**SUNDAY WORSHIP SHEET:**

**25th OCTOBER 10.30am**

**FINAL GREETINGS**



**Just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord**

**Continue to live in Him,**

**Rooted and built up in Him**

**Strengthened in the faith as you were taught**

**And overflowing with thankfulness. (Colossians 2.6-7)**

*READ THIS SECTION BEFORE WORSHIP BEGINS:*

*Welcome to our time of worshipping together, but in different places and in different ways – in Church, Facebook live streaming or at home (either with or without Facebook).*

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

*And, as usual, we suggest that those of you who are watching live on Facebook have the links to today’s songs already open and set to play so that you can sing them as a continuous part of our worship. For those who are in the Church building, the songs will be played as soon as the live Facebook broadcast has ended – even though singing still isn’t allowed in Church, it will still be good to hear the songs together and sing in our hearts.*

*………………..*

*WELCOME & INTRODUCTION:*

*At 10am, on Facebook, Chris & Catherine will lead us in singing three worship songs, as a preparation for worship – see overleaf for lyrics:*

* *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 or church. 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 in church or reading this service alone at home, to praise and worship God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Today we hear our last reading from Paul’s letter to the Colossians – Chapter 4.7-18 ‘Final Greetings.’

*THE CALL TO WORSHIP:*

**This morning, God, we want everything to be for your glory. We want our thoughts, our words, our songs,
our church, our community,
our resources, our time, our lives--all to be for you.
Everything ours is yours,
and we come together to declare this to be so,
on this Sunday, your holy day.
Bless our time together with your holy presence, Amen**

So, let us now worship the Lord!

**All praise to His name!**

*Opening Prayer*

Open our ears
**to hear your word.**
Open our eyes**to see your presence.**Open our arms
**to the embrace of community.**Open our minds
**to the beauty of truth.**Open our hearts
**to the joy of new life. Amen.**

*On the FB Live Video and in Church, Catherine now reads a poem to ‘set the scene.’*

*The Confession - Clive*

In a time of quiet reflection, let us bring to our minds those things in which we have let down our Father God. By saying or doing things we know we shouldn’t. By not saying or doing those things we know we should. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

***1 John 1:9***

*Silence*

Let us ask for his forgiveness, the Lord our God:

**Father,**

**we have sinned against heaven and against you.**

**We are not worthy to be called your children.**

**We turn to you again.**

**Have mercy on us,**

**bring us back to yourself**

**as those who once were dead**

**but now have life through Christ our Lord.**

*cf Luke 15*

**Amen.**

The almighty and merciful Lord

grant *you* pardon and forgiveness of all *your* sins,

time for amendment of life,

and the grace and strength of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

*Prayer for the Day - Clive*

**Merciful God,**

**teach us to be faithful in change and uncertainty,**

**that trusting in your word**

**and obeying your will**

**we may enter the unfailing joy of Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen**

*BIBLE READING*

*Now read Colossians* *4:7-18 or listen to it read in Church or on FB.*

*THE SERMON - Chris*

**Final Greetings**

* We’ve been looking at Colossians these past two months
* We’ve thought a lot about what it means to
* BELIEVE IN JESUS – and to keep believing in Him
* BEHAVE AS A FOLLOWER OF JESUS – in all aspects of our lives
* BELONG TO JESUS
* But there’s another form of BELONGING, too: to the Church, God’s holy people (saints)
* Today’s last part of Colossians brings us to that.
* Called ‘Final Greetings’!
* Another passage that’s not read out in Church too often. Complicated names of people from long ago!
* Paul finishes many of his letters with such lists of greetings.
* Our bit is mainly those who are with Paul sending their greetings to, or are themselves being sent to, the Colossian Christians.
* Tychicus, Onesimus, Aristarchus, Mark, Jesus Justus, Epaphras, Luke, Demas and Paul himself saying ‘Hi’ to Nympha & the church in her house, to Christians in Laodicea, and giving an instruction to Archippus
* We’ve had a lot of ‘high-flying theology’ so far in Colossians. That IS important. Right believing and right behaving IS crucial for followers of Jesus. We are not a religiously respectable social club where we must be ‘nice’ to other people, whatever they do or don’t believe or however they live their lives!
* But we mustn’t ONLY be concerned with the ‘high-flying theology’! Paul in his letters is just as concerned to maintain his personal relationships with Churches and Christians.
* That’s why he has all those greetings from various people to various people at the end of his letters.
* People – individuals – are important to Paul – and to God. YOU are important to God, he knows your name and everything about you – and the name and everything about everyone else in the Church.
* So, we can’t ignore those around us who are part of the Church. The Church is a corporate body made up of individuals – who each has a name, a character, a personality, a story, who has been made by God and is loved by God every bit as much as you are.
* Part of our faith is to share with them in the life of our faith. We need to get to know them – by name! We need to support them, care for them, love them, pray for them – even if we don’t like everything they do!
* Of course, we must be willing to challenge any sin we might see in others, but doing so gently and lovingly and with a keen awareness of the sin in ourselves.
* But we must NOT treat anyone else badly because they’ve done something we might not like but is not in itself sinful.
* ‘As we have opportunity, let us do good to all, ESPECIALLY TO THOSE WHO ARE OF THE HOUSEHOLD OF FAITH.’ (Galatians 6.10)
* We have to love other people in the Church, and pray for them, that they – we – may ‘continue in Jesus our Lord, rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith and overflowing with thankfulness. (Colossians 2.6-7)
* And THAT is the ‘ministry which we have received in the Lord,’ that each of us is to ‘complete,’ to quote Paul’s command to Archippus.
* How are you supporting your brothers and sisters in Christ? I know that those of us who meet in the building on Sundays have to leave quickly at the end of the service and all of us have to keep our distance, but we can still show God’s love and concern for those we have just shared worship with.
* We need to re-establish those ties, those bonds, with other members of LHC. They’ve had to become looser these past few months, though many of our PCC members have done sterling work ringing members – but members haven’t been able to do much to support other members.
* We need to do so again!
* Come to worship in the building when you can. Keep in touch with other members – not just the ones you know well and like! Keep up with the online services when you can’t come to the building. Pray for all the other members of LHC –by name and frequently.
* ‘Bind us together, Lord, with cords that cannot be broken, bind us together with love.’
* Actually, we’re called not just to being bound together in Christ with other members of LHC, but with Christians elsewhere, too.
* Remember how our passage today is Paul and his pals in one place – possibly Rome – greeting and acting to support Christians in another – Colossae.
* Church does NOT equal LHC only. It IS the world-wide Body of Christ.
* So who should we especially be looking to for closer ties in Christ? Our link church in Bulopa, for sure. Closer to home, the other churches in the SO16 group – King’s Lordswood, Life Church Lordshill, Colne Ave Baptists, St Peter’s Maybush & All Saints’ Redbridge, Millbrook Christian Centre & perhaps particularly St John’s Rownhams, with whom we have most connections already (think about Basics Bank!).
* I believe we are called to be in close fellowship with all these congregations, in worship, prayer, outreach and service, as well as with each other in LHC.
* All this is part of us ‘continuing in Christ Jesus our Lord, rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith and overflowing with thankfulness.’
* Note Paul’s last sentence in his letter/our reading. Should be the first, really: Grace be with you. Our faith begins with God’s grace, God’s kindness, God’s mercy, God’s love to us when we didn’t deserve it: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. God knows you by your name; he cares for you; he has made you his child. That’s grace!
* All I’ve said today is not grace. But it IS part of how we receive grace and share grace with each other and with those around us.
* ‘As we have opportunity, let us do good to all, especially to those who are of the household of faith.’
* ‘Grace be with you!’

*Affirmation of Faith - Clive*

Let us affirm our faith in Jesus Christ the Son of God.

Do you believe and trust in God the Father,

source of all being and life,

the one for whom we exist?

**We believe and trust in him.**

Do you believe and trust in God the Son,

who took our human nature,

died for us and rose again?

**We believe and trust in him.**

Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit,

who gives life to the people of God

and makes Christ known in the world?

**We believe and trust in him.**

This is the faith of the Church.

**This is our faith.**

**We believe and trust in one God,**

**Father, Son and Holy Spirit.**

**Amen.**

*PRAYERS: in Church & on FB, Clive will now lead our prayers:*

When I say Jesus, Lord of the Church – please respond

**in your mercy, hear us.**

We pray that Christ may be seen in the life of the Church.
Jesus, Lord of the Church,
in your mercy, hear us.

You have called us into the family of those who are
the children of God.
May our love for our brothers and sisters
be strengthened by your grace.
Jesus, Lord of the Church,
in your mercy, hear us.

You have called us to be a temple
where the Holy Spirit can dwell.
Give us clean hands and pure hearts,
so that our lives will reflect your holiness.
Jesus, Lord of the Church,
in your mercy, hear us.

You have called us to be a light to the world,
so that those in darkness come to you.
May our lives shine
as a witness to the saving grace you have given for all.
Jesus, Lord of the Church,
in your mercy, hear us.

You have called us to be members of your body,
so that when one suffers, all suffer together.
We ask for your comfort and healing power
to bring hope to those in distress.
Jesus, Lord of the Church,
in your mercy, hear us.

You have called us to be the Bride,
where you, Lord, are the Bridegroom.
Prepare us for the wedding feast,
where we will be united with you for ever.

Jesus, Lord of the Church,
hear our prayer,
and make us one in heart and mind
to serve you with joy for ever.
Amen.

Let us continue our prayers by saying together the Lord’s Prayer:

Our Father**, who art in Heaven……**

Next our church prayer whose words are taken 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**

*And the Blessing, from Colossians 3.1-4:*

Since you have been raised with Christ,

**Set your hearts on things above,**

Where Christ is,

**Seated at the right hand of God.**

Set your minds on things above,

**And not on earthly things.**

For you died,

**And your life is now hidden with Christ in God.**

When Christ, who is your life, appears,

**Then you also will appear with him in glory**

And the blessing of God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be among us now and for ever. **Amen**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord

**In the name of Christ. Amen**

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

**WORSHIP SONGS**

**On this page, we have the words for the songs that we will be singing live on Facebook at 10am.**

**BIND US TOGETHER**

**Chorus**

Bind us together, Lord

Bind us together

With cords that cannot be broken

Bind us together, Lord

Bind us together

Bind us together with Love

**Verse 1**

There is only one God,

There is only one King,

There is only one Body,

That is why we sing.

**Chorus**

**Verse 2**

Made for the glory of God,

Purchased by His precious Son

Born with the right to be clean

For Jesus the victory has won.

**Chorus**

**Verse 3**

You are the family of God

You are the promise divine

You are God’s chosen desire

You are the glorious new wine.

**Chorus**

Words and Music: Bob Gillman

**A NEW COMMANDMENT**

A new commandment I give unto you:
that you love one another as I have loved you,
that you love one another as I have loved you.

By this shall all know that you are my disciples:
if you have love one for another.
By this shall all know that you are my disciples:
if you have love one for another.

A new commandment I give unto you ……

From John 13.31-35

**THIS IS AMAZING GRACE**

Who breaks the power of sin and darkness?
Whose love is mighty and so much stronger?
The King of glory, the King above all kings
Who shakes the whole earth with holy thunder?
And leaves us breathless in awe and wonder?
The King of glory, the King above all kings

This is amazing grace
This is unfailing love
That You would take my place
That You would bear my cross

You laid down Your life
That I would be set free
Oh, Jesus, I sing for
All that You've done for me

Who brings our chaos back into order?
Who makes the orphans a son and daughter?
The King of glory, the King of glory
Who rules the nations with truth and justice
Shines like the sun in all of its brilliance
The King of glory, the King above all kings

This is amazing grace
This is unfailing love
That You would take my place
That You would bear my cross

You laid down Your life
That I would be set free
Oh, Jesus, I sing for
All that You've done for me

Worthy is the Lamb who was slain
Worthy is the King who conquered the grave
Worthy is the Lamb who was slain
Worthy is the King who conquered the grave
Worthy is the Lamb who was slain
Worthy is the King who conquered the grave
Worthy is the Lamb who was slain
Worthy, worthy, worthy

This is amazing grace
This is unfailing love
That You would take my place
That You would bear my cross

You laid down Your life
That I would be set free
Oh, Jesus, I sing for
All that You've done for me

All that You've done for me

Source: [Musixmatch](https://www.musixmatch.com/)

Songwriters: Josh Farro / Phil Wickham / Jeremy Riddle

This Is Amazing Grace lyrics © Wb Music Corp., Fbr Music, Josh's Music, Word Music, Llc

**WORSHIP SONGS**

**These are the words for the songs that we invite you to join in online after the worship:**

**Every Praise is to our God**

Every praise is to our God.
Every word of worship with one accord
Every praise every praise is to our God

Sing hallelujah to our God
Glory hallelujah is due our God
Every praise every praise is to our God

God my Saviour
God my Healer
God my Deliverer
Yes He is, yes He is

Yes He is, yes He is
Yes He is, yes He is

Every praise is to our God.
Every word of worship with one accord

Every praise every praise
Every praise every praise
Is to our God

Songwriters: HEZEKIAH WALKER, JOHN DAVID BRATTON

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Data from: [LyricFind](http://www.lyricfind.com/)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UuuZMg6NVeA>

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**The (UK) Blessing**

Lyrics:

Verse -

The Lord bless you

And keep you

Make His face shine upon you

And be gracious to you

The Lord turn His

Face toward you

And give you peace

As we receive, we agree, amen

Chorus -

Amen, amen, amen

Bridge -

May His favour be upon you

And a thousand generations

And your family and your children

And their children, and their children

May His presence go before you

And behind you, and beside you

All around you, and within you

He is with you, He is with you

Original Song “The Blessing” by Cody Carnes, Kari Jobe and Elevation Worship.

Written by Chris Brown, Cody Carnes, Kari Jobe and Steven Furtick

Audio produced by Trevor Michael

Video edited by Level Creative

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PUtll3mNj5U>