



# AMERSHAM FREE CHURCH

Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> April 2024

MORNING WORSHIP

led by The Revd Ian Green

*Organist: Hilary Davan Whetton*

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*If you are able, please stand for those parts of the service marked with an asterisk (\*)*

## GOD INVITES US TO WORSHIP

\* **Hymn 292:** When morning gilds the skies

*During which the Bible is placed in the pulpit*

### Opening Responses:

Minister: We gather as the people of God  
in the presence of our loving Father

**All: We gather as fellow pilgrims  
in the presence of the Living Christ**

Minister: We gather as seekers after truth  
in the presence of God the Spirit

**All: Who enlightens and comforts us.**

Minister: Jesus says: I am the Vine

**All: and you are the branches.**

Minister: The Lord be with you

**All: And also with you**

**Opening Prayers of Praise, Confession  
and Lord's Prayer** *followed by*

**Welcome and Notices**

**Eco Church Matters** *with Janet and Liz*

\***Hymn:** You stood there *Tune: Thornbury No. 567*

**You stood there on the shoreline**

**and waited in the dawn**

**to share with your disciples**

**the newness of the morn;**

**be with us now, Lord Jesus,**



**and make your presence known:  
in resurrection power  
declare today your own.**

**2 When hours of tiring labour  
had brought them scant reward,  
in your immense provision  
they recognised their Lord;  
when drudgery seems endless,  
demeaning all our skill,  
let this be our contentment:  
to know and do your will.**

**3 On bread and fish they feasted  
around a charcoal fire:  
that resurrection breakfast  
was all they could desire!  
Like them, may we discover  
the joy which never ends  
when you, the King of glory,  
count us among your friends.**

**4 Where Simon Peter languished  
in guilt and burning shame,  
you spoke of restoration,  
and not of endless blame;  
where sin and failure haunt us,  
remind us what is true:  
that we are now forgiven  
and called to follow you.**

*Martin Leckebusch CCL257120*

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

**Introduction to the Theme:** *A trip down memory lane*

**Responsive Psalm 22** *selection of verses*

**Minister:** From you comes my praise in the great congregation;  
I will perform my vows

in the presence of those that follow you.

**All: The poor shall eat and be satisfied;  
those who seek the Lord shall praise him;  
their hearts shall live for ever.**

Minister: All the ends of the earth  
shall remember and turn to the Lord,  
and all the families of the nations shall bow before him.

**All: For the kingdom is the Lord's  
and he rules over the nations.**

Minister: How can those who sleep in the earth  
bow down in worship,  
or those who go down to the dust kneel before him.

**All: He has saved my life for himself;  
my descendants shall serve him;  
this shall be told of the Lord  
for generations to come.**

Minister: They shall come and make known his salvation,  
to a people yet unborn,  
declaring that he, the Lord, has done it.

**All: Glory be to you, our God,  
Creator, Saviour and Spirit. Amen**

**Readings:** Acts 8.26-40 p. 106

John 15.1-8 p.94

*This morning's reader is Helen Law*

Reader: In this is the word of the Lord

**All: Thanks be to God**

**Hymn 248:** This joyful Eastertide

**Sermon:** Baptism lasts a day, discipleship a lifetime

*followed by Silent Reflection. Sermon notes are available as you leave and on the church website*

\* **Hymn 557:** Who would true valour see

**Prayers of Intercession**

*Written by The Revd Erna Stevenson, read by Mary Simmons*

## **\*Presentation of the Offering**

*Each week we make our gifts in a variety of ways, by placing cash or envelopes in the baskets as we enter or exit church or through direct bank giving. All these offerings are dedicated now as we sing:*

**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.**

*Thomas Ken (1637-1711)*

**Hymn:** We have a gospel to proclaim *Tune: R&S 613 Fulda*

**1. We have a gospel to proclaim  
Good news for all throughout the earth;  
The gospel of a Saviour's name:  
We sing His glory, tell His worth.**

**2 Tell of His birth at Bethlehem,  
Not in a royal house or hall  
But in a stable dark and dim:  
The Word made flesh, a light for all.**

**3. Tell of His death at Calvary,  
Hated by those He came to save;  
In lonely suffering on the cross  
For all He loved His life He gave.**

**4. Tell of that glorious Easter morn:  
Empty the tomb, for He was free.  
He broke the power of death and hell  
That we might share His victory.**

**5. Tell of His reign at God's right hand,  
By all creation glorified;  
He sends His Spirit on His Church  
To live for Him, the Lamb who died.**

**6. Now we rejoice to name Him King:  
Jesus is Lord of all the earth.  
This gospel message we proclaim:  
We sing His glory, tell His worth.**

*Rev. Edward Burns (b.1938) CCL257120*

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

*Join us for Morning Coffee in the Church Hall*