

Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> October 2020

Welcome to our service today, prepared by Hilary.



Later we will hear from Lesley Wilson from Loughton Baptist Church who will be speaking from Luke chapter 8.  
Her theme is 'Bearing Fruit'.



Then we will share, together, in Communion.  
Please have bread and wine/juice ready for this part of the service.



### **A notice**

For the last two weeks, we have been collecting to send a money gift to Baptist Home Mission (BHM). They support us in many ways, helping to find a new minister and providing loans are just two to mention.

So far, we have £59. Last weekend should have been our Global Gourmet. Please consider how much you might have spent on providing food and maybe give that as a gift to BHM.

Let's start our service with a prayer.

Thank you, Heavenly Father, for the love you show us. Thank you for your word, the Bible and for your constant care. Your word reminds us of your promises of peace and love and protection.

We are sorry for those times when we don't remember your love or don't act out your love in our lives.

Lord, we come this morning to worship and praise you and thank you for the love you showed through sending Jesus Christ your son to be our saviour. Amen.

We share with each other the wonders of creation and Liz this week shared a photograph of a field of sunflowers. We can look at the clouds in the sky, the sun rise and sun set, the stars, and wonder at God's creation.

Let's remember these things as we have our first song.

**Song:** All heaven declares <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l8y86qnKkmM>

We often turn to the Psalms to help us praise.

Let's use a few verses from Psalm 118 to do this now.

<sup>1</sup> Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good;  
his love endures for ever.

<sup>2</sup> Let Israel say:

'His love endures for ever.'

<sup>3</sup> Let the house of Aaron say:

'His love endures for ever.'

<sup>4</sup> Let those who fear the LORD say:

'His love endures for ever.'

Later in the service, Lesley will be speaking from Luke 8 and she has asked that we read it in the service first.

However, when I read the first verse in chapter 8, I found I needed to know what happened in chapter 7.

Chapter 8 starts with the words 'after this'.

"After this, Jesus travelled about from one town and village to another, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom of God."

After what?

So, I'll give you a quick resume of Luke 7.

Firstly, Jesus heals the servant of a Centurion, but he never meets either the Centurion or the servant.

Then Jesus' heart goes out to a crying widow whose son had died. He tells her not to cry, he brings the son back to life – the widow never even asked for help.

Next there's discussion about John the Baptist and his disciples and then Jesus goes to

dinner at a Pharisees house where a woman washes his feet with her tears. So later when you hear the words 'after this' you'll know what it means. But I suggest that you read chapter 7 for yourselves to get the details.

**Lamentations 3:22-23 English Standard Version**

**<sup>22</sup> The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases;**

**his mercies never come to an end;**

**<sup>23</sup> they are new every morning;**

**great is your faithfulness.**

**Song: The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases**  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G3zbp6BU1S0>

Now we turn to Luke chapter 8 John to read

### The parable of the sower

**8** After this, Jesus travelled about from one town and village to another, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom of God. The Twelve were with him, <sup>2</sup> and also some women who had been cured of evil spirits and diseases: Mary (called Magdalene) from whom seven demons had come out; <sup>3</sup> Joanna the wife of Chuza, the manager of Herod's household; Susanna; and many others. These women were helping to support them out of their own means.

<sup>4</sup> While a large crowd was gathering and people were coming to Jesus from town after town, he told this parable: <sup>5</sup> 'A farmer went out to sow his seed. As he was scattering the seed, some fell along the path; it was trampled on, and the birds ate it up. <sup>6</sup> Some fell on rocky ground, and when it came up, the plants withered because they had no moisture. <sup>7</sup> Other seed fell among thorns, which grew up with it and choked the plants. <sup>8</sup> Still other seed fell on good soil. It came up and yielded a crop, a hundred times more than was sown.'

When he said this, he called out, 'Whoever has ears to hear, let them hear.'

<sup>9</sup> His disciples asked him what this parable meant. <sup>10</sup> He said, 'The knowledge of the secrets of the kingdom of God has been given to you, but to others I speak in parables, so that,

“though seeing, they may not see;  
though hearing, they may not understand.”

<sup>11</sup> 'This is the meaning of the parable: the seed is the word of God. <sup>12</sup> Those along the path are the ones who hear, and then the devil comes and takes away the word from their hearts, so that they may not believe and be saved. <sup>13</sup> Those on the rocky ground are the ones who receive the word with joy when they hear it, but they have no root. They believe for a while, but in the time of testing they fall away. <sup>14</sup> The seed that fell among thorns stands for those who hear, but as they go on their way they are choked by life's worries, riches and pleasures, and they do not mature. <sup>15</sup> But the seed on good soil stands for those with a noble and good heart, who hear the word, retain it, and by persevering produce a crop.

In our next song, we sing Jehovah Jireh. This means “the Lord will provide,” and it's one of the most popular names for God. You can find it used in Genesis 22.

Song: Jehovah Jireh <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rPt2z6XJ3cA>

We continue with Luke 8 Liz to read

### A lamp on a stand

<sup>16</sup> 'No one lights a lamp and hides it in a clay jar or puts it under a bed. Instead, they put it on a stand, so that those who come in can see the light. <sup>17</sup> For there is nothing hidden that will not be disclosed, and nothing concealed that will not be known or brought out into the open. <sup>18</sup> Therefore consider carefully how you listen. Whoever has will be given more; whoever does not have, even what they think they have will be taken from them.'

### Jesus' mother and brothers

<sup>19</sup> Now Jesus' mother and brothers came to see him, but they were not able to get near him because of the crowd. <sup>20</sup> Someone told him, 'Your mother and brothers are standing outside, wanting to see you.'

<sup>21</sup> He replied, 'My mother and brothers are those who hear God's word and put it into practice.'

Song: Light of the world

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CBKzCpkXJR4>

### Jesus calms the storm

<sup>22</sup> One day Jesus said to his disciples, 'Let us go over to the other side of the lake.' So, they got into a boat and set out. <sup>23</sup> As they sailed, he fell asleep. A squall came down on the lake, so that the boat was being swamped, and they were in great danger.

<sup>24</sup> The disciples went and woke him, saying, 'Master, Master, we're going to drown!'

He got up and rebuked the wind and the raging waters; the storm subsided, and all was calm. <sup>25</sup> 'Where is your faith?' he asked his disciples.

In fear and amazement, they asked one another, 'Who is this? He commands even the winds and the water, and they obey him.'

### Jesus restores a demon-possessed man

<sup>26</sup> They sailed to the region of the Gerasenes, which is across the lake from Galilee. <sup>27</sup> When Jesus stepped ashore, he was met by a demon-possessed man from the town. For a long time, this man had not worn clothes or lived in a house but had lived in the tombs. <sup>28</sup> When he saw Jesus, he cried out and fell at his feet, shouting at the top of his voice, 'What do you want with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg you, don't torture me!' <sup>29</sup> For Jesus had commanded the impure spirit to come out of the man. Many times it had seized him, and though he was chained hand and foot and kept under guard, he had broken his chains and had been driven by the demon into solitary places.

<sup>30</sup> Jesus asked him, 'What is your name?'

'Legion,' he replied, because many demons had gone into him. <sup>31</sup> And they begged Jesus repeatedly not to order them to go into the Abyss.

<sup>32</sup> A large herd of pigs was feeding there on the hillside. The demons begged Jesus to let them go into the pigs, and he gave them permission. <sup>33</sup> When the demons came out of the man, they went into the pigs, and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and was drowned.

<sup>34</sup> When those tending the pigs saw what had happened, they ran off and reported this in the town and countryside, <sup>35</sup> and the people went out to see what had happened. When they came to Jesus, they found the man from whom the demons had gone out, sitting at Jesus' feet, dressed and in his right mind; and they were afraid. <sup>36</sup> Those who had seen it told the people how the demon-possessed man had been cured. <sup>37</sup> Then all the people of the region of the Gerasenes asked Jesus to leave them, because they were overcome with fear. So, he got into the boat and left.

<sup>38</sup> The man from whom the demons had gone out begged to go with him, but Jesus sent him away, saying, <sup>39</sup> 'Return home and tell how much God has done for you.' So, the man went away and told all over the town how much Jesus had done for him.

Song: My lighthouse

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

Now we read the last section of Luke 8 Becky to read

#### Jesus raises a dead girl and heals a sick woman

<sup>40</sup> Now when Jesus returned, a crowd welcomed him, for they were all expecting him. <sup>41</sup> Then a man named Jairus, a synagogue leader, came and fell at Jesus' feet, pleading with him to come to his house <sup>42</sup> because his only daughter, a girl of about twelve, was dying.

As Jesus was on his way, the crowds almost crushed him. <sup>43</sup> And a woman was there who had been subject to bleeding for twelve years, but no one could heal her. <sup>44</sup> She came up behind him and touched the edge of his cloak, and immediately her bleeding stopped.

<sup>45</sup> 'Who touched me?' Jesus asked.

When they all denied it, Peter said, 'Master, the people are crowding and pressing against you.'

<sup>46</sup> But Jesus said, 'Someone touched me; I know that power has gone out from me.'

<sup>47</sup> Then the woman, seeing that she could not go unnoticed, came trembling and fell at his feet. In the presence of all the people, she told why she had touched him and how she had been instantly healed. <sup>48</sup> Then he said to her, 'Daughter, your faith has healed you. Go in peace.'

<sup>49</sup> While Jesus was still speaking, someone came from the house of Jairus, the synagogue leader. 'Your daughter is dead,' he said. 'Don't bother the teacher anymore.'

<sup>50</sup> Hearing this, Jesus said to Jairus, 'Don't be afraid; just believe, and she will be healed.'

<sup>51</sup> When he arrived at the house of Jairus, he did not let anyone go in with him except Peter, John and James, and the child's father and mother. <sup>52</sup> Meanwhile, all the people were wailing and mourning for her. 'Stop wailing,' Jesus said. 'She is not dead but asleep.'

<sup>53</sup> They laughed at him, knowing that she was dead. <sup>54</sup> But he took her by the hand and said, 'My child, get up!' <sup>55</sup> Her spirit returned, and at once she stood up. Then Jesus told them to give her something to eat. <sup>56</sup> Her parents were astonished, but he ordered them not to tell anyone what had happened.

Song Lord I come to you [https://www.youtube.com/watch?app=desktop&feature=share&v=H9\\_0jiO5ZRM](https://www.youtube.com/watch?app=desktop&feature=share&v=H9_0jiO5ZRM)

**Talk: Lesley**

[https://youtu.be/\\_HC3JOzCbIE](https://youtu.be/_HC3JOzCbIE)

**Song: My Lord, what Love is this**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RVgmdzQCI6U>

**Communion**

<https://youtu.be/Zh5U7GgiwuQ>

**Our next song is quite lively but there are specific words I want to bring to your attention. Please pray for the Leaders and church members as they make decisions about the roof.  
“Every prayer a powerful weapon”.**

**And I am sure we are all praying for friends and family to know Jesus as their saviour.  
“We want to see Jesus lifted high so that all men may see the truth and know he is the way to heaven.”**

**Song: We want to see Jesus lifted high**

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=09I7-VKXLes\\_r](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=09I7-VKXLes_r)

**Blessing**

**As we say this blessing, please remember the difficult decisions about the roof of our church. Please pray for wisdom for all involved and “Let the favour of the Lord our God be upon us and establish the work of our hands...” Psalm 90:17.**

**Dear God,**

**Thank you for your great love and blessing over our lives. Thank you that your favour has no end, but it lasts for our entire lifetime. Forgive us for sometimes forgetting that you are intimately acquainted with all our ways, that you know what concerns us, and you cover us as with a shield. We ask that we walk in your blessing and goodness today. That your face would shine on us. That you would open the right doors for our lives and for our loved ones, that you would close the wrong doors and protect us from those we need to walk away from. Establish the work of our hands and bring to fulfilment all that you have given us to do in these days. We pray that you would make our way purposeful and our footsteps firm out of your goodness and love. Give us a heart of wisdom to hear your voice and make us strong as we rest in your love and grace.**

**In Jesus' Name,**

**Amen.**