

VPBC Welcome to Worship 14.3.21

Welcome to everyone sharing in our worship today. It's a joy to be able to worship God together even though we're apart.

The talk today is given by Helen Fernandes who is the Minister of Royal Docks Community Church in Newham. She will be looking at John's account of the feeding of the 5,000.

We will be sharing in the Lord's Supper later on in the service. Thanks to Bolaji who is leading the Communion and also to Pete for putting everything together online.

Thank you for your regular gifts of money which enable the Church at Victoria Park to do everything we are seeking to do for God both now and in the future. We can also remember the financial needs of others with our gifts to the Communion fund, as we share fellowship together.

The Presbyterian Church use this catechism.

Question: What is the chief end of man?

Answer: A man's chief end is to glorify God and to enjoy Him for forever.

(On this Mothering Sunday when we give thanks for those women who have nurtured and cared for us at home and in the Church, I guess we should say it's a woman's chief end too!)

So let's give glory to God!

Psalm 96:2

Sing to the LORD, and praise him!

Proclaim every day the good news that he has saved us.

**³ Proclaim his glory to the nations,
his mighty deeds to all peoples.**

10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord O my soul) by Matt Redman

<https://youtube.com/watch?v=r3K3roEF36k>

Psalm 23:6

**I know that your goodness and love will be with me all my life;
and your house will be my home as long as I live.**

GOD is good and has blessed us in so many ways.

Counting every blessing by Rend Collective

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w6Y91axwxfI>

Psalm 23:4

**Even if I go through the deepest darkness,
I will not be afraid, LORD,
for you are with me.**

**GOD walks through life with us and gives us the light we need along
the way.**

My Lighthouse by Rend Collective

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

Romans 8:26-28 (MSG)

Meanwhile, the moment we get tired in the waiting, God's Spirit is right alongside helping us along. If we don't know how or what to pray, it doesn't matter. He does our praying in and for us, making prayer out of our wordless sighs, our aching groans. He knows us far better than we know ourselves, knows our pregnant condition, and keeps us present before God. That's why we can be so sure that

every detail in our lives of love for God is worked into something good.

Let's pray

God our Father we worship You today.

We thank You that Your mercies are new every morning.

As we enjoy Your presence with us, so we want to bring You joy too. We ask You to help us to worship You with the whole of our lives, in spirit and in truth.

We thank You for every gift You have given us; strength for each day and hope in our hearts as we journey with You

May our lives reflect Your love and Your grace to all we meet along the Way.

Amen

Neil has used the following version of the Lord's prayer in a previous service. It gives us a translation of each line in the original Aramaic. The Lord's prayer is so familiar to us we can almost take it for granted but hearing it in a new way can give us new insights and has been a blessing to me.

Our Father in heaven:

Father-Mother of the Cosmos, you create all that moves in light.

Holy is Your name

Focus your light within us — make it useful: as the rays of a beacon show the way.

Your kingdom come

Unite our "I can" to yours, so that we walk as kings and queens with every creature.

Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven

Create in me a divine cooperation — from many selves, one voice, one action.

Give us this day the food we need

Grant what we need each day in bread and insight.

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us

Forgive our hidden past, the secret shames, as we consistently forgive what others hide.

And don't lead us into temptation but deliver us from evil

Deceived neither by the outer nor the inner — free us to walk your path with joy.

For Yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever.
Amen.

From you is born all ruling will, the power and life to do, the song that beautifies all from age to age it renews. Amen.

Father let Your Kingdom come! This is a beautiful worship song by The Porter's Gate

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EHIGm7qYVz4>

Let's listen to Helen's talk now.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0kb9DeUN08k>

Pause for a moment to reflect on what we have just heard.

We celebrate all that Jesus, the Bread of Life, has done for us through His death and resurrection.

Amazing Grace (My chains are gone) by Chris Tomlin

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3MZgXXUW08Q>

Bolaji leads us in this time of Communion

Please do get a piece of bread/biscuit, and a cup of wine or grape juice in preparation for the Holy Communion.

At this junction of the service, we will spend some time reflecting on the Holy Communion. Remembering Jesus paying the ultimate sacrifice of the breaking of his body, and the shedding of His blood to redeem us.

We give thanks to God for the Word that has been shared with us by Helen Fernandes.

Lord Jesus, we give thanks to you Lord and give you all the Honor and Glory.

Today, as we break bread, we do this in remembrance of you Lord. All those years ago, you took those 5 loaves of bread, and broke them into pieces until all those thousands of men, women and children were fed and satisfied. Lord, as we eat this bread in remembrance, we do this in affirmation and agreement of what you told your disciples in John 5 vs 35 - "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry". Help us Lord to renew our spiritual strength with you today.

*Let's eat our bread at this point.

The month of March is the month of Passover. Thousands of years ago, the blood of the lamb on the front door was the sign of redemption. The sign of protection. Today, with this glass in our hand, we remember the everlasting Passover. The one that applied not just to the Jews alone, but to the Gentile alike. The everlasting redemption of our sins, and the victory over eternal death. Victory paid for by the shedding of your blood, Lord Jesus on our behalf.

Ephesians 1 v 7 tells us that "In [you], we have redemption through [your] blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of [your] grace"

* Together we drink from our cups

Heavenly Father, we give thanks to you. We thank you for sending your Son to pay the price of our redemption. As we have remembered the breaking of our Lord Jesus' body and the shedding of His blood on our behalf, we renew our commitment again to you Lord.

Help us to play our part in the feeding of those who are hungry for peace, but don't know where and how to get it. Give us the confidence to share with our friends and neighbours where they can get the everlasting bread of life. From this week and beyond. In Jesus' name we've prayed.

Take some time to be still and listen to God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

We finish with the famous hymn 'To GOD be the glory'

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TD_9P9DB4pw

The LORD bless you and keep you.

The LORD make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The LORD turn His face towards you and give you peace.

Amen