

**Benefice of Silsoe, Pulloxhill and Flitton**  
*Growing as beacons of Christ's light in our communities*



## SONGS OF PRAISE

**Welcome to our Songs of Praise Service,**  
**led by Margaret Butt and Maggie Jeeves, Lay Leaders of Worship**  
*(This service was originally broadcast in July 2020,  
but has been updated with choral versions of the hymns)*

**The readings today were chosen and read by  
members of The 3 Churches Choir**

**Entry music:** Gavotte 2 by Samuel Wesley – transcribed by Simon Stranks

**Welcome/Introduction** Maggie Jeeves

**Reading 1** Psalm 27:1-6 Linda Prior

**27** The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?  
The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?  
<sup>2</sup> When evildoers assail me, uttering slanders against me,  
my adversaries and foes, they shall stumble and fall.  
<sup>3</sup> Though a host encamp against me, my heart shall not fear;  
though war rises against me, yet I will be confident.  
<sup>4</sup> One thing have I asked of the LORD, that will I seek after;  
that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life,  
to behold the beauty of the LORD, and to inquire in his temple.  
<sup>5</sup> For he will hide me in his shelter in the day of trouble;  
he will conceal me under the cover of his tent, he will set me high upon a rock.  
<sup>6</sup> And now my head shall be lifted up above my enemies round about me;  
and I will offer in his tent sacrifices with shouts of joy;  
I will sing and make melody to the LORD.

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## Hymn 1

## Angel voices, ever singing

**1** Angel voices ever singing  
round Thy throne of light,  
angel harps, forever ringing,  
rest not day nor night;  
thousands only live to bless Thee  
and confess Thee Lord of might.

**3** Lord, we know Thy love rejoices  
o'er each work of Thine  
Thou didst ears and hands and voices  
for Thy praise combine  
Craftsman's art and music's measure  
for Thy pleasure Lord of mine.

**5** Honor, glory, might, and merit  
Thine shall ever be,  
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,  
blessed Trinity:  
of the best that Thou hast given  
earth and heaven render Thee.

**2** Thou who art beyond the farthest  
mortal eye can scan,  
can it be that Thou regardest  
songs of sinful man?  
Can we know that Thou art near us  
and wilt hear us? Yes, we can.

**4** In Thy house, great God, we offer  
of Thine own to Thee;  
and for thine acceptance proffer  
all unworthily  
hearts and minds and hands and voices  
in our choicest psalmody.

## Reading 2

## Psalm 96: 11-13

Jo Holt

96 Let the heavens rejoice, let the earth be glad;  
let the sea resound, and all that is in it.  
<sup>12</sup>Let the fields be jubilant, and everything in them;  
let all the trees of the forest sing for joy.  
<sup>13</sup>Let all creation rejoice before the LORD, for he comes,  
he comes to judge the earth.  
He will judge the world in righteousness  
and the peoples in his faithfulness.

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## Hymn 2

## For the beauty of the earth

**1** For the beauty of the earth,  
for the beauty of the skies,  
for the love which from our birth  
over and around us lies.

**2** For the beauty of each hour  
of the day and of the night,  
hill and vale and tree and flower,  
sun and moon and stars of light, [Refrain ]

**4** For each perfect gift of thine,  
To our race so freely given,  
Graces human and divine,  
Flowers of earth and buds of heaven, [Refrain]

### **Refrain:**

*Lord our Lord, to thee we raise  
this, our sacrifice of praise.*

**3** For the joy of human love,  
brother, sister, parent, child,  
friends on earth, and friends above,  
for all gentle thoughts and mild, [Refrain]

21 After these things Jesus showed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Galilee; and he showed himself in this way. <sup>2</sup>Gathered there together were Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples. <sup>3</sup>Simon Peter said to them, "I am going fishing." They said to him, "We will go with you." They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing.

<sup>4</sup>Just after daybreak, Jesus stood on the beach; but the disciples did not know it was Jesus. <sup>5</sup>Jesus said to them, "Children, you have no fish, have you?" They answered him, "No." <sup>6</sup>He said to them, "Cast the net to the right side of the boat, and you will find some." So they cast it, and now, they were not able to haul it in because there were so many fish. <sup>7</sup>That disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on some clothes, for he was naked, and jumped into the sea. <sup>8</sup>But the other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, only about a hundred yards off.

<sup>9</sup>When they had gone ashore, they saw a charcoal fire there, with fish on it, and bread. <sup>10</sup>Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish that you have just caught." <sup>11</sup>So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, a hundred and fifty-three of them; and though there were so many, the net was not torn. <sup>12</sup>Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast." Now none of the disciples dared to ask him, "Who are you?" because they knew it was the Lord. <sup>13</sup>Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them; and did the same with the fish. <sup>14</sup>This was now the third time that Jesus appeared to the disciples - after he was raised from the dead.

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### Hymn 3

### Dear Lord and Father of mankind

**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.

**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!

**5** 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!

**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.

**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.

**Reading 4      Psalm 103: 1-2; 8-13; and 19-22      Simon Stranks**

103 Let all that I am praise the LORD; with my whole heart, I will praise his holy name.

<sup>2</sup> Let all that I am praise the LORD; may I never forget the good things he does for me.

<sup>8</sup> The LORD is compassionate and merciful, slow to get angry and filled with unfailing love.

<sup>9</sup> He will not constantly accuse us, nor remain angry forever.

<sup>10</sup> He does not punish us for all our sins; he does not deal harshly with us, as we deserve.

<sup>11</sup> For his unfailing love toward those who fear him is as great as the height of the heavens above the earth.

<sup>12</sup> He has removed our sins as far from us as the east is from the west.

<sup>13</sup> The LORD is like a father to his children, tender and compassionate to those who fear him.

<sup>19</sup> The LORD has made the heavens his throne; from there he rules over everything.

<sup>20</sup> Praise the LORD, you angels, you mighty ones who carry out his plans,  
listening for each of his commands.

<sup>21</sup> Yes, praise the LORD, you armies of angels who serve him and do his will!

<sup>22</sup> Praise the LORD, everything he has created, everything in all his kingdom.

Let all that I am praise the LORD.

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**Hymn 4      Praise my soul the King of heaven**

**1** Praise, my soul, the King of heaven;  
to his feet thy tribute bring.  
Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,  
who like me his praise should sing.  
Praise him, praise him!  
Praise the everlasting King!

**2** Praise him for his grace and favor  
to our fathers in distress.  
Praise him, still the same as ever,  
slow to chide, and swift to bless.  
Praise him, praise him!  
Glorious in his faithfulness!

**3** Fatherlike he tends and spares us;  
well our feeble frame he knows.  
In his hands he gently bears us,  
rescues us from all our foes.  
Praise him, praise him!  
Widely as his mercy flows!

**4** Angels, help us to adore him;  
you behold him face to face.  
Sun and moon, bow down before him,  
dwellers all in time and space.  
Praise him, praise him!  
Praise with us the God of grace!

**Reading 5      1 Corinthians 13: 1-13      Linda Brown**

13 If I speak in the tongues of men or of angels, but do not have love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal. <sup>2</sup> If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. <sup>3</sup> If I give all I possess to the poor and give over my body to hardship that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.

<sup>4</sup> Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. <sup>5</sup> It does not dishonour others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. <sup>6</sup> Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. <sup>7</sup> It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.

<sup>8</sup> Love never fails. But where there are prophecies, they will cease; where there are tongues, they will be stilled; where there is knowledge, it will pass away. <sup>9</sup> For we know in part and we prophesy in part, <sup>10</sup> but when completeness comes, what is in part disappears. <sup>11</sup> When I was a child, I talked like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I put the ways of childhood behind me. <sup>12</sup> For now we see only a reflection as in a mirror; then we shall see face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I am fully known.

<sup>13</sup> And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.

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## **Hymn 5**

## **Guide me O my great Redeemer**

**1** Guide me, O my great Redeemer,  
pilgrim through this barren land;  
I am weak, but you are mighty;  
hold me with your powerful hand.  
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven,  
feed me now and evermore,  
feed me now and evermore.

**2** Open now the crystal fountain,  
where the healing waters flow.  
Let the fire and cloudy pillar  
lead me all my journey through.  
Strong Deliverer, strong Deliverer,  
ever be my strength and shield,  
ever be my strength and shield.

**3** When I tread the verge of Jordan,  
bid my anxious fears subside.  
Death of death, and hell's Destruction,  
land me safe on Canaan's side.  
Songs of praises, songs of praises  
I will ever sing to you,  
I will ever sing to you.

## **Reading 6**

## **Philippians 4: 4-8**

## **Margaret Butt**

**4** Rejoice in the Lord always. Again I say, rejoice!

<sup>5</sup> Let your gentleness be known to all men. The Lord is at hand.

<sup>6</sup> Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; <sup>7</sup> and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

<sup>8</sup> Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things *are* noble, whatever things *are* just, whatever things *are* pure, whatever things *are* lovely, whatever things *are* of good report, if *there is* any virtue and if *there is* anything praiseworthy—meditate on these things.

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**Final prayer:**

**Margaret Butt**

**Hymn 6**

**Thine be the glory**

**1** Thine be the glory, risen, conqu'ring Son:  
endless is the vict'ry thou o'er death hast won;  
angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away,  
kept the folded grave-clothes where thy body lay.  
Thine be the glory, risen, conqu'ring Son;  
endless is the vict'ry thou o'er death hast won.

**2** Lo! Jesus meets us, risen from the tomb;  
lovingly he greets us, scatters fear and gloom;  
let the church with gladness, hymns of triumph sing,  
for her Lord now liveth, death hath lost its sting.  
Thine be the glory, risen, conqu'ring Son;  
endless is the vict'ry thou o'er death hast won.

**3** No more we doubt thee, glorious Prince of life;  
life is naught without thee: aid us in our strife;  
make us more than conqu'rors, thro' thy deathless love:  
bring us safe thro' Jordan to thy home above.  
Thine be the glory, risen, conqu'ring Son;  
endless is the vict'ry thou o'er death hast won.

**Final blessing**

**Margaret Butt**

**Exit music: Saint Saens Organ Symphony – transcribed by Simon Stranks**

*If you have ever thought you might like to sing in a church choir; or maybe you sang at school and are thinking of returning to it, you would be welcome to join The 3 Churches Choir.*

*Contacts for The 3 Churches Choir: Linda Prior (Administrator) [linda.prior@sky.com](mailto:linda.prior@sky.com)  
Maggie Jeeves [maggie@soprano1.co.uk](mailto:maggie@soprano1.co.uk)*

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Please remember in your  
prayers this week:



Those who have  
recently died, and their  
families and friends who  
mourn them

Those who are ill, including

Des Brazier,  
Alice Butler,  
Kara De Napoli  
(granddaughter of Margaret Butt),  
Stella Lawton,  
Sally Metianu,  
Bill Powers,  
Joan Preston

We also remember: Jonah - born at 27 weeks -great-grandson of Anne Stiles  
The residents and staff at Taymer Nursing Home

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## SERVICES FOR SUNDAY 18 APRIL 2021

9:30 am – Morning Prayers in Flitton Church. Led by Margaret Butt with a sermon from Bishop Richard

11:00 am - Communion in Pulloxhill Church. Led by Rev Anna Garvie with a sermon from Bishop Richard.

Virtual Vicar: A Gentle Journey – 15 minutes of prayers and reflections accompanied by restful music and tranquil images.

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You are invited to join Chris Nixon and others for Zoom prayers twice a week - Mondays @ 21:00 and Thursdays @ 09:00

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/75169742287?pwd=NnNGNHkzU3FkODF2R1U3TG5CaXJ3UT09>

Meeting ID: 751 6974 2287 Passcode: hf7e1x

'Silence, words, encouragement, music, a candle, and all of this because we need to spend time with our 'Father in heaven'



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### Don't forget TEA at THREE

ZOOM time together every Sunday from 3pm to 4pm  
– everybody welcome.

A chance to catch up with others, laugh, moan, get things off your chest. .

It's the same code every week, so if you joined us last week you can use the same code this week. Contact Rev David on 01525 864858 or [vicar@3churches.uk](mailto:vicar@3churches.uk) for the ZOOM access code

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A free phone line of hymns, reflections and prayers

**0800 804 8044**

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We have a new FREE telephone line for you to ring to hear comforting hymns, daily prayers and reflections.

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– 0800 804 8044

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If you know of someone who would like a copy of this Songs of Praise service on either CD or DVD, please contact the Virtual Vicar on [VirtualVicar@3churches.uk](mailto:VirtualVicar@3churches.uk)

Due to copyright and performing rights, the discs will have the music tracks without vocals.