



Sunday 10th May 2020

Dear friends,

If you have internet access you will find a video to accompany this sheet on YouTube from Sunday morning – search for ‘Isle of Man Methodist Church’ and you will find it on our YouTube channel, along with a video for MAST Youth (teenagers) and MAST Kids (6-11yrs).

Don’t forget also that Judith Ley is broadcasting “At Your Service” on Manx Radio FM at 09.30 every Sunday which includes prayers, readings, hymns, and reflections.

Our prayers are with you all,

Isle of Man Methodist Staff Team

About this service

During May we are exploring the book of Ruth and today we come to Ruth chapter 2. This Sunday also marks the start of Christian Aid week.

Opening words

As we come to worship you might like to have a time of silence and light a candle. Then say these words:

You who live in the shelter of the Most High,
who abide in the shadow of the Almighty,
will say to the LORD, “My refuge and my fortress;
my God, in whom I trust.”
He will cover you with his pinions,
and under his wings you will find refuge.
(Psalm 91 verses 1 & 3)

Hymn: Great is thy faithfulness

Sing/ Read /Pray the words below

Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father,
there is no shadow of turning with thee ;
thou changest not, thy compassions, they fail not ;
as thou hast been thou for ever wilt be :

*Great is thy faithfulness ! Great is thy faithfulness !
Morning by morning new mercies I see ;
all I have needed thy hand hath provided.
Great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me.*

Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest,
sun, moon and stars in their courses above,
join with all nature in manifold witness
to thy great faithfulness, mercy and love :

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide ;
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside !

Thomas O. Chisholm (1866–1960)

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Let us pray together

Gracious God, you are the rock of our lives.
Your strength sustains us.
Your power delivers us.
Your mercy brings forgiveness to us.
We come to you in adoration,
praising you that our whole life is in your hands –
held, sustained, protected.
Glory be to you, merciful Lord,
glory, honour, majesty and worship,
in the name of your Son, our redeemer.

Forgive us, loving Lord,
that we have strayed from your way.
Forgive us for the times our lives
have not been shaped by your truth.
Forgive us for denying your life in us and in others,
by the way we have lived.

(Silence)

In the name of Jesus, the way, the truth and the life,
we pray; we receive his grace, his forgiveness and his
love. Amen.

Prayer words from [Roots on the Web](#)

Today’s readings: Ruth 2 and Matthew 5: 43-48

A time of reflection

Naomi and Ruth need to take action if they are to survive. Ruth’s situation is perilous: a foreigner from a despised nation (2:6); and a woman, vulnerable to the advances of men (2:9 & 22). But in Boaz she finds a generous protector who goes above and beyond what the law requires. Boaz prays that God will reward Ruth for her kindness to Naomi. But notice how divine reward is found in human kindness. Where do you see God’s blessing and protection being worked out through the actions of ordinary people today?

Hymn: Beauty for brokenness

Sing/ Read / Pray the words below

- 1 Beauty for brokenness, hope for despair,
Lord, in your suffering world 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 all people, 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.

Refrain

- 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.

Refrain

Graham Kendrick (b. 1950)

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Prayers of Intercession

*These words come to us from Archbishop Martin
Blaise Nyaboho of Burundi:*

Let us pray

Our heavenly Father, God the almighty, God of love
and care, God of the universe, God our redeemer and
sustainer;
Have you observed the misery and suffering of your
people on this planet earth?
Have you heard the cry on account of the pandemic
corona virus, which is taking the lives of thousands of
people in different countries of the globe?
Have you seen funerals here and there?
To you O Lord I call,
Do not refuse to hear me! Hear the voice of my
supplication, as I cry to you for help, as I weep,
praying for a quick intervention to stop and erase this
virus.
Come down to deliver us from this covid 19
Come down, Lord, to take us out of the sufferings and
deaths,
Out of the mournings that we do go through now,
Out of the famine caused by this confinement and
home-locked experience we currently live in now.
O save your people and bless your heritage ,
In the name of God the Father, God the Son and God
the Holy spirit.
Amen.

*Be still, and in the silence bring before God those people
and situations on your heart today.*

The Lord's Prayer

*Our Father, who art in heaven,
Hallowed be thy Name.
Thy Kingdom come.
Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,*

*As we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
But deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory,
For ever and ever. Amen.*

A prayer of blessing

Eternal God and Father, you create us by your power,
and redeem us by your love:
guide and strengthen us by your Spirit,
that we may give ourselves in love and service
to one another and to you.
And the blessing of God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
be upon you, your homes and communities,
and upon this world that God loves so deeply.
Amen

Christian Aid Week

This year we continue to support the great work
being done in Burundi to help lift people out of
poverty through teaching improved methods of
beekeeping (remember Harry Owen's trip there?),
working as cooperatives and marketing.

If you would like to give you can:
send a cheque payable to 'Christian Aid' to
CAIOM, Freepost 1111, IM87 8BE (no stamp) or
Marlbrook, Kerrowmoar, Lezayre, IM7 2AX
(stamp required)

or you can make a bank transfer:
'Christian Aid' sort: 55 91 00 a/c: 13045571

or you can give online using this link:
<https://www.christianaid.org.uk/fundraising/bees-burundi>

Thank you!

