

## **WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD**

Voluntary: i) Fantasia in c, BWV 537(i)  
ii) Prelude on "Repton"

J S Bach  
Francis Jackson

Introit: We wait for Thy loving kindness, O God William McKie arr. MW

### **Call to Worship**

“Without the Lord who can eat with enjoyment? He gives wisdom and knowledge and joy”  
*Ecclesiastes 2:25-26*

**Hymn:** 149 Let all creation dance

*St John*

1. Let all creation dance  
in energies sublime,  
as order turns with chance,  
unfolding space and time,  
for nature's art  
in glory grows  
and newly shows  
God's mind and heart.
2. Our own amazing earth,  
with sunlight, cloud and storms  
and life's abundant growth  
in lovely shapes and forms,  
is made for praise,  
a fragile whole,  
and from its soul  
heaven's music plays.
3. Lift heart and soul and voice:  
in Christ all praises meet  
and nature shall rejoice  
as all is made complete.  
In hope be strong,  
all life befriend  
and kindly tend  
creation's song

***We bring to God our prayers and  
The Lord's Prayer***

**Our Father,  
Which art in heaven  
Hallowed be Thy Name.  
Thy Kingdom come,  
Thy will be done in earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread,  
And forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors,  
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For Thine is the Kingdom, the power and the glory,  
forever.  
Amen**

***We hear the Word of God***

New Testament:

**John 14:23-29  
(read by Michael Hunter)**

Jesus answered him, "If a man loves me, he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him. He who does not love me does not keep my words; and the word which you hear is not mine but the Father's who sent me.

"These things I have spoken to you, while I am still with you. But the Counsellor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid. You heard me say to you, 'I go away, and I will come to you.' If you loved me, you would have rejoiced, because I go to the Father; for the Father is greater than I. And now I have told you before it takes place, so that when it does take place, you may believe.

**Children's Time**

*Children leave for Crèche and Sunday Club*

1. The great love of God is revealed in the Son,  
Who came to this earth to redeem everyone.  
That love, like a stream flowing clear to the sea,  
Makes clean every heart that from sin would be free.
2. It binds the whole world, every barrier it breaks,  
The hills it lays low, and the mountains it shakes.  
It's yours, it is ours, see how lavishly given –  
The pearl of great price, and the treasure of heaven!

***We bring to God our Prayers of Confession***

***We hear the Word of God***

New Testament: **Revelation 21: 10,22-27 - 22:1-5**

And in the Spirit he carried me away to a great, high mountain, and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God. And I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine upon it, for the glory of God is its light, and its lamp is the Lamb. By its light shall the nations walk; and the kings of the earth shall bring their glory into it, and its gates shall never be shut by day—and there shall be no night there; they shall bring into it the glory and the honour of the nations. But nothing unclean shall enter it, nor any one who practices abomination or falsehood, but only those who are written in the Lamb's book of life.

Then he showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb through the middle of the street of the city; also, on either side of the river, the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, yielding its fruit each month; and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations. There shall no more be anything accursed, but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it, and his servants shall worship him; they shall see his face, and his name shall be on their foreheads. And night shall be no more; they need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they shall reign for ever and ever.

Anthem: Like as the hart desireth the waterbrooks

Herbert Howells

Like as the hart desireth the waterbrooks: so longeth my soul after thee O God. My soul is athirst for God, yea even for the living God: when shall I come to appear before the presence of God? My tears have been my meat day and night: while they daily say unto me, Where is now thy God?

(Ps.42,vv.1-3.)

### **Intimations**

**Hymn:** 485 Dear Lord and Father of Mankind

*Repton*

1. Dear Lord and Father of mankind,  
Forgive our foolish ways;  
Reclothe us in our rightful mind,  
In purer lives thy service find,  
In deeper reverence, praise,  
In deeper reverence, praise.
2. In simple trust like theirs who heard,  
Beside the Syrian sea,  
The gracious calling of the Lord,  
Let us, like them, without a word,  
Rise up and follow thee,  
Rise up and follow thee.
3. O sabbath rest by Galilee,  
O calm of hills above,  
Where Jesus knelt to share with thee  
The silence of eternity,  
Interpreted by love!  
Interpreted by love!
4. Drop thy still dews of quietness,  
Till all our strivings cease;  
Take from our souls the strain and stress,  
And let our ordered lives confess  
The beauty of thy peace,  
The beauty of thy peace.

5. With that deep hush subduing all  
Our words and works that drown  
The tender whisper of thy call,  
As noiseless let thy blessing fall  
As fell thy manna down  
As fell thy manna down.
  
6. Breathe through the heats of our desire  
Thy coolness and thy balm;  
Let sense be dumb, let flesh retire;  
Speak through the earthquake, wind, and fire,  
O still, small voice of calm.  
O still, small voice of calm.

Sermon

**A new heaven, a new earth**

***We bring to God our prayers  
of Thanksgiving and Intercession***

**Hymn:** 500 Lord of creation, to You be all praise!

*Slane*

1. Lord of creation, to you be all praise!  
Most might your working, most wondrous your ways!  
Your glory and might are beyond us to tell,  
And yet in the heart of the humble you dwell.
  
2. Lord of all power, I give you my will,  
In joyful obedience your tasks to fulfil.  
Your bondage is freedom; your service is song;  
And, held in your keeping, my weakness is strong.
  
3. Lord of all wisdom, I give you my mind,  
Rich truth that surpasses our knowledge to find;  
What eye has not seen and what ear has not heard  
Is taught by your Spirit and shines from your word.
  
4. Lord of the bounty, I give you my heart;  
I praise and adore you for all you impart,  
Your love to inflame me, your counsel to guide,  
Your presence to shield me, whatever betide.
  
5. Lord of all being, I give you my all;  
If I should disown you, I'd stumble and fall;  
But, sworn in your service your word I'll obey.  
And walk in your freedom to the end of the way

## **Benediction and Threefold Amen**

Voluntary: Pageantry

Sidney Campbell