

Sunday 18 January
Second Sunday after Epiphany

All are welcome

Call to Worship

One: Wherever Jesus is,

All: there we can meet with God.

One: Wherever the Body of Christ is,

All: there we can meet with God.

One: With or without trappings and traditions:

All: wherever two or three are gathered, we can meet with God.

Hymn CH4 63 All people that on earth do dwell

All people that on earth do dwell,
sing to the Lord with cheerful voice,
Him serve with mirth, his praise
forth tell,
come ye before him and rejoice.

Know that the Lord is God indeed;
without our aid he did us make;
we are his folk, he doth us feed,
and food his sheep he doth us take.

O enter then his gates with praise,
approach with joy his courts unto:
praise, laud and bless his name
always,
for it is seemly so to do.

For why? the Lord our God is good,
his mercy is for ever sure;
his truth at all times firmly stood,
and shall from age to age endure.

Psalm 100

The Scottish Psalter, 1929

PRAYER & LORD'S PRAYER

Hymn CH4 204

*I am the Church! You are the Church!
We are the Church together!
All who follow Jesus, all around the world,
yes, we're the Church together.*

1 The Church is not a building, the Church is not a steeple.

The Church is not a resting-place, the Church is a people!

2 We're many kinds of people with many kinds of faces:

all colours and all ages, too, from all times and places.

3 And when the people gather there's singing and there's praying,
there's laughing and there's crying
sometimes, all of it saying:

4 At Pentecost some people received the Holy Spirit
and told the good news through the world
to all who would hear it.

5 I count if I am ninety, or nine, or just a baby;
there's one thing I am sure about and I don't mean maybe:

Richard Kinsey Avery (b. 1934) and Donald Stuart Marsh (b. 1923)

ALL AGE TIME

HYMN CH4 200

1 Christ is made the sure foundation,
Christ the head and corner-stone,
chosen of the Lord and precious,
binding all the Church in one,
holy Zion's help for ever,
and her confidence alone.

2 To this temple, where we call you,
come, O Lord of Hosts, today:
with your constant loving-kindness,
hear your servants as they pray,
and your fullest benediction
shed within its walls away.

3 Here bestow on all your servants
what they ask of you to gain,
what they gain from you for ever
with the blessed to retain,
and hereafter in your glory
evermore with you to reign.

4 Praise and honour to the Father,
praise and honour to the Son,
praise and honour to the Spirit,
ever Three and ever One,
One in might and One in glory
while unending ages run.

7th or 8th century

translated John Mason Neale (1818–1866)
(alt.)

Scripture reading

Psalm 127:1-2

Unless the Lord builds the house,
the builders labour in vain.

Unless the Lord watches over the city,
the guards stand watch in vain.

In vain you rise early
and stay up late,
toiling for food to eat –
for he grants sleep to those he loves.

John 2:13-25

When it was almost time for the Jewish Passover, Jesus went up to Jerusalem. In the temple courts he found people selling cattle, sheep and doves, and others sitting at tables exchanging money. So he made a whip out of cords, and drove all from the temple courts, both sheep and cattle; he scattered the coins of the money-changers and overturned their tables. To those who sold doves he said, ‘Get these out of here! Stop turning my Father’s house into a market!’ His disciples remembered that it is written: ‘Zeal for your house will consume me.’

The Jews then responded to him, ‘What sign can you show us to prove your authority to do all this?’ Jesus answered them, ‘Destroy this temple, and I will raise it again in three days.’

They replied, ‘It has taken forty-six years to build this temple, and you are going to raise it in three days?’ But the temple he had spoken of was his body. After he was raised from the dead, his disciples recalled what he had said. Then they believed the Scripture and the words that Jesus had spoken.

Now while he was in Jerusalem at the Passover Festival, many people saw the signs he was performing and believed in his name. But Jesus would not entrust himself to them, for he knew all people. He did not need any testimony about mankind, for he knew what was in each person.

Sermon

CH4 Hymn 259

1 Beauty for brokenness,
hope for despair,
Lord, in the suffering
this is our prayer.
Bread for the children,
justice, joy, peace,
sunrise to sunset
your kingdom increase.

2 Shelter for fragile lives,
cures for their ills,
work for the craftsmen,
trade for their skills.
Land for the dispossessed,
rights for the weak,
voices to plead the cause
of those who can't speak.

*God of the poor,
friend of the weak,
give us compassion, we pray,
melt our cold hearts,
let tears fall like rain.
Come, change our love
from a spark to a flame..*

3 Refuge from cruel wars,
havens from fear,
cities for sanctuary,
freedoms to share.
Peace to the killing fields,
scorched earth to green,
Christ for the bitterness,
his cross for the pain.

.4 Rest for the ravaged earth,
oceans and streams,
plundered and poisoned,
our future, our dreams.
Lord, end our madness,
carelessness, greed;
make us content with
the things that we need.

*God of the poor,
friend of the weak,
give us compassion, we pray,
melt our cold hearts,
let tears fall like rain.
Come, change our love
from a spark to a flame.*

5 Lighten our darkness,
breathe on this flame,
until your justice
burns brightly again;
until the nations
learn of your ways,
seek your salvation
and bring you their praise.

*God of the poor,
friend of the weak,
give us compassion, we pray,
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Graham Kendrick (b. 1950)

Announcements, Offering

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION

Hymn - CH4 192

All my hope on God is founded,
all my trust he will renew;
safe through change and chance he
guides me,
only good and only true.
God unknown,
he alone
calls my heart to be his own.

Human pride and earthly glory,
sword and crown betray God's trust;
though with care and toil we build
them,
tower and temple fall to dust.
But God's power,
hour by hour,
is my temple and my tower.

God's great goodness lasts for ever,
deep his wisdom passing thought:
splendour, light, and life attend him,
beauty springing out of naught.
Evermore,
from his store
new-born worlds rise and adore.
Day by day the mighty Giver
showers gifts on us below;
his desire our souls delight in,
pleasure leads us where we go.
See love stand
at his hand,
joy awaits at his command!

Still from earth to God in heaven
sacrifice of praise be done,
high above all praises praising
for the gift of Christ his Son.
Hear Christ call
one and all:
those who follow shall not fall.

Robert Bridges (1844–1930) (*alt.*)
based on Joachim Neander (1650–1680)

Benediction