**SUNDAY WORSHIP SHEET:**

**16th MAY 2021 10.30am**

**Easter 7**

 *READ THIS SECTION BEFORE WORSHIP BEGINS:*

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

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

*………………..*

*WELCOME & INTRODUCTION:*

* *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.*

*………………….*

***THE GREETING & CALL TO WORSHIP***

Alleluia! Christ is risen

**He is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

It is a wonderful thing when members of the family

live together in love and peace.

**They shall be like trees planted beside flowing rivers.**

May the church be one, just as Christ and God are one,

that Christ may be glorified in us.

**They shall yield good fruit in its season,**

**and their leaf shall never wither.**

The grace, mercy and peace, of the Lord Jesus,

be with you all.

**And also with you.**

*We keep a time of silence, in the presence of the Lord.*

***THE OPENING PRAYER***

Lord of life,
We do not know the face of the future,

any more than your disciples did.
Like them, we have many questions:
how to live, how to bear witness.
Like them, we thirst for the spring waters of the Spirit
to inspire us in our living
to give us a heart language in our testimony.

You have been raised in glory

that we might rise with dignity
You live in power that we might live in peace
You are present everywhere

that we might be fully present in our own lives
This we believe
This we step out on.

**Amen.**

***THE PRAYER OF THE DAY*** *We pray together:*

***Risen, ascended Lord,
as we rejoice at your triumph,
fill your Church on earth***

***with power and compassion,
that all who are estranged by sin
may find forgiveness and know your peace,
to the glory of God the Father.***

***Amen.***

*On Facebook, Clive now reads a story to ‘set the scene.’*

**THE PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (inspired by John 17)

God, we believe you have called us to unity,

but often we have isolated ourselves from others,

**God, forgive us for the times we have turned our backs**

**on those who are different.**

God, we believe you have called us to live together as one body,

**God, forgive us for the times we have created division**

**within your worldwide church.**

God, we believe you ask us to look, listen, and learn from others,

**God, forgive us for the times we have ridiculed and attacked**

**those with different viewpoints.**

God, we believe you ask us to accept and seek to understand all who are called by your name,

**Forgive us for the times we have offended you**

**by failing to love others as we do ourselves.**

God, we believe you call us to be one even as you are one,

**Forgive us for the disunity we have harbored**

**and make us one.**

***PRAYER FOR UNITY***

God and Creator of all humankind,

your son Jesus Christ prayed that your church might be one

even as you, our God, are one.

May you renew our minds and rekindle your love in our hearts, so that by the power of the Spirit,

we might find the Oneness that you intend for us.

**God, may we see in your Oneness**

**our need for unity,**

**God, may we see in your Three-ness**

**our need for community**

**God, may we see in your creativity**

**our need for diversity,**

**God, may we see in your Self**

**our need to love each other.**

**Amen.**

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON***

Take comfort in the assurance

that even those things hidden from memory,

or are too deep for our words,

are not beyond God’s forgivng love.

God, who knows us completely,

bestows pardon and peace.

**Thanks be to God.**

***THE BIBLE READINGS*** *– now read Acts Chapter 1 and John 17:6-19 or listen to them on Facebook.*

***THE SERMON –*** *Clive.*

*If you are not participating via Facebook, please just watch and listen to Clive.*

***THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH –***

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

**Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures; He was buried, He was raised to life on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures;**

**Afterwards He appeared to His followers, and to all the apostles; This we have received, and this we believe.**

This is the faith of the Church.

**This is our faith. We believe and trust in one God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen**

***THE  PRAYERS –*** *On Facebook, Naomi will now lead our prayers.*

Holy God, you have called us to follow in the way of your risen Son, and to care for those who are our companions,
not only with words of comfort, but with acts of love.
Seeking to be true friends of all, we offer our prayers on behalf of the church and the world.

You are free, Lord,

your Ascension has set you free:

free from the constraints of human existence,

outside the limitations of time and space;

free to be here with us now,

in our worship and fellowship;

and free to be with us always;

for in your freedom

you have bound yourself to us with a promise:

**“Lo! I am with you always**

**even to the very end of time.”**

We pray, Lord, for those who need to feel you close,

who need the assurance of your love, the encouragement of your Spirit.

[Silence]

Gracious God, hear our prayer

**And in your love, answer.**

We pray for those who are persecuted, who are discriminated against, who are mocked because of their faith or race or colour.

[Silence]

Gracious God, hear our prayer

**And in your love, answer.**

We pray for those who are imprisoned, who are tortured, who are exiled, because they have fought, struggled and spoken out for the rights of their people.

[Silence]

Gracious God, hear our prayer

**And in your love, answer.**

We pray for those who are destitute, who are hungry,

who are refugees, because of the selfishness and apathy of the world.

[Silence]

Gracious God, hear our prayer

**And in your love, answer.**

We pray for those who are filled with guilt, who are broken-hearted, who are perplexed, because a relationship has gone wrong.

[Silence]

Gracious God, hear our prayer

**And in your love, answer.**

We pray for those who are feeling fed up, who are in discomfort, who are afraid,  because they are ill in body, mind or spirit.

[Silence]

Gracious God, hear our prayer

**And in your love, answer.**

We pray for those who are numbed, who are angry,

who are desolate, because they have been bereaved.

[Silence]

Gracious God, hear our prayer

**And in your love, answer.**

We pray for those caught up in war, and violence,

and hatred; especially the innocent victims of these evils.

[Silence]

Gracious God, hear our prayer

**And in your love, answer.**

We pray at this time of financial turmoil, for those who have lost jobs, those who struggle to pay bills,

and those who have the power to affect positive change.

[Silence]

Gracious God, hear our prayer

**And in your love, answer.**

Be with us all, Lord: in all our daily struggles as we seek to follow you.

Be with us all, Lord: in our times of doubt and despair;

and in our times of happiness, health and loving.

Be with us all, Lord: until that time when in your Kingdom of Love our joy will know no end: **AMEN**

Guide us in the path of discipleship, so that, as you have blessed us, we may be a blessing for others, bringing the promise of the kingdom near by our words and by our deeds. **Amen.**

**THE LORD’S PRAYER**

Let us pray together with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

**Our Father, who art in heaven,**

**hallowed be thy name;**

**thy kingdom come, thy will be done;**

**on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread.**

**And forgive us as we forgive those**

**who trespass against us.**

**And lead us not into temptation;**

**but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory**

**for ever and ever. Amen.**

***THE CHURCH PRAYER***

**To You God be the glory,**

**great things You have done.**

**So loved You the world that You gave us Your Son,**

**Who Yielded His life an atonement for sin,**

**And opened the life gates that we all might go in.**

**We praise You Lord, we praise You, Lord,**

**We want the whole earth to hear Your voice.**

**We praise You Lord, we praise You, Lord,**

**We, Your people, rejoice.**

**We come to You, Father, through Jesus the Son,**

**we give You the glory,**

**For great things You have done. Amen**

***THE BLESSING AND DISMISSAL***

**May God, who comes to us in the things of this world,
bless our eyes and be in our seeing.**

**May Christ, who looks upon us with deepest love,
bless our eyes and widen our gaze.**

**May the Spirit, who perceives what is and what may yet be, bless our eyes and sharpen our vision.**

and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among us and remain with us always.
**Amen.**

Go in the peace of Christ. Alleluia, Alleluia.

**Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.**

**WORSHIP SONGS FOR USE AT THE 10.30am SERVICE**

**GOD OF GLORY WE EXALT YOUR NAME**

God of glory, we exalt Your name,

You who reign in majesty.

We lift our hearts to You

And we will worship, praise and magnify

Your holy name.

In power resplendent You reign in glory,

Eternal King, You reign forever.

Your word is mighty, Releasing captives,

Your love is gracious, You are my God

**(sing through twice)**

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<https://youtu.be/dI389oZ7rWg>

**MY JESUS, MY SAVIOUR**

My Jesus, my Saviour
Lord there is none like you
All of my days, I want to praise
The wonders of your mighty love
My comfort, my shelter
Tower of refuge and strength
Let every breath, all that I am
Never cease to worship You

*Shout to the Lord, all the earth let us sing
Power and majesty, praise to the King
Mountains bow down and the seas will roar
At the sound of Your name
I sing for joy at the work of your hands
Forever I'll love you, forever I'll stand
Nothing compares to the promise*

*I have in You.*

***(sing through twice)***

Songwriters: Daniel Jacobi / Darlene Zschech / P. Eltermann

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<https://youtu.be/mqSQvoinDE4>

**THE CHURCH’S ONE FOUNDATION**

The church's one foundation
is Jesus Christ her Lord;
she is his new creation
by water and the word:
from heaven he came and sought her
to be his holy bride;
with his own blood he bought her
and for her life he died.

Elect from every nation,
yet one o’er all the earth;
her charter of salvation
one Lord, one faith, one birth:
one holy name she blesses,
partakes one holy food;
and to one hope she presses
with every grace endued.

‘Mid toil and tribulation,

and tumult of her war,
she waits the consummation

of peace for evermore:
till with the vision glorious
her longing eyes are blessed;
and the great church victorious
shall be the church at rest!

Yet she on earth hath union
with God the Three-in-One;
and mystic, sweet communion
with those whose rest is won:
O happy ones and holy!
Lord, give us grace that we,
like them the meek and lowly,
on high may dwell with Thee.

Samuel J Stone Samuel S Wesley (1839 - 1900)
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