

Christ Church, Rayleigh

Sunday 26 June 2022 - Morning Service

Call to Worship

The time is now, the Lord is here!
He calls us in this moment.
Rejoice in the fullness of his love.

Hymn **WF 20** **Come, now is the time to worship**

Come, now is the time to worship,
Come, now is the time to give your heart.
Come, just as you are to worship,
Come, just as you are before your God.
Come.

One day every tongue will confess You are God.
One day every knee will bow.
Still the greatest treasure remains for those
Who gladly choose You now.

Brian Doerkson

Prayer of Adoration

Creator God, keen to save,
Who sent your Son to show the way
We worship you.
Jesus you love us and suffered for us,
And showed us heaven on earth.
We worship you.
Holy Spirit, source of new life, rich in fruitfulness,
We worship you.
Father, Son and Holy Spirit, love calling for action.
We worship you. Amen.

Preparations for the Great Banquet

Notices, Offertory and Prayer of Dedication

Hymn **R&S 123** **Think of a world without any flowers**

1. Think of a world without any flowers,
think of a wood without any trees,
think of a sky without any sunshine,
think of the air without any breeze:
we thank you, Lord, for flowers and
trees and sunshine;
we thank you, Lord, and praise your holy name.
2. Think of a world without any people,
think of a street with no-one living there,
think of a town without any houses,
no-one to love and nobody to care:
we thank you, Lord, for families and friendships;
we thank you, Lord, and praise your holy name.
3. Think of a world without any worship,
think of a God without his only Son,
think of a cross without a resurrection
only a grave and not a victory won:
we thank you, Lord, for showing us our Saviour;
we thank you, Lord, and praise your holy name.
4. Thanks to our Lord for being here among us,
thanks be to him for sharing all we do,
thanks for our church and all the love we find here,
thanks for this place and all its promise true:
we thank you, Lord, for life in all its richness;
we thank you, Lord, and praise your holy name.

Bunty Newport and children from
Emmanuel Junior Church, Cambridge, 1966

Blessing for the children as they go to Sunday Club

Street Pastors – presentation by John Levitt, Southend Street Pastor Co-ordinator.

Readings: 1 Kings 19: 15 – 16, 19 – 21
Luke 9: 51- 62

Hymn R&S 522 From heaven you came

1. From heaven you came, helpless babe,
entered our world, your glory veiled;
not to be served, but to serve,
and give your life that we might live

*This is our God, the Servant King,
he calls us now to follow him,
to bring our lives as a daily offering
of worship to the Servant King.*

2. There in the garden of tears,
my heavy load he chose to bear;
his heart with sorrow was torn,
'Yet not my will but yours', he said.

3. Come see his hands and his feet,
the scars that speak of sacrifice,
hands that flung stars into space
to cruel nails surrendered.

4. So let us learn how to serve,
and in our lives enthrone him;
each other's needs to prefer,
for it is Christ we're serving.

Graham Kendrick

Sermon

Are you going to the Great Banquet?

Hymn R&S 558 Will you come and follow me

1. Will you come and follow me
if I but call your name?
Will you go where you don't know
and never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown,
will you let my name be known,
will you let my life be grown in you,
and you in me?

2. Will you leave your self behind
if I but call your name?
Will you care for cruel and kind
and never be the same?
Will you risk the hostile stare,
should your life attract or scare,
will you let me answer prayer
in you and you in me?

3. Will you love the 'you' you hide
if I but call your name?
Will you quell the fear inside
and never be the same?
Will you use the faith you've found
to reshape the world around,
through my sight and touch and sound
in you and you in me?

4. Lord, your summons echoes true
when you but call my name.
Let me turn and follow you
and never be the same.
In your company I'll go
where your love and footsteps show.
Thus I'll move and live and grow
in you and you in me.

Graham Maule & John L. Bell.

Prayer of Confession and Assurance of Forgiveness

Prayers of Intercession

Lord's Prayer

Hymn R&S 603 Lord for the years

1. Lord, for the years your love has kept and guided,
urged and inspired us, cheered us on our way,
sought us and saved us, pardoned and provided:
Lord of the years, we bring our thanks today.

2. Lord, for that word, the word of life which fires us,
speaks to our hearts and sets our souls ablaze,
teaches and trains, rebukes us and inspires us:
Lord of the word, receive your people's praise.

3. Lord, for our land in this our generation,
spirits oppressed by pleasure, wealth and care:
for young and old, for commonwealth and nation,
Lord of our land, be pleased to hear our prayer.

4. Lord, for our world where we disown and doubt you,
loveless in strength, and comfortless in pain,
hungry and helpless, lost indeed without you:
Lord of the world, we pray that Christ may reign.

5. Lord for ourselves; in living power remake us –
self on the cross and Christ upon the throne,
past put behind us, for the future take us:
Lord of our lives, to live for Christ alone.

Timothy Dudley-Smith.

Benediction

May God grant us the wisdom to know what is important.
May God guide us to act, to do what is urgent.
May God help us to know the one we follow better each day.
May God help us to be people who don't always look back.
May God help us always to be faithful and true.
Amen.

Hymns used under the Christ Church CCLI licence 63352.