

Church service ICF Delft 22 March 2020

Welcome

Praise! 98 Sing to God new songs of worship

1. Sing to God new songs of worship-
all his deeds are marvelous;
he has brought salvation to us
with his hand and holy arm.
He has shown to all the nations
righteousness and saving power;
he recalled his truth and mercy
to his people Israel.

2. Sing to God new songs of worship-
earth has seen his victory;
let the lands of earth be joyful
praising him with thankfulness.
Sound upon the harp his praises,
play to him with melody;
let the trumpets sound his triumph,
show your joy to God the king!

3. Sing to God new songs of worship-
let the sea now make a noise;
all on earth and in the waters
sound your praises to the Lord.
Let the hills rejoice together,
let the rivers clap their hands,
for with righteousness and justice
he will come to judge the earth.

Prayer

Apostolic Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
the creator of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ,
his only Son, our Lord:
who was conceived of the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day he arose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven

and sits at the right hand of God
the Father Almighty,
whence he shall come to judge
the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Holy Apostolic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and life everlasting.
Amen.

Praise! 325 O the deep, deep love of Jesus

1. O the deep, deep love of Jesus!
vast, unmeasured, boundless, free,
rolling as a mighty ocean
in its fulness over me:
underneath me, all around me,
is the current of his love,
leading onward, leading homeward,
to my glorious rest above.

2. O the deep, deep love of Jesus!
spread his praise from shore to shore:
how he loves us, ever loves us,
changes never, nevermore,
watches over all his loved ones,
whom he died to call his own,
ever for them interceding
at his heavenly Father's throne.

3. O the deep, deep love of Jesus!
love of every love the best:
vast the ocean of his blessing,
sweet the haven of his rest!
O the deep, deep love of Jesus,
very heaven of heavens to me,
and it lifts me up to glory,
evermore his face to see.

Bible reading Matthew 18 : 1-20 (NIVUK)

The Greatest in the Kingdom of Heaven

¹At that time the disciples came to Jesus and asked, "Who, then, is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?"
²He called a little child to him, and placed the child among them. ³And he said: "Truly I tell you, unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. ⁴Therefore, whoever takes the lowly position of this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. ⁵And whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me.

Causing to Stumble

⁶"If anyone causes one of these little ones—those who believe in me—to stumble, it would be better for them to have a large millstone hung around their neck and to be drowned in the depths of the sea. ⁷Woe to the world because of the things that cause people to stumble! Such things must come, but woe to the person through whom they come! ⁸If your hand or your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life maimed or crippled than to have two hands or two feet and be thrown into eternal fire. ⁹And if your eye causes you to stumble, gouge it out and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life with one eye than to have two eyes and be thrown into the fire of hell.

The Parable of the Wandering Sheep

¹⁰"See that you do not despise one of these little ones. For I tell you that their angels in heaven always see the face of my Father in heaven.

¹²"What do you think? If a man owns a hundred sheep, and one of them wanders away, will he not leave the ninety-nine on the hills and go to look for the one that wandered off? ¹³And if he finds it, truly I tell you, he is happier about that one sheep than about the ninety-nine that did not wander off. ¹⁴In the same way your Father in heaven is not willing that any of these little ones should perish.

Dealing With Sin in the Church

¹⁵“If your brother or sister sins, go and point out their fault, just between the two of you. If they listen to you, you have won them over. ¹⁶But if they will not listen, take one or two others along, so that ‘every matter may be established by the testimony of two or three witnesses.’ ¹⁷If they still refuse to listen, tell it to the church; and if they refuse to listen even to the church, treat them as you would a pagan or a tax collector.

¹⁸“Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.

¹⁹“Again, truly I tell you that if two of you on earth agree about anything they ask for, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven.²⁰For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them.”

Sermon

Praise! 723 All I once held dear

1. All I once held dear, built my life upon,
all this world reveres and wars to own,
all I once thought gain I have counted loss;
spent and worthless now, compared to this.

*Knowing you, Jesus, knowing you;
there is no greater thing.
You're my all, you're the best,
you're my joy, my righteousness
and I love you, Lord.*

2. Now my heart's desire is to know you more,
to be found in you and known as yours;
to possess by faith what I could not earn,
all-surpassing gift of righteousness.

*Knowing you, Jesus, knowing you;
there is no greater thing.
You're my all, you're the best,
you're my joy, my righteousness
and I love you, Lord.*

3. O to know the power of your risen life
and to know you in your sufferings;
to become like you in your death, my Lord,
so with you to live and never die.

*Knowing you, Jesus, knowing you;
there is no greater thing.
You're my all, you're the best,
you're my joy, my righteousness
and I love you, Lord.*

Pastoral prayer

Lord's prayer

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins

as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For yours is the kingdom, the power,
and the glory for ever and ever.
Amen.

Praise! 1232 In Christ alone

1. In Christ alone my hope is found,
he is my light, my strength, my song;
this cornerstone, this solid ground,
firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
What heights of love, what depths of peace,
when fears are stilled, when strivings cease!
My comforter, my all-in-all,
here in the love of Christ I stand.

2. In Christ alone!—who took on flesh,
fulness of God in helpless babe!
This gift of love and righteousness,
scorned by the ones he came to save:
till on that cross as Jesus died,
the wrath of God was satisfied—
for every sin on him was laid;
here in the death of Christ I live.

3. There in the ground his body lay,
light of the world by darkness slain:
then bursting forth in glorious day
up from the grave he rose again!
And as he stands in victory
sin's curse has lost its grip on me,
for I am his and he is mine—
bought with the precious blood of Christ.

4. No guilt in life, no fear in death,
this is the power of Christ in me;
from life's first cry to final breath,
Jesus commands my destiny.
No power of hell, no scheme of man,
can ever pluck me from his hand;
till he returns or calls me home,
here in the power of Christ I'll stand!

Blessing