

O Church, arise, and put your armour on;
Hear the call of Christ our Captain.
For now the weak can say that they are strong
In the strength that God has given.
With shield of faith and belt of truth,
We'll stand against the devil's lies;
An army bold, whose battle-cry is Love,
Reaching out to those in darkness.

2 Our call to war, to love the captive soul
But to rage against the captor;
And with the sword that makes the wounded whole,
We will fight with faith and valour.
When faced with trials on every side
We know the outcome is secure,
And Christ will have the prize for which He died,
An inheritance of nations.

3 Come see the cross, where love and mercy meet,
As the Son of God is stricken;
Then see His foes lie crushed beneath His feet,
For the Conqueror has risen!
And as the stone is rolled away,
And Christ emerges from the grave,
This victory march continues till the day
Every eye and heart shall see Him.

4 So Spirit, come put strength in every stride,
Give grace for every hurdle,
That we may run with faith to win the prize
Of a servant good and faithful.
As saints of old still line the way,
Retelling triumphs of His grace,
We hear their calls and hunger for the day
When with Christ we stand in glory.

Stuart Townend & Keith Getty

Benediction

Notices

Welcome to Oxford EPC – whether this is your first service with us or you attend regularly, we offer you a warm welcome. Please feel free to stay for tea and coffee after the service so we can get to know each other better.

Wednesday 12-2pm – Bring Your Own Lunch at the Martin's home.

Thursday 7pm – Bible study and prayer meeting at the Gandhi's home. All are welcome!

If you have any questions or would like to be added to our Church email list, please get in touch with Andy: 07963139683 / revandrewyoung@yahoo.co.uk

Welcome & Notices

Call to Worship

Oh come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker! For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand. Psalm 95:6-7

Prayer of Invocation

The LORD's my Shepherd, leading me;
I will not be in need.
He'll make me lie in pastures green;
By quiet waters lead.

2 And He restores my soul again;
He guides the steps I take
To walk along a righteous path,
All for his own name's sake.

3 Though in a valley dark as death,
No evil will I fear;

Your rod and staff, they comfort me,
For you are always near.

4 A feast you have prepared for me
In sight of all my foes;
And you anoint my head with oil,
My full cup overflows.

5 What love and goodness all my life
Will follow after me;
And in the LORD's house evermore
My dwelling place will be.

Scottish Psalter | Music: St Columba

Confession of Sin using Romans 3:9-20

Heavenly Father, we confess that we are under sin. Your holy word tells us that “None is righteous, no, not one; no one understands, no one seeks for God.” We freely admit that we have turned aside and become worthless; we refrain from doing good; our throats are an open grave and our tongues deceive; the venom of asps is on our lips and our mouths are full of curses and bitterness. Our feet are swift to shed blood, our paths lead to ruin and misery, and we do not know the way of peace. We acknowledge that the fear of God is not in us or before us. Your law stops our mouths and with the whole world we stand accountable to you, our Creator and God. Have mercy on us we pray. Do not treat us as our sins deserve. Help us believe in Jesus Christ and receive by faith the promise of his redemption. May we gain Christ and be found in him and know the power of his resurrection in our lives. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? As it is written, “For your sake we are being killed all the day long; we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered.” No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Romans 8:35-39

Here is love vast as the ocean,
Loving-kindness as the flood,
When the Prince of Life, our ransom,
Shed for us His precious blood.
Who His love will not remember?
Who can cease to sing His praise?
He can never be forgotten
Throughout heav’n’s eternal days.

2 On the Mount of Crucifixion,
Fountains opened deep and wide;
Through the flood-gates of God’s
mercy
Flowed a vast and gracious tide.
Grace and love like mighty rivers
Poured incessant from above;
Heaven’s peace and perfect justice
Kissed a guilty world in love.

3 Here is love that conquered evil:
Christ, the firstborn from the grave;
Death has failed to be found equal
To the life of Him Who saves.
In the valley of our darkness
Dawned His everlasting light;
Perfect love in glorious radiance
Has repelled death’s hellish night.

4 That same love beyond all measure,
Mocked and slain by hateful men,
Lives and reigns in resurrection
And can never die again.
Here is love for all the ages,
Radiant Sun of Heav’n He stands,
Calling home His Father’s children,
Holding forth His wounded hands.

vs. 1 & 2 by William Rees, vs. 3 by Matt Giles, vs.
4 by Vell Rives | Music: Dim Ond Iesu

Children's Talk

Prayer of Thanksgiving & Intercession

Confession of Faith using the Heidelberg Catechism Q&A 1

Minister: What is your only comfort in life and death?

Congregation: That I am not my own, but belong with body and soul, both in life and in death, to my faithful Saviour Jesus Christ. He has fully paid for all my sins with His precious blood, and has set me free from all the power of the devil. He also preserves me in such a way that without the will of my heavenly Father not a hair can fall from my head; indeed, all things must work together for my salvation. Therefore, by His Holy Spirit He also assures me of eternal life and makes me heartily willing and ready from now on to live for Him.

O God beyond all praising,
we worship you today
and sing the love amazing
that songs cannot repay;
for we can only wonder
at every gift you send,
at blessings without number
and mercies without end:
we lift our hearts before you
and wait upon your word,
we honour and adore you,
our great and mighty Lord.

2 Then hear, O gracious Saviour,
accept the love we bring,
that we who know your favour
may serve you as our king;
and whether our tomorrows
be filled with good or ill,
we’ll triumph through our sorrows
and rise to bless you still:
to marvel at your beauty
and glory in your ways,
and make a joyful duty
our sacrifice of praise.

Michael Perry | Music: Thaxted

Prayer of Illumination