



# AMERSHAM FREE CHURCH

Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> September 2018

## MORNING WORSHIP WITH COMMUNION

led by The Revd Erna Stevenson

*Organist: Anna LeHair*

---

*All who love and follow our Lord Jesus Christ are invited to receive communion.  
If you do not wish to receive the bread and wine please let them pass by without embarrassment.  
If you are able please stand for those parts of the service marked with an asterisk (\*)*

## GOD INVITES US TO WORSHIP

**\* Hymn:** Praise to God, the world's creator Tune: Ode to Joy

*During which the Bible is placed in the pulpit*

**1.Praise to God, the world's creator,  
source of life and growth and breath,  
cradling in her arms her children,  
holding them from birth to death.  
In our bodies, in our living,  
strength and truth of all we do,  
God is present, working with us,  
making us creators too.**

**2.Praise to God, our saving Wisdom,  
meeting us with love and grace,  
helping us to grow in wholeness,  
giving freedom, room and space.  
In our hurting, in our risking,  
In the thoughts we dare not name,  
God is present, growing with us,  
healing us from pride and shame.**

**3.Praise to God, the Spirit in us,  
prompting hidden depth of prayer,  
firing us to long for justice  
reaching out with tender care.**

**In our searching, in our loving,  
in our struggles to be free,  
God is present, living in us,  
pointing us to what shall be.**

*CCL 257120 Jan Berry*

## **Opening Responses**

**Leader:** We come to praise and worship God

**All:** **In word, in thought and in action**

**Leader:** We come to give God our full attention

**All:** **To pray, to sing and offer our lives.**

**Leader:** The Lord be with you

**All:** **And also with you.**

## **Prayers of Praise and Confession, Lord's Prayer**

## **Welcome and Notices**

# **WE LISTEN FOR THE WORD OF GOD**

## **All Age Focus**

**\*Hymn 195:** I danced in the morning

*We remain standing for a Prayer of Blessing for Junior Church and then children and young people leave for their groups. Babies and toddlers are welcome in The Crèche.*

**Readings:** Isaiah 50: 4-9a p. 612 in OT

Mark 8:27-38 p. 37 in NT

**Reader:** In this is the word of the Lord

**All:** **Thanks be to God.**

*This morning's reader is Emma Munro*

## **Sermon:**

*followed by Silent Reflection*

**Hymn:** Tune Theodoric R&S 274

**1. Peter spoke, proud and true,  
did the best he could do,  
told them all what he knew:  
'This is God's anointed,  
heavenly appointed!'  
Gave a name, name, name,  
to explain, plain, plain;  
would his call say it all,  
need no further story?**

**2. Jesus then made it clear  
how much more we must hear;  
if we'd let him come near,  
we must learn his story,  
cross and death and glory;  
feel his pain, pain, pain,  
then his reign, reign, reign.  
If we'd see who he'd be  
we must learn his story!**

**3. Others met on life's road,  
watched and feared or ignored,  
quickly named and deplored  
often classed as 'other,  
rarely sister, brother.**

**Must we name, name, name,  
just to shame, shame, shame;  
pigeonhole ev'ry soul,  
never learn their story.**

**4. Jesus' life ev'ry day  
touched the lives on the way,  
let them all have their say -  
outcasts with their dangers  
foreigners and strangers;  
let them share, share, share,  
from their care, care, care,  
'til he knew what to do,  
learning from their stories.**

**5. Still today, we may meet,  
name and leave incomplete,  
or, like Christ, we may greet,  
list'ning well to others,  
finding sisters, brothers.  
Help us know, know, know,  
how to grow, grow, grow,  
as we face and embrace  
sharing all our stories.**

John Campbell

**The Offering** *is received followed by* **Prayers of Intercession:** Hazel Richardson

## THE COMMUNION

**\*Hymn 448:** Here, Lord, we take the broken bread

**\*The Peace** *all standing*

Minister: The peace of the Lord be always with you

**All:** and also with you.

Minister: We say for one another:

**All:** **The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
the love of God  
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit  
be with us all evermore.**

## **\*The Offertory Procession**

Minister: We give thanks to God and sing:  
**All: Praise God from whom  
all blessings flow,  
praise him, all creatures here below.  
Praise him above, ye heavenly host,  
praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.**

## **\*Prayer of Dedication followed by Invitation to Communion**

### **The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving**

Minister: Lift up your hearts.  
**All: We lift them to the Lord.**  
Minister: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**All: It is right to give him thanks and praise.**  
Minister: Therefore with all your people  
in heaven and on earth we sing  
the resounding hymn of your glory:  
**All: Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes  
in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

### **Words of Institution and Sharing of the bread and wine**

*The bread and wine are brought to the congregation. The wine is served first – please put your glass in the bookrack. Once all have been served we eat and drink together.*

### **Post Communion Prayer**

**All: Lord Jesus Christ, we have received your love  
poured out for us in bread and wine.  
Accept the gift of our lives  
brought to this table without conditions.  
Do your work in us and let us be, like you,  
taken, blessed and given for others.**

*Angela Ashwin*

**\*Hymn 520:** For ourselves no longer living

**\*Dismissal and Blessing with sung Amen All Standing**

*Join us for coffee, tea or a cold drink in the Alfred Ellis Hall where the Fairtrade stall is open.*