

# Morning Service 8<sup>th</sup> October 2023

## 'J E S U S'

Call – Psalm 92: 1-2; 1 Chron 16: 8-10

- Hymn – WF 'Jesus' love is very wonderful' (X2)
- Hymn – WF 'We want to see Jesus lifted high'.

Prayer

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- Hymn – WF 23 'Fill our hearts with joy and gladness' NOT verse 2.

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## Morning Service 8<sup>th</sup> October 2023

### 'J E S U S'

**Call** – Psalm 92: 1-2; 1 Chron 16: 8-10

It is good to praise the LORD and make music to Your name, O Most High,  
proclaiming Your love in the morning and Your faithfulness at night.

Give praise to the LORD, proclaim His name; make known among the nations what  
He has done.

Sing to Him, sing praise to Him; tell of all His wonderful acts.

Glory in His holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice.

### **Prayer**

Lord Jesus, You certainly are very wonderful, and we come here to lift You high  
in our praises.

Holy Spirit, enable us now to raise our voices as we sing to the Lord, and to  
concentrate our thoughts solely on Jesus for this time we share together now.

Lord Jesus, You are our beautiful Saviour, You are our glorious Lord.

Thank You for being with us now, and always. Amen.

- **Hymn – WF 'Jesus' love is very wonderful' (X2)**

Jesus' love is very wonderful,

Jesus' love is very wonderful,

Jesus' love is very wonderful,

O wonderful love!

So high, you can't get over it,

so low, you can't get under it,

so wide you can't get round it ,

O wonderful love!

H.W. Rattle. JP 139 Copyright © Scripture Union

- **Hymn – WF '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)*

Step by step we're moving forward,  
little by little taking ground,  
every prayer a powerful weapon,  
strongholds come tumbling down,  
and down, and down, and down.

*We want to see, we want to see,  
we want to see Jesus lifted high.  
We want to see, we want to see,  
we want to see Jesus lifted high.*

*We're gonna see, we're gonna see,  
we're gonna see Jesus lifted high.  
We're gonna see, we're gonna see,  
we're gonna see Jesus lifted high.*

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### **Intro**

What's in a name? Why do we have a name? If we didn't, could have a conversation like, 'you know, that well-known, fair-haired, elegant lady, always ready to chat to people'. 'who, The Queen?.' 'No, lady in our church! You know. The one that organises the church meals!.' Of course, we know her as Janine!! So, we all have a name, and God knows each one of us by our name too.

All names have a meaning, e.g.

David - beloved, favourite

Janine - God is gracious.

Elizabeth - God's promise

Richard - mighty ruler

Does anyone know the meaning of your name?

(Kids uncover initials of JESUS) ... whose name is this? Does anyone know the meaning of His name?

It's a form of the Hebrew name Yeshua and means 'The Lord is Salvation;' 'The Lord saves'; rescuer; deliverer; saviour.

Going to look at some ways to describe who Jesus is and what He does, using each letter of His name, so first one is 'J'.

### Talk – 'J'

How can we describe Jesus that begins with the letter 'J'? He was a Jew yes, that starts with a 'J', but there's something else about Jesus that starts with a 'J'.

There's a clue in the story of Jesus birth. **PPT pic 1** When an angel came to tell Mary and Joseph about their baby boy the angel said, (Luke 2: 10), '*Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people.*'

Jesus told us so much about God and His love for us, about how to best live our lives, and so many wonderful things. And near the end of His time with His disciples He told them **PPT pic 2** (John 17: 13), '*I say these things (to you) so that (you) may have the full measure of My joy within (you).*'

**Joy.** (UNCOVER JOY)

Joy isn't just being happy, but it's also a deep down, warm, content, peaceful loveliness, Joy.

Joy is an amazing word. When somebody asked Jesus what was the most important command of all, (a command is something God has told us to do), Jesus said, **PPT pic 3** (Luke 10: 27), "*Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind*"; and, '*Love your neighbour as yourself.*' That's the whole of our Christian faith in a sentence, and it's all wrapped up in JOY, **PPT pic 4** putting Jesus first, Others second, Yourself last .. J .. O .. Y. (uncover, left of curtain).

Let's sing, with joyful voices, about joy! .....

- **Hymn – WF 23 'Fill your hearts with joy and gladness' NOT verse 2**

Fill your hearts with joy and gladness, sing and praise your God and mine!

Great the Lord in love and wisdom,  
might and majesty divine!  
He who framed the starry heavens  
knows and names them as they  
shine.

Praise the Lord for times and  
seasons,  
cloud and sunshine, wind and rain;  
spring to melt the snows of winter

till the waters flow again;  
grass upon the mountain pastures,  
golden valleys thick with grain.  
Fill your hearts with joy and gladness,  
peace and plenty crown your days;  
love His laws, declare His  
judgements,  
walk in all His words and ways;  
He the Lord and we His children –  
praise the Lord, all people, praise!

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### **Prayer and LP (family version)**

Dear Lord, thank You for joy, thank You that You are joy, thank You that we can know joy when we come together to sing to You, to praise and worship and pray to You together. Thank You that putting You first, others second and ourselves last can enable us to know that joy welling up inside us and that makes our entire day is so much better.

Lord You know too that there are things that make our smiles turn to a sad face. Our beautiful planet is not happy, that makes us sad. Some places have not enough rain, so crops don't grow, people and animals are hungry and thirsty. Some places have too much rain all at once, with homes and lives washed away by floods. Other places are so hot that everything is on fire, animals, birds, and people running for their lives.

Then there are silly, silly people starting fights and wars with each other, spending so much money on guns and bombs instead of food and homes. This makes us sad, and it makes You sad too. We pray for them all.

There are people we know whose health is not as they'd like it to be, their bodies are not at their best. Lord we lift them in prayer to You.

But we thank You that You are called 'Emmanuel,' God with us. You're not just with us in the happy, joyful times, but You are closer than a heartbeat when we are sad too, and we know that everywhere around the world where people are sad and in need, You are there pouring in Your love, in drops of kindness, helping people dig new wells, deliver food, built shelters, healing sickness.

Dear Lord Jesus, You are loving, and helping people all over the world, bringing Your joy in the midst of their sadness. Help us too, by putting You first in our lives, other people second and ourselves last, we can help You bring joy to those around us too. Amen.

Let's say the Lord's prayer together, it's up on screen now:

Our Father in heaven, Reveal who you are.

Set the world right; Do what's best— as above, so below.

Keep us alive with three square meals.

Keep us forgiven with you and forgiving others.

Keep us safe from ourselves and the Devil.

You're in charge! You can do anything you want! You're ablaze in beauty! Yes. Yes. Yes.

## Offering

Dear Lord God, You have blessed us with so many, many good things and good people. We give these gifts back to You in hope and expectation that You will use them to bless, enrich, support and care for other people who You know are in need of that extra loving care. Amen.

## Talk – 'E'

Next letter, E. There's a verse in the bible book of Hebrews that says something very interesting about Jesus. Hebrews 13: 8, 'Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever.' (*put up crossword right of centre*).

How long is 'forever', when does 'forever' stop/end? NEVER!!

Jesus is the same yesterday, today and forever, that's every day, always.

Now, we are all different aren't we?! Some people we immediately think of as friendly, some as organised, some as fun, some caring, some as very thoughtful.

What's the first thing about Jesus that comes to your mind when you hear the name 'Jesus', which parts of His character? When I think of Jesus *the same forever*, I think of gently smiling face, soft eyes deeply loving, arms outstretched to hold me ... and He'll be like that forever, and another word for forever is Eternal, because Jesus is 'E', **Eternal**. (*UNCOVER ETERNAL*).

So, Jesus is Joy and He is Eternal. Let's sing about that now,

- **Hymn – WF 53 'King of the ages'**

*King of the Ages, Almighty God,*

*perfect love, ever just and true.*

*Who will not fear You and bring You  
praise?*

*All the nations will come to You.*

Your arms of love are reaching out  
to every soul that seeks You;

Your light will shine in all the earth,  
bringing grace and a great salvation.

Your ways of love have won my heart,  
and brought me joy unending.

Your saving power at work in me,  
bringing peace and the hope of glory.

The day will come when You appear,  
and every eye shall see You.

Then we shall rise with hearts ablaze,  
with a song we will sing forever.

Stuart Townend & Keith Getty. SoF 1407, MP 1082 Copyright © 2002 Thankyou Music

## Prayer

Dear Lord, Your word tells us that Your love is with us, that You are righteous, Your kingdom lasts from everlasting to everlasting, that's eternal, it never ends. Thank You that however old or young we are, however long we live here on earth, You are here, and as we've just sung, Your arms of love are reaching out to every soul that seeks You. Thank You Jesus, our Lord and King. Amen.

## Talk – ‘S’

Next letter is .... ‘S’. **Secure** (UNCOVER SECURE)

*Crossword on stand, with SECURE already uncovered.*

Secure, lots of words that mean secure.

If you are in a busy Highstreet, how does the person you are with keep you from getting lost or separated from them? Hold your hand.

We are **held tight** (UNCOVER HELD TIGHT) in Jesus’ hands because we are so precious to Him, He wants to keep us close to Him and His love.

If a butterfly gets stuck indoors and you want to take it somewhere better for it, how do you do that? Keep it in your closed hands.

Bible tells we are **kept** (UNCOVER KEPT) like that in Jesus’ prayers before Father God. How about that?! We pray to Jesus, and He prays for us before God too. We are kept in His prayers.

Lots of places in Psalms where the great King David was having a really rough time, all sorts of things going wrong, people being really nasty to him, doing bad things – ever had times like that, when you feel anxious, or afraid, or really down? What did David do? All over Psalms King David tells us that he ran to the Lord in his prayers, knowing that God (and Jesus for us) was his refuge, his strong fortress, his **safe** (UNCOVER SAFE) place, that God would keep him safe through all his problems.

There’s a verse in the book of Romans (8: 38) in the bible where the apostle Paul says this, **PPT pic 5** *‘For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.’*

Paul says he is convinced, he is **certain** (UNCOVER CERTAIN), that nothing can separate us from the love of God in Jesus, we are **fixed** (UNCOVER FIXED) and **Secure** in His loving care for us.

S is for **Secure**.

Jesus has also Secured (UNCOVER D) something, but we’ll look at that after our next song, which talks about us being safe and secure in our Lord Jesus Christ.

- **Hymn –WF 43 ‘In Christ alone’**

In Christ alone, my hope is found  
He is my light, my strength, my song  
This Cornerstone, this solid ground  
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm  
What heights of love, what depths of peace  
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease

My Comforter, my All in All  
Here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone, who took on flesh  
Fullness of God in helpless babe  
This gift of love and righteousness  
Scorned by the ones He came to save  
‘Til on that cross as Jesus died  
The wrath of God was satisfied

For every sin on Him was laid  
Here in the death of Christ I live, I live.

There in the ground His body lay  
Light of the world by darkness slain  
Then bursting forth in glorious Day  
Up from the grave He rose again  
And as He stands in victory  
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me  
For I am His and He is mine

Bought with the precious blood of  
Christ.

No guilt in life, no fear in death  
This is the power of Christ in me  
From life's first cry to final breath  
Jesus commands my destiny  
No power of hell, no scheme of man  
Can ever pluck me from His hand  
Till He returns or calls me home  
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand.

Songwriters: Donald A. Koch / Andrew Shawn Craig © New Spring Publishing Inc.

### **Prayer**

Dear Lord, thank You that Your love and care for us is so great that You keep us always in Your heart and Your prayers. Lord Jesus, the words of that song tell us again how secure we are in Your loving arms, we sung that 'No power of hell, no scheme of man, can ever pluck me from Your hand'. Thank You so much Lord, what a wonderful, joyful place for us to be, safe in Your hands and love for eternity, eternally. Amen.

### **Talk – 'S' and Summary**

Another letter 'S'. So far we know that Jesus is Joy Eternal, and He has Secured something beginning with 'S'. Hmmm. What could that be?

Acts 4: 12 tells us what that is, **PPT pic 6** '*Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved.*'

*(UNCOVER SALVATION)*

The Name of Jesus.

Jesus has Secured Salvation – total forgiveness for all wrongs and sins, and there's no one else who can do that but Jesus. Who is this Salvation for?

*(UNCOVER US)*

**J E S U S** – He is Joy Eternal, He has Secured **Us** Salvation ... that's our **JESUS!!**

He wants His Joy to be in us too;

He is the same beautiful, powerful, ever-present helper and friend forever,  
Eternally;

we are Secure in His loving care; nothing can separate us from that;

and He has secured **Us** Salvation, offering us complete forgiveness and new life with Him.

Let's sing about that now,

- **Hymn – WF 75 'My Jesus, my Saviour'**

**My Jesus, my Saviour,**  
Lord, there is none like You.  
All of my days I want to praise

the wonders of Your mighty love.  
My comfort, my shelter,  
tower of refuge and strength,

let every breath, all that I am,  
never cease to worship You.

*Shout to the Lord all the earth, let us  
sing  
power and majesty, praise to the King.  
Mountains bow down*

*and the seas will roar  
at the sound of Your name.  
I sing for joy at the work of Your hands.  
Forever I'll love You, forever I'll stand.  
Nothing compares to the  
promise I have in You.*

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### **Song**

As our end-of-service blessing, there's a chorus I learnt way back when I was Isha and Alan's age that sums up what we've been looking at this morning. Some of you may remember it too, please join in while Sandy and I sing it through once, then all of us can have a go.

### **PPT pic 7 & 8**

If you want joy, real joy, wonderful joy let Jesus come into your heart.  
If you want joy, real joy, wonderful joy let Jesus come into your heart.  
Your sins He'll take away, your night He'll turn to day,  
Your heart He'll make over anew, and then come in to stay.  
If you want joy, real joy, wonderful joy let Jesus come into your heart.

### **Benediction**

Now may we go from here, with songs of joy in our hearts and on our lips, in praise and worship to You our Lord and Saviour.  
May we go from here determined to put You Lord Jesus first in our lives every day, and in Your grace, power, fellowship, care, and compassion,  
Show and share Your love to others in our family, school, neighbourhood and wherever.  
To Your glory and honour. Amen.