

VPBC WORSHIP TOGETHER
23rd August 2020

Welcome everybody to this 'All Age' worship service.
Thanks as always to our brilliant IT duo and to Bolaji for preparing Prayers for the World.
Thanks for all the amazing images of water, Bible verses and the song that have been shared during the week.

John and I have put together some songs, Bible verses, prayers and reflections which we hope will be helpful for us all as we come to worship God together.

We celebrate God's love for all His children, thank God for one another and rejoice in the unity that His Spirit brings.

My prayer is that we would be a worshipping community of God's people. That we would worship Him in every area of our lives, in our work and in our resting, in times of joy and in hard times.

In Spirit and in Truth.
Amen

Our theme today is 'Living Water', and we'll be looking at the story about the woman who meets Jesus at a well.
Some words from John's gospel

Jesus stood and said in a loud voice, 'Let anyone who is thirsty come to me and drink. Whoever believes in me, as Scripture has said, rivers of living water will flow from within them.' By this he meant the Spirit, whom those who believed in him were later to receive.

Let's sing together 'Let Your living water flow over my soul'

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OrYmIXiB2dQ>

by John Watson

And as we come to God together let's bring all that we are to God and offer Him the best that we can

https://www.resoundworship.org/song/in_the_light_of_your_mercy

by Sam Hargreaves

Psalm 133:1

**How good and pleasant it is
when God's people live together in unity!**

We thank God for one another and for our unity in Christ.

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

by Rend Co.Kids

Paul wrote this in a letter to the followers of Jesus in Rome.

**For the kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking,
but of righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit,**
Romans 14:17

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HW5X581VwPw>

by Roy Konoly

Time to Pray

The Lord's Prayer is the prayer that Jesus taught his disciples, when they asked him how they should pray.

A lot of Christians will know the prayer by heart in their own language, and it is used today by every Christian tradition, though there are sometimes small differences in the wording.

We bless God and pray for our world, our communities and our lives to be shaped by God's will.

We pray for our needs to be met each day.

We ask for forgiveness for the wrong things we have done.

We ask for strength to resist temptation and for protection from evil.

This is the Australian aboriginal version of the prayer.

Let's pray together

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2GZdPEsAZCo>

It's wonderful to be able to meet with God in prayer, to know that He hears us and is concerned about all the things we need to talk to Him about.

Let's sing 'Never gonna give up'

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KDF43wNO64A>

by Doug Horley

Prayers for the World - <https://youtu.be/ZoCnoovSi7o>

Water is good for you. In fact, it's more than good it's essential to life!!
Did you know human beings are 65% water? That makes us more water than solid!

This is a Fun Activity you can do at home.

(Remember this is an All Age service, it's not just for the kids, so grown ups can have a go at this too!)

Each person will need two cups (one with water, one without) and a drinking straw.

The cups with water are placed on the ground near each person and the empty cups on the floor about 2 meters away. (This can be done on a table if you've reached that stage when getting up from the floor is a bit tricky!) You can hold water in the straw by dipping it in the cup, plugging the top with a finger, and lifting the straw. You have 60 seconds to see how much water you can transfer into the empty cups using only your straws!

Today's reading is found in John's Gospel and is read for us by Emma

John 4:1- 30 - <https://youtu.be/eeoi7b7arFI>

Here are some questions following on from the game:

Think about a time you were really thirsty and how you quenched your thirst.

The woman drew water at the well, just like you drew water with your straws. Jesus, though, talked about a different kind of water.

- **What "water" do you think Jesus was talking about?**
- **What kinds of "thirsts" do you think Jesus' water could quench?**

Just like the water the woman got out of the well, the water in our cups will run out but Jesus' living water never runs out!

John shared these adverts extolling the benefits of water!

This is an American commercial from a few years ago

https://youtu.be/9h-vBYui_U

And another trying to persuade us to buy bottled spring water. Perhaps more of a challenge for companies now as people are aware of the problems caused by plastic packaging.

This Evian Baby Me advert is from 2013.

<https://youtu.be/ikuiByrF6rs>

This is the link to a reflection by John on the passages in John ch 4 and ch 7 which talk about living water.

<https://youtu.be/DsNRQcTZ9v0>

Our final song and the blessing are both on this next link.

A prayer that God will be our vision and be everything to us, our delight and our strong tower.

May we all experience the presence of Christ with us in the week ahead.

The Lord Jesus going before us and leading us on. Watching our backs, and always there to catch us if we fall. Walking along side us, to the left and the right of us, and living deep within our hearts.

Amen

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TascsWZPj8U>