



AMERSHAM FREE CHURCH

Sunday 13th October 2024

MORNING WORSHIP

led by The Revd Ian Green and The Revd Erna Stevenson

Organist: Edward Cross

*We have a Loop System – to access please set your hearing aid to the 'T' setting.
If you are able please stand for those parts of the service marked with an asterisk (*)*

GOD INVITES US TO WORSHIP

* **Hymn 39:** All creatures of our God and King *Omit verses 4 and 5*

During which the bible is placed in the pulpit

Opening Responses:

- Minister: We have come together to worship God,
All: we gather to offer our praises and prayers.
- Minister: We have come to listen out for God's Word,
**All: spoken to us in bible and sermon,
in silence and in fellowship.**
- Minister: Jesus said the first commandment is to
Love the Lord your God with all your heart.
**All: And the second is to
love your neighbour as yourself.**
- Minister: The Lord be with you
All: And also with you.

Opening Praise, Confession and Lord's Prayer

Welcome and Notices

WE LISTEN FOR THE WORD OF GOD

Responsive Psalm *(set for today)* Psalm 90.12-17

Minister: So, teach us to number our days

All: that we may apply our hearts to wisdom.

Minister: Turn again, O Lord; how long will you delay?

All: Have compassion on your servants.

Minister: Satisfy us with your loving-kindness in the morning,

All: that we may rejoice and be glad all our days.

Minister: Give us gladness for the days of trouble,

All: and for the years in which we have seen adversity.

Minister: Show your servants your works,

All: and let your glory be over their children.

Minister: May the gracious favour of the Lord our God be upon us;

All: prosper our handiwork; O prosper the work of our hands.

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

Introduction to the Theme: Asking the wrong question

*** Hymn 512:** Seek ye first

Readings: Hebrews 4.12-16 N.T. p.126

Mark 10.17-31 N.T. p.39

Today's reader is Hazel Richardson

***Hymn 552:** The King of Love

Sermon: The Eye of the Needle

Followed by silent reflection

OUR RESPONSE

***Hymn:** Inspired by love and anger *Tune: Sally Gardens*

Inspired by love and anger, disturbed by need and pain,
Informed of God's own bias, we ask him once again:
"How long must some folk suffer? How long can few folk mind?
How long dare vain self-interest turn prayer and pity blind?"

From those forever victims of heartless human greed,
Their cruel plight composes a litany of need:
"Where are the fruits of justice? Where are the signs of peace?
When is the day when prisoners and dreams find their release?"

From those forever shackled to what their wealth can buy,
The fear of lost advantage provoke the bitter cry:
"Don't query our position! Don't criticise our wealth!
Don't mention those exploited by politics and stealth!"

To God, who through the prophets proclaimed a different age,
We offer earth's indifference, its agony and rage:
"When will the wronged be righted? When will the kingdom
come?
When will the world be generous to all instead of some?"

God asks, "Who will go for me? Who will extend my reach?
And who, when few will listen, will prophesy and preach?
And who, when few bid welcome, will offer all they know?
And who, when few dare follow, will walk the road I show?"

Amused in someone's kitchen, asleep in someone's boat,
Attuned to what the ancients exposed, proclaimed and wrote,
A saviour without safety, a tradesman without tools
Has come to tip the balance with fishermen and fools.

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Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession

***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:** Show me how to stand for justice *Tune Hyfrydol 87 87D R&S 663*

1. Show me how to stand for justice

**How to work for what is right,
How to challenge false assumptions,
How to walk within the light.
May I learn to share more freely
In a world so full of greed,
Showing your immense compassion
By the life I choose to lead.**

2. Teach my heart to treasure mercy,

**Whether given or received
For my need has not diminished
Since the day I first believed.
Let me seek no satisfaction
Boasting of what I have done.
But rejoice that I am pardoned
And accepted in your Son.**

3. Gladly I embrace a lifestyle

**Modelled on your living word,
In humility submitting
To the truth that I have heard;
Make me conscious of your presence
Every day in all I do:
By your Spirit's gracious prompting
May I learn to walk with you.**

Martin E. Leckebusch CCL257120

Dismissal and Blessing with sung Amen

Morning Coffee will be served in the Church Hall after the service