

Sunday 27 February 2022

Welcome! (Larry Robbins)

The Leadership of the church reluctantly decided to suspend face-to-face services for the meantime due to the rise in omicron infections. We trust and pray that these virtual services will be a blessing to you and that you will stay safe and well until we are able to fellowship together again.

Prayer (Sue Dickie)

Listen to the prayer

"Heavenly Father, we know that you hear our prayers and that You respond in Your perfect way to each of our petitions. And so we bring before You those who have been in hospital recently – Denys, Des, Robert and Barbara and those who have ongoing health issues – Nelli, Pat, Anita, Maurice B, Ponny, Tom, Greta, Don, Jim C, Alison M, Erica, Lisa and Norma B and pray that You will meet their needs and bring Your healing peace and reassuring comfort to them. Help us to be aware of where we can help others, either in a practical way or by words of encouragement and understanding.

We uphold Pastor Brian and Jo in prayer, that You will guide and protect them and prompt us to encourage and support them. We pray for all those in our church family at this time of uncertainty about when we can gather for worship again. Bring us into a closer relationship with You through Your Word and prayer. We praise You for giving men and women the intellect to develop modern technology, thereby enabling us to watch or listen to Christian programmes and to have our own virtual services weekly and to meet by ZOOM.

Father God, we have our AGM in a few weeks. We thank You for enabling our very small Leadership Team to keep things going and we are so grateful for their perseverance and faithfulness. Please now prepare those You would place on our hearts to accept nomination for serving You and Your people in this way, that the load may be spread and they would be surprised by Your blessing that they responded to the call.

Lord, we soon have our annual appeal for giving to the many missions our church support. Guide our hearts to be generous in these difficult pandemic times for those who serve You in already troubled places in the world.

I bring all these matters of concern for our church to You, Heavenly Father, Almighty Father, in the name of Jesus, our Saviour and the author and perfecter of our faith. Amen!"

Call to Worship Psalm 119:9–16

(Brian Lima)

"What a beautiful prayer from the Lord! Thank you, Sue, for your heart for our Lord and for showing us Jesus in your life so clearly.

Today's passage centres on the importance of God's Word to us. God's Spirit is, even now, desiring to fill us and guide us so that we would completely rely on our Heavenly Father. May we be filled so that we could praise God as the psalmist did who said..."

- ⁹ How can a young person stay on the path of purity? By living according to your word.
- ¹⁰ I seek you with all my heart; do not let me stray from your commands.
- ¹¹ I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you.
- ¹² Praise be to you, Lord; teach me your decrees.
- ¹³ With my lips I recount all the laws that come from your mouth.
- ¹⁴ I rejoice in following your statutes as one rejoices in great riches.
- ¹⁵ I meditate on your precepts and consider your ways.
- ¹⁶ I delight in your decrees; I will not neglect your word.

HYMN: O Worship the King

Jo & Brian Lima

"God is worthy of our worship, every day and no matter our circumstance. Let us start today by being filled with His Spirit that we would worship the King of Creation."

O Worship the King

SONG: Your Name

"Let this next song of worship touch your heart as the Spirit directs you to the heart of our Heavenly Father."

Your Name

Testimony & Appreciation

Sue Dickie

We had planned to say thank you to Sue Dickie - who is stepping aside from her duties as Pastoral Assistant for a while – in the church service this Sunday. That was not possible, so Pastor Brian and Jo talked to Sue, heard her testimony and expressed the appreciation of the church for her care, commitment and work here. You can watch the presentation here, and we encourage you to join in with the prayers expressed.

SONG: Ancient Words Jo & Brian Lima

"The book of James is about restoring the Church to God's word planted within them. Let us prepare ourselves to hear God's Word as the treasure it is through the hymn, *Ancient Words*."

Ancient Words

Bible Reading James 4:1-12

¹ What causes fights and quarrels among you? Don't they come from your desires that battle within you? ² You desire but do not have, so you kill. You covet but you cannot get what you want, so you quarrel and fight. You do not have because you do not ask God. ³ When you ask, you do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, that you may spend what you get on your pleasures.

⁴ You adulterous people, don't you know that friendship with the world means enmity against God? Therefore, anyone who chooses to be a friend of the world becomes an enemy of God. ⁵ Or do you think Scripture says without reason that he jealously longs for the spirit he has caused to dwell in us? ⁶ But he gives us more grace. That is why Scripture says:

"God opposes the proud but shows favour to the humble."

⁷ Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. ⁸ Come near to God and he will come near to you. Wash your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. ⁹ Grieve, mourn and wail. Change your laughter to mourning and your joy to gloom. ¹⁰ Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up.

¹¹ Brothers and sisters, do not slander one another. Anyone who speaks against a brother or sister or judges them speaks against the law and judges it. When you judge the law, you are not keeping it, but sitting in judgment on it. ¹² There is only one Lawgiver and Judge, the one who is able to save and destroy. But you—who are you to judge your neighbour?

Sermon "Submit Yourself to God"

Brian Lima

Watch the Sermon

Read the Sermon

SONG: O Church Arise Jo Lima

"Our last worship song is a call for us as a family to arise and take upon ourselves God's cause, God's will to transform the common into the image of His Heaven which is coming. Allow the Spirit to fill you with a willing heart to seek God's glory."

O Church Arise

Benediction Brian Lima

"Let us, as a family, receive our Heavenly Father's blessing, His benediction over us."

Brothers and sisters, rejoice! Strive for full restoration, encourage one another, be of one mind, live in peace. And the God of love and peace will be with you.