

# Worship at Home

## 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity

### INFORMAL WELCOME

*Rev Helen Dearnley*

Good morning, and welcome to the service here at HMP Stocken, as we gather together in prayer and praise.

### HYMN

All my hope on God is founded

*Recorded remotely by the Choral Scholars of St Martin-in-the-Fields in their homes and edited together*

All my hope on God is founded;  
He doth still my trust renew.  
Me through change and chance he guideth,  
Only good and only true.  
God unknown, He alone  
Calls my heart to be his own.

God's great goodness ay endureth,  
Deep his wisdom, passing thought:  
Splendour, light, and life attend him,  
Beauty springeth out of nought.  
Evermore, from his store,  
New-born worlds rise and adore.

Daily doth the almighty giver  
Bounteous gifts on us bestow;  
His desire our soul delighteth,  
Pleasure leads us where we go.  
Love doth stand. At his hand;  
Joy doth wait on his command.

Still from man to God eternal  
Sacrifice of praise be done,  
High above all praises praising  
For the gift of Christ his Son.  
Christ doth call  
One and all:  
Ye who follow shall not fall.

*Words: Meine Hoffnung stehet feste Joachim Neander (1650-1680)  
paraphrased Robert Bridges (1844-1930)  
Tune: Michael*

Lord, open our lips  
**(All) and we shall praise your name.**

Welcome here to the chapel, in HMP Stocken, in the county of Rutland. This service is being broadcast on the Church of England website, Prison Wayout TV and National Prison Radio. Enabling us wherever we are to unite in hope and prayer and praise. Today, for the first time those in prison and their families will be able to worship virtually together, and all of us separated from our communities by Covid-19 can share in this worship. This service has been filmed across three sites, HMPs Low Newton, near Durham, Pentonville in London and here in Stocken. The images that you will see throughout the service, the two reflections you will hear and our prayers have all been put together by the prisoners themselves. All parts of this service have been filmed following all government, prison and church guidelines. And I am grateful to all of those who have made this possible. In hope and trust let us offer ourselves to God in our confession.

## **PRAYERS OF PENITENCE**

*Drawn from HMPPS booklet Prayer during the day*

My heart told me to come to you, so I am coming to ask for your help.  
Forgive me when I fail.

Lord have Mercy  
**(All) Lord have Mercy**

I belong to you. I want to do what you want.  
Forgive me when I fail.

Christ have Mercy  
**(All) Christ have Mercy**

I want to do what you want. When people care and when I am ignored.  
Forgive me when I fail.

Lord have Mercy  
**(All) Lord have Mercy**

## **ABSOLUTION**

May the God of love  
bring you to himself,  
forgive you your sins,  
and assure you of his eternal love  
in Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**(All) Amen.**

## PRISONER REFLECTION

*Written by a prisoner read by Revd Tim Wright*

I'd like to read a reflection on hope, written by one of the men here, who is very much involved with the Chaplaincy, and has an interest in creative writing.

Logic and common sense tell me that this current situation will end, however there are moments when despair overwhelms me and I tell myself this is the new norm and although it's fleeting the darkness momentarily engulfs me. I believe we all have such 'moments' and it's hope that helps us fight against it. Hope is a choice we all have to revisit every day, and when we do we find happiness, peace and growth. Unfortunately I have first-hand experience of living without hope and places it can lead to, it took me to a place where I had no self-worth, to depression, to a lack of empathy for others, to drug abuse to creating victims and to suicide attempts.

I only mention this truth so I can illustrate the other side which for me has been faith, self-esteem, social responsibility, caring for the vulnerable and a dedication to honesty that have become the cornerstones of my life. It is this hope that reminds me that there is a brighter day to come, a day when I will not only be able to see but hug my friend, when I will wake up each day and see the faces of my children, to share a meal with my family, to use all that I've learnt to help others turn their back on crime, and to learn something of God, Father Son and Holy Spirit. I believe it is hope that has helped me and so many others stick to the government guidelines. It is hope that motivates our NHS workers to get up and to give their all, it is hope that encourages volunteering. This hope brings a quality to our lives that is invaluable and heart-warming. This hope is a special gift and for those who do not know or understand its origin I thank God that his blessing on us is universal.

As we realise a brighter day will soon be here, we sing our next hymn, Jesus Christ is waiting.

## HYMN

### Jesus Christ is waiting

*Recorded remotely by the Choral Scholars of St Martin-in-the-Fields in their homes and edited together*

Jesus Christ is waiting,  
waiting in the streets;  
no one is his neighbour,  
all alone he eats.  
Listen, Lord Jesus,  
I am lonely too.  
Make me, friend or stranger,  
fit to wait on you.

Jesus Christ is raging,  
raging in the streets,  
where injustice spirals  
and real hope retreats.  
Listen, Lord Jesus  
I am angry too.  
In the Kingdom's causes  
let me rage with you.

Jesus Christ is healing,  
healing in the streets;  
curing those who suffer,  
touching those he greets.  
Listen, Lord Jesus,  
I have pity too.  
Let my care be active,  
healing, just like you.

Jesus Christ is dancing,  
dancing in the streets,  
where each sign of hatred  
he, with love, defeats.  
Listen, Lord Jesus  
I should triumph too.  
Where good conquers evil  
let me dance with you.

Jesus Christ is calling,  
calling in the streets,  
'Who will join my journey?  
I will guide their feet.'  
Listen, Lord Jesus,  
let my fears be few.  
Walk one step before me;  
I will follow you.

*Words: John L Bell (born 1949) and Graham Maule (1958-2019)  
© 1988 WGRG, c/o Iona Community, 21 Carlton Court, Glasgow, G5 9JP, Scotland.  
Tune: Noël Nouvelet*

Wherever we are, we unite our prayers in the words of our collect:

## **THE COLLECT**

Gracious Father,  
by the obedience of Jesus  
you brought salvation to our wayward world:  
draw us into harmony with your will,  
that we may find all things restored in him,  
our Saviour Jesus Christ.

**(All) Amen.**

## THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

*Read by Myrtle Augée, Custodial Manager*

This is a reading from the book of Zechariah, chapter 9, verses nine to twelve.

### READING

Zechariah 9.9-12

<sup>9</sup>Rejoice greatly, O daughter Zion!  
Shout aloud, O daughter Jerusalem!  
Lo, your king comes to you;  
triumphant and victorious is he,  
humble and riding on a donkey,  
on a colt, the foal of a donkey.  
<sup>10</sup>He will cut off the chariot from Ephraim  
and the warhorse from Jerusalem;  
and the battle-bow shall be cut off,  
and he shall command peace to the nations;  
his dominion shall be from sea to sea,  
and from the River to the ends of the earth.

<sup>11</sup>As for you also, because of the blood of my covenant with you,  
I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit.

<sup>12</sup>Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope;  
today I declare that I will restore to you double.

This is the word of the Lord.

**(All) Thanks be to God.**

Our next hymn is cornerstone, as we recognise our hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness.

### HYMN

#### Cornerstone

*Recorded remotely by the Geraldine Latty and Carey Luce in their homes*

My hope is built on nothing less  
than Jesus' blood and righteousness;  
I dare not trust the sweetest frame  
but wholly trust in Jesus' name.

Christ alone, Cornerstone,  
weak made strong, in the Saviour's love.  
Through the storm, he is Lord, Lord of all.

When darkness seems to hide his face  
I rest on his unchanging grace;  
in ev'ry high and stormy gale  
my anchor holds within the veil,

Christ alone, Cornerstone,  
weak made strong, in the Saviour's love.  
Through the storm,  
He is Lord, Lord of all.

Through the storm,  
He is Lord, Lord of all.

*Words and Music: Jonas Myrin, Reuben Morgan (born 1975) and Eric Liljero with verses from 'The Solid Rock' by Edward Mote (1797-1874)*

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## **PRISONER REFLECTION**

*Read by Rev Tim Wright*

I'm now going to read a reflection by one of the men very much involved in the Chaplaincy here at Stocken, based on Matthew chapter eleven, verses 25-30.

In these strange times of the COVID-19 pandemic,  
When we're loaded with new burdens,  
When many of us feel isolated or alone,  
When we cannot find rest as we once did,  
When constant worries gnaw at our resolve;  
We need a strategy that relieves the pressures,  
A way to ease these burdens.

Through the teachings of Jesus Christ  
We have been blessed with a divine coping strategy,  
A resilience that can cope with all challenges.  
With Jesus' help, no burden is too great to bear.  
In Jesus' words we find rest.  
In His name we're able to take a breath,  
To redirect our thoughts in a positive direction.

Though we are physically divided from each other,  
We remain connected, locally and globally through Jesus.  
We are a vast family, reaching beyond all barriers.  
We can access comfort, endurance, and hope;  
We can see that brighter days will come;  
We can cope with all worries, all pressures:  
For His yoke is easy and his burden is light.

## THE HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 11.16-19, 25-30

*Read by Solonjje Byfileld-Johnson, Custodial Manager*

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Matthew.

**(All) Glory to you, O Lord.**

At that time Jesus said, <sup>16</sup>“To what will I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the market-places and calling to one another,

<sup>17</sup>“We played the flute for you, and you did not dance; we wailed, and you did not mourn.”

<sup>18</sup>For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, “He has a demon”; <sup>19</sup>the Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, “Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax-collectors and sinners!” Yet wisdom is vindicated by her deeds.

<sup>25</sup>I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; <sup>26</sup>yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. <sup>27</sup>All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

<sup>28</sup>Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest.

<sup>29</sup>Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. <sup>30</sup>For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.’

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**(All) Praise to you O Christ.**

## SERMON

*Rev Helen Dearnley, Chaplain, HMP Stocken*

## AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

*Led by Helen McGariggle, Neil Thomas, Officer Hampson*

So, let us together declare our faith in God.

We believe in God the Father,  
from whom every family  
in heaven and on earth is named.

We believe in God the Son,  
who lives in our hearts through faith,  
and fills us with his love.

We believe in God the Holy Spirit,  
who strengthens us  
with power from on high.

We believe in one God;  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.  
(All) Amen.

## **INTERCESSIONS AND THANKSGIVINGS**

*Prayers written by HMP Low Newton Prisoners*

*Read by Rev'd Sarah Parkinson, Chaplain HMP Low Newton*

Let us pray.

Remembering that we are still in the midst of a pandemic. A virus known as Covid 19 is affecting the whole world, not just us today, but all of us. No one is on their own. At this moment millions are praying to God, sharing in his love and hope.

Hope that the scientists have the knowledge and understanding to find a vaccine. Hope that all doctors, nurses and care workers have the strength to keep going ministering to the sick and suffering. Hope to all key workers to give them belief in their work, hope that the virus will be beaten, hope that the human race will overcome, and humanity will be kinder and more considerate to one another.

And with that hope we get our courage, courage to see further as one whole, courage to share our faith, courage to seek peace, equality and love. We pray to you lord to give the world that hope and courage.

Lord every illness is a tragedy, doesn't matter what name that illness has, the pain and misery for the people affected is all the same. Millions of people are suffering on a daily basis and are in pain. Mental pain, physical pain, or emotional pain. That pain Lord above, will be horrendous to each and every one of them.

I pray Lord, for you to give them your love, strength and guidance to cope with this illness, and I also pray that you give the people that can be healed that healing they need, and the determination and courage to fight their illness. And use your power to save the people that can be saved. Lord I also pray for the people that can't be healed, Lord above guide them, and give them the strength needed to cope.

I pray that you will be in their presence, and that they will be in less pain, physically, mentally and emotionally. And that these people aren't scared at all about the unknown, and to fill each and every one of these people with your love and protection.

Lord, I also pray for those who mourn. I pray that you reach out to the families, friends, and work colleagues of each and every person who has died. I pray that you give them the comfort, love and guidance to overcome in their grief and sorrow and pain. O Mighty Lord, Giver of Eternal life, Gracious loving father to us all.

Father, you evoke hope into my life, a once under-confident and lost person, and now I have a gift of knowing you are there for me. I am no longer lost. And I am once again confident, confident in knowing you are there for me, guiding me through my life here on earth, to them be let to come and face judgement in your presence, to be hopeful of a place in paradise.

Father, I pray to you today to evoke hope into the hearts and souls of my fellow inmates here at Low Newton and in prisons and secure hospitals across the country too. There are so many here that search for that missing piece of their puzzles. Lord, help them to see how wonderful you are! Let them find hope: their missing piece! Let them see that in hope there comes so much. Hope in building a better place for them and their families and friends too. Let them see how hope is not lost, let them see that hope finds the way.

Father there is hope in you in Jesus Christ and in the Holy Spirit. If this prayer reaches out and echoes into at least one person's mind, body and soul, then I know there is still hope yet! Thanks Father!

Shine bright through love, hold tight through peace, find strength in hope and joy in the Father. Praise your love for Jesus in the world of darkness, shine like the star in the sky as the salt of the earth that lay forgotten under the feet of man. Let hope be your guide in a place that has lost all knowledge. Be the hope, live in hope. rejoice in hope. be one of the examples of hope in man.

Lord, at this hard time we ask you to look after our family and friends. Bless the family of loved ones who have sadly lost their lives to coronavirus and are grieving at this hard time.

We ask you to look after the homeless who don't have any family and we know you will give them the strength and power to continue. Let them know you are with them and continue to guide them in the right direction.

We pray for all the families who are currently in lock down with each other and those who are fighting the virus currently. Every day is a new day and we know with your love, strength and guidance we can come together as one. Together as one we continue to learn and spread your word as one family. In Jesus' name.

**(All) Amen.**

We unite our prayers, as we pray together.

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**(All) Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name;  
thy kingdom come;  
thy will be done;  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation;  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
the power and the glory,  
for ever and ever.**

**Amen.**

## HYMN

### Great is thy Faithfulness

*Recorded remotely by the Choral Scholars of St Martin-in-the-Fields in their homes and edited together*

Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father,  
there is no shadow of turning with thee;  
thou changest not, thy compassions they fail not,  
as thou hast been thou for ever wilt be.

Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!  
Morning by morning new mercies I see;  
all I have needed thy hand hath provided,  
great is thy faithfulness, Lord unto me!

Summer and winter, and spring-time and harvest,  
sun, moon and stars in their courses above,  
join with all nature in manifold witness  
to thy great faithfulness, mercy and love.

Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!  
Morning by morning new mercies I see;  
all I have needed thy hand hath provided,  
great is thy faithfulness, Lord unto me!

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,  
thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;  
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,  
blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!

Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!  
Morning by morning new mercies I see;  
all I have needed thy hand hath provided,  
great is thy faithfulness, Lord unto me!

*Words: Thomas O Chisholm (1866-1960)*

*Tune: Faithfulness (Runyan)*

Psalm 121 reminds us that the Lord will protect you and keep you safe from all dangers. The Lord will protect you now and always wherever you go.

And so now we pray for God's blessing.

## BLESSING

The God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing;  
and the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and all those who you love, care and pray for, this day and always.

**(All) Amen.**

## DISMISSAL

Let us bless the Lord:  
(All) thanks be to God.

## HYMN

Let there be light

*Recorded remotely by Steph Macleod*

When I sail the lonely deep  
When the midnight watch I keep  
I stand amazed as stars on the billows gleam  
And though I know a storm is rising  
High above the dark horizon  
I know Oh Lord  
I know you are here with me

So let there be light  
Lord let it shine  
Out of Your heart  
And here into mine  
When it rains from Heaven above  
Let it rain sweet heavenly love  
Let there be light  
Oh Lord, let there be light

There's a call on the restless tide  
Like a longing endless night  
And it breaks the bow  
Like a raging symphony  
And though I may be far from shore I  
I am anchored to Heaven's door  
And oh Lord I know  
I know You are here with me

So let there be light  
And Lord let it shine  
Out of Your heart  
Here into mine  
Lead me out of the eye of the storm  
Into the promise of the crimson dawn  
Let there be light  
Oh Lord, let the be light

Your grace is enough  
Your grace is enough  
Find me here oh Lord  
Surrounded by an ocean of love

Your grace is enough  
Your grace is enough  
Find me here oh Lord  
Surrounded in an ocean of love

Your grace is enough  
Your grace is enough  
Find me here Oh Lord  
I'm surrounded by an ocean of Your love

So let there be light  
And Lord let it shine  
Out of Your heart  
Here into mine  
Lead me out of the eye of the storm  
Into the promise of the crimson dawn  
Let there be light  
Oh Lord, O Lord, let there be light

Let there be light, sweet Jesus  
let there be light,  
let there be light  
O Lord, let there be light

*Words and Music: Steph MacLeod*

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