

## Sunday, 5<sup>th</sup> July

### **Welcome & announcements:**

#### **'Jesus is Lord' - the cry that echoes through creation;**

resplendent power, eternal Word, our Rock.  
The Son of God, the King whose glory fills the heavens,  
yet bids us come to taste this living Bread.

Jesus is Lord - whose voice sustains the star and planets,  
yet in His wisdom laid aside His crown.  
Jesus the Man, who washed our feet, who bore our suffering,  
became a curse to bring salvation's plan.

Jesus is Lord - the tomb is gloriously empty!  
Not even death could crush this King of love!  
The price is paid, the chains are loosed, and we're forgiven,  
and we can run into the arms of God.

'Jesus is Lord' - a shout of joy, a cry of anguish,  
as He returns, and every knee bows low.  
Then every eye and every heart will see His glory,  
the Judge of all will take His children home.

*Stuart Townend & Keith Getty © 2003 Thankyou Music*

### **Prayer:**

#### **Memory verse:**

- Last week – God makes a covenant.
- This week – Abraham stumbles again.

The Lord said to Abram: "I will make you into a great nation and I will bless you... and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you."  
Genesis 12:2-3.

#### **Psalm 18**

##### **I love You, O Lord, You alone,**

my refuge on whom I depend;  
my Maker, my Saviour, my own,  
my hope and my trust without end.  
The Lord is my strength and my song,  
defender and guide of my ways;  
my Master to whom I belong,  
my God who shall have all my praise.

The dangers of death gathered round,  
the waves of destruction came near;  
but in my despairing I found  
the Lord who released me from fear.  
I called for His help in my pain,  
to God my salvation I cried;  
He brought me His comfort again,  
I live by the strength He supplied.

The earth and the elements shake  
with thunder and lightning and hail;  
the cliffs and the mountaintops break  
and mortals are feeble and pale.  
His justice is full and complete,  
His mercy to us has no end;  
the clouds are a path for His feet,  
He comes on the wings of the wind.

My hope is the promise He gives,  
my life is secure in His hand;  
I shall not be lost, for He lives!  
He comes to my side — I shall stand!  
Lord God, You are powerful to save,  
Your Spirit will spur me to pray;  
Your Son has defeated the grave:  
I trust and I praise You today!

*Christopher Idle (b1938) © Jubilate Hymns*

### **Prayer:**

#### **Reading:**

Joshua 20:1-9

- 1 The LORD also spoke to Joshua, saying,
- 2 "Speak to the children of Israel, saying: 'Appoint for yourselves cities of refuge, of which I spoke to you through Moses,
- 3 that the slayer who kills a person accidentally or unintentionally may flee there; and they shall be your refuge from the avenger of blood.
- 4 And when he flees to one of those cities, and stands at the entrance of the gate of the city, and declares his case in the hearing of the elders of that city, they shall take him into the city as one of them, and give him a place, that he may dwell among them.
- 5 Then if the avenger of blood pursues him, they shall not deliver the slayer into his hand, because he struck his neighbour unintentionally, but did not hate him beforehand.
- 6 And he shall dwell in that city until he stands before the congregation for judgment, and until the death of the one who is high priest in those days. Then the slayer may return and come to his own city and his own house, to the city from which he fled.' "

7 So they appointed Kedesh in Galilee, in the mountains of Naphtali, Shechem in the mountains of Ephraim, and Kirjath Arba (which is Hebron) in the mountains of Judah.

8 And on the other side of the Jordan, by Jericho eastward, they assigned Bezer in the wilderness on the plain, from the tribe of Reuben, Ramoth in Gilead, from the tribe of Gad, and Golan in Bashan, from the tribe of Manasseh.

9 These were the cities appointed for all the children of Israel and for the stranger who dwelt among them, that whoever killed a person accidentally might flee there, and not die by the hand of the avenger of blood until he stood before the congregation.

**How firm a foundation, you saints of the Lord,**  
is laid for your faith in His excellent word!

What more can He say than to you He has said -  
you, who unto Jesus for refuge have fled?

“In every condition, in sickness, in health,  
in poverty's grip, or abounding in wealth;  
at home and abroad, on the land, on the sea,  
as days may demand shall your strength ever be.

“Fear not, I am with you, O be not dismayed!  
For I am your God, and will still give you aid:  
I'll strengthen you, help you, and cause you to stand,  
upheld by My righteous, omnipotent hand.

“When through the deep waters I call you to go,  
the rivers of grief shall not you overflow;  
for I will be with you, your troubles to bless,  
and sanctify to you your deepest distress.

“When through fiery trials your pathway shall lie,  
My grace all-sufficient shall be your supply;  
the flame shall not hurt you; My only design  
your dross to consume and your gold to refine.

“The soul that on Jesus has leaned for repose  
I will not, I cannot, desert to its foes:  
that soul, though all hell should endeavour to shake,  
I'll never, no never, no never forsake!”

**Sermon: ‘A refuge for the innocent and a  
refuge for the guilty.’**

**Jesus, lover of my soul,**  
let me to Your presence fly,  
while the gathering waters roll,  
while the tempest still is high.  
Hide me, O my Saviour, hide,  
till the storm of life is past;  
safe into the haven, guide;  
O receive my soul at last!

Other refuge have I none,  
all my hope in You I see:  
leave, O leave me, not alone;  
still support and comfort me.  
All my trust on You is stayed,  
all my help from You I bring:  
cover my defenceless head  
with the shadow of Your wing.

You, O Christ, are all I want,  
more than all in You I find:  
raise the fallen, cheer the faint,  
heal the sick and lead the blind.  
Just and holy is Your name,  
I am all unworthiness;  
false and full of sin I am,  
You are full of truth and grace.

Plenteous grace with You is found,  
grace to wash away my sin:  
let the healing streams abound;  
make and keep me clean within.  
Living Fountain, now impart  
all Your life and purity;  
spring for ever in my heart,  
rise to all eternity!

*Charles Wesley (1707–1788) © Jubilate Hymns.*

**Close:**