

## **Children and family talk for 21st March 2021**

Good morning, and welcome to the children and family worship from Christ Church URC, Rayleigh.

And we start our worship today by reading from Jeremiah 31.31-34

*"The day is coming," says the Lord, "When I will make a new covenant (promise) with the people of Israel and Judah. This covenant will not be like the one I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand and brought them out of the land of Egypt. They broke that covenant, though I loved them as a husband loves his wife," says the Lord.*

*But this is the new covenant I will make with the people of Israel on that day," says the Lord. "I will put my instructions deep within them, and I will write them on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people. And they will not need to teach their neighbours, nor will they need to teach their relatives, saying, 'You should know the Lord.' For everyone, from the least to the greatest, will know me already," says the Lord, "And I will forgive their wickedness, and I will never again remember their sins."*

Now let's sing together; **I will sing, I will sing**

I will sing, I will sing  
a song unto the Lord  
I will sing, I will sing  
a song unto the Lord  
I will sing, I will sing  
a song unto the Lord

Chorus:

Allelu, alleluia, glory to the Lord  
Allelu, alleluia, glory to the Lord  
Allelu, alleluia, glory to the Lord  
Alleluia, glory to the Lord.

We will come,  
we will come as one before the Lord  
We will come,  
we will come as one before the Lord  
We will come,  
we will come as one before the Lord  
Alleluia, glory to the Lord.

Chorus

If the Son, if the Son  
shall make you free  
If the Son, if the Son  
shall make you free  
If the Son, if the Son  
shall make you free  
You shall be free indeed.

Chorus

They that sow in tears  
shall reap in joy  
They that sow in tears  
shall reap in joy  
They that sow in tears  
shall reap in joy  
Alleluia, glory to the Lord!

Chorus

Every knee shall bow  
and every tongue confess  
Every knee shall bow  
and every tongue confess  
Every knee shall bow  
and every tongue confess  
That Jesus Christ is Lord.

Chorus

In His name, in His name  
we have the victory  
In His name, in His name  
we have the victory  
In His name, in His name  
we have the victory  
Alleluia, glory to the Lord.

Chorus.

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Our Bible reading today is from John 12.20-33

*Some Greeks who had come to Jerusalem for the Passover celebration visited Philip. They said, "Sir, we want to meet Jesus." Philip told Andrew about it, and they went together to ask Jesus.*

*Jesus replied, "Now the time has come for the Son of Man to enter into his glory. I tell you the truth, unless a kernel is planted in the soil and dies, it remains alone. But its death will produce many new kernels – a plentiful harvest of new lives. Those who love their life in this world will lose it. Those who care nothing for their life in this world will keep it for eternity. Anyone who wants to be my disciple must follow me, because my servants must be where I am.*

*"Now my soul is deeply troubled. Should I pray, 'Father save me from this hour'? But this is the very reason I came! Father bring glory to your name."*

*Then a voice spoke from heaven, saying, "I have already brought glory to my name and I will do so again." When the crowd heard the voice, some thought it was thunder, while others declared an angel had spoken to him.*

*Then Jesus told them, "The voice was for your benefit, not mine. The time for judging this world has come, when Satan, the ruler of this world, will be cast out. And when I am lifted up from the earth, I will draw everyone to myself." He said this to indicate how he was going to die.*

Now let's sing again; **We Want to see Jesus lifted high**

We want to see Jesus lifted high,  
A banner that flies across this land,

That all men might see the truth  
and know,

He is the way to heaven (repeat)

We want to see, we want to see,  
We want to see Jesus lifted high,  
(repeat)

Step by step we're moving forward,  
Little by little we're taking ground,  
Every prayer a powerful weapon,  
Strongholds come tumbling down,  
And down, and down, and down.

We're gonna see, we're gonna see,  
We're gonna see Jesus lifted high  
(repeat).

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Let's talk about our Bible verses;

I've been planting some seeds over the last month and some of them are already sprouting up through the soil. Let me show you:

In our bible passage, Jesus talks about planting a kernel, which is the same as a seed. He says if you don't plant the seed, and put it under the ground, it will remain alone. So, if I hadn't planted my seed, it would have stayed the same, just one seed, doing nothing useful. But now I have planted it, the seed 'dies' by being under the ground, but comes back to life when the plant grows from it. As the plant grows it will produce more seed and therefore is no longer on its own, there are many seeds!

Jesus knew in order to fulfil his purpose, that he had to die on the cross. Thinking of that makes us sad, but Jesus needed to complete his mission in order for God's plan for everyone to take place. Just as the seed has to go under the ground, before it can grow and produce many seeds, so Jesus had to die so that he could come back to life and start the disciples on their journey to tell many, many, people the good news and bring glory to God.

Let's talk to God now:

Loving God,

Thankyou for the beauty of spring time, for the flowers and plants as they push up through the soil.

Help us to have the courage to push up through difficult times and be able to tell your good news about God's love to others.

Amen.

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ (Hold out hands as if expecting a present) And the love of God (Put your hands on your heart)  
And the fellowship of the Holy Spirit (Hold hands)  
Be with us all now and for ever. Amen! (raise hands together on the Amen)

Children's sheet from roots.

<https://www.rootsontheweb.com/media/22101/21-march-2021-activity-sheet.pdf>