

**Wesley Uniting Church  
July 28th, 2024 10.45am  
Pentecost 10**

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## **The Gathering of God's People**

### **Prelude**

Excerpts from *Scherzo (A Rainbow of Lorikeets)* by Brendan Collins

**Introit** music: GF Handel words: Barthold Brockes (1680-1747), tr. Denys Darlow

Lord, I trust thee, I adore thee,  
Ah! thou friend of all restore me.  
On thy loving grace relying,  
For the bread of life I'm sighing.  
Quench my thirst and let my  
hunger cease,

Fill my heart with joy and endless  
peace.  
When the breath of life has left me,  
May my soul be blended with thee.

**Welcome and Lighting of the Community Candle**

## **Call to Worship**

Children of God, you are welcome here. All of who you are — even your regrets and failings—is welcome here.

**We come to tell the truth about who we are in relationship with God.**

Many of us find it easy to recognise our goodness and difficult to notice our sins.

**We come to tell the truth about who we are in relationship with God.**

Others of us live under a shroud of guilt and shame, believing we can never be good enough to receive the fullness of God's love.

**We come to tell the truth about who we are in relationship with God.**

However you enter this place, know this: you are loved, accepted, and called. May God's love draw us to honest confession; God's acceptance assures us of the work of grace in our lives, and God's call compels us to live in grace.

**We come to tell the truth about who we are in relationship with God who loves us, accepts us, and calls us. Amen.**

**Hymn 433** Christ is our cornerstone

## **Prayers of Adoration**

### **Prayers of Confession**

Gracious and generous God,  
we gather each week to be fed by your love,  
trusting that you will embrace us.

**We confess we are not nearly so generous with our love.**

**We are often suspicious of others,  
fearful of what they seek from us.**

**We criticise what others do,  
but rarely question our own motivations.**

**Forgive us, O God, and awaken our generosity toward others.  
Amen.**

**Assurance of Forgiveness and Gloria - Hymn 189, verse 3  
The Peace**

# The Service of the Word

## Prayer for Understanding

Epistle: Ephesians 3: 14 - 21 page 950

**Hymn 405** O Spirit of the living God

Gospel: John 6: 1 - 21 page 867

This is the Gospel of the Lord - **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ**

**Anthem** composer unknown, arr. John Barnard; words: Marvin Frey (1918-92) and  
Common Praise

He is Lord, he is Lord, he is risen from the dead and he is Lord!  
Every knee shall bow, every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord.

Christ once raised from the dead dies no more: death has no more  
dominion over him. In dying he died to sin once for all: in living he  
lives to God.

See yourselves therefore as dead to sin: and alive to God in Jesus  
Christ our Lord. Christ has been raised from the dead:  
the first-fruits of those who sleep.

For as by man came death: by Man has come also the  
resurrection of the dead:  
for as in Adam all die: so in Christ shall all be made alive.

## Preaching

**Hymn 209** And can it be that I should gain an interest  
in the Saviour's blood?

**Offering - organ solo** *Prelude no.1* by Ernest Bloch (1880-1959)

## Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession

**Liturgist:** In the unrest around us, call out to us.

**Response:** Come near to us and overcome our fear.

## Final Hymn    How shall I sing that majesty?

1. How shall I sing that Majesty  
which angels do admire?  
Let dust in dust and silence lie;  
sing, sing, ye heavenly choir.  
Thousands of thousands stand around  
thy throne, O God most high;  
ten thousand times ten thousand sound  
thy praise; but who am I?

2. Thy brightness unto them appears,  
whilst I thy footsteps trace;  
a sound of God comes to my ears,  
but they behold thy face.  
They sing because thou art their Sun;  
Lord, send a beam on me;  
for where heaven is but once begun  
there alleluias be.

3. Enlighten with faith's light my heart,  
in flame it with love's fire;  
then shall I sing and bear a part  
with that celestial choir.  
I shall, I fear, be dark and cold,  
with all my fire and light;  
yet when thou dost accept their gold,  
Lord, treasure up my mite.

4. How great a being, Lord, is thine,  
which doth all beings keep!  
Thy knowledge is the only line  
to sound so vast a deep.  
thou art a sea without a shore,  
a sun without a sphere;  
thy time is now and evermore,  
thy place is everywhere.

Words: John Mason (c.1646 – 94)

Tune: *Coe Fen* by Kenneth Naylor (1931 – 91)

Descant: David Maurand

The hymn "How shall I sing that majesty" is taken from a 1683 volume of poems by John Mason, one of the earliest hymn writers of the Church of England. Originally a priest of the Anglican church, he became a 'dissenter', administering no sacraments and choosing to focus instead on preaching. His focus was almost exclusively on the millennial advent of Christ, convinced it was imminent. The text appeared in this form with the English Hymnal (1906) and draws on a comparison between the feeble praise offered on earth compared to that offered by those in the presence of God.

The tune *Coe Fen* was written by schoolmaster Ken Naylor (1931-1991) and named for a grazing meadow on the River Cam, abutting The Leys School in Cambridge, where he taught from 1953 - 80. The Leys School was founded in 1875 as a school for the sons of Methodist lay people. It is now fully co-educational.

# The Sending Forth of God's People

## Announcements

Hymn - How shall I sing that majesty? - see insert

## Commission and Blessing

## Postlude

*Trompette Jubilante* by Craig A Penfield b.1948.



**Liturgist:** Graeme Brown

**Preacher:** Rev'd Dr Bruce Stevens

**Music Coordinator:** Jade McFaul

**Organist:** Dr Lorraine Macknight

**Wesley Music Scholars:** Phoebe Bourke, Martin Magill, Evangeline Osborne (choral), Jojo Yuen (piano)

**Bible Reader:** Elizabeth Wetherell

**Flowers arranged by:** Pam Swaffield