful Name it is
What a powerful Name it is
The Name of Jesus Christ my King

What a powerful Name it is
Nothing can stand against
What a powerful Name it is
The Name of Jesus

You have no rival, You have no equal
Now and forever, Our God reigns
Yours is the Kingdom, Yours is the glory
Yours is the Name, above all names

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Source: [LyricFind](https://www.lyricfind.com/) Songwriters: Brooke Ligertwood / Ben Fielding

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r5L6QlAH3L4>

## O God, Our Help in Ages Past

O God, our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come,
Our shelter from the stormy blast,
And our eternal home:

Beneath the shadow of thy throne,
Thy saints have dwelt secure;
Sufficient is thine arm alone,
And our defense is sure.

Before the hills in order stood,
Or earth received her frame,
From everlasting thou art God,
To endless years the same.

A thousand ages in thy sight
Are like an evening gone;
Short as the watch that ends the night
Before the rising sun.

Time, like an ever-rolling stream,
Bears all its sons away;
They fly, forgotten, as a dream
Dies at the opening day.

Repeat 1st verse

Source: [Musixmatch](https://www.musixmatch.com/) Songwriters: Watts; R. Ringwald / CroftO God, Our Help in Ages Past lyrics © Polygram Int. Music Publishing Ltd., Word Music, Llc, Patterdale Music Ltd

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yKP_XxCBDZY>

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