



Billericay Methodist Church 
Queens Park, Western Road & Herongate

Sunday 7th August
10.30am.

Being rich...towards God

Music beforehand : *Come now is the time to worship/ Be the centre/Lord reign in me.*

Call to worship:

God of all, we thank you for being here with us.
We thank you that in your presence
we find heavenly riches beyond any earthy treasure.
As we come to worship,
help us to seek and find the treasure of your kingdom,
so we can live our earthly lives holding treasure
that will transform us – right here and right now.

Amen

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Hymn: STF 113 O worship the King, all glorious above

O worship the King all-glorious above,
O gratefully sing his power and his
love:
our shield and defender, the Ancient
of Days,
pavilioned in splendour and girded
with praise.

O tell of his might and sing of his
grace,
whose robe is the light, whose canopy
space.
His chariots of wrath the deep thun-
derclouds form,
and dark is his path on the wings of
the storm.

Your bountiful care, what tongue can
recite?
It breathes in the air, it shines in the
light;
it streams from the hills, it descends
to the plain,
and sweetly distils in the dew and the
rain.

O measureless Might, unchangeable
Love,
whom angels delight to worship
above!
Your ransomed creation, with glory
ablaze,
in true adoration shall sing to your
praise!

Frail children of dust, and feeble as
frail,
in you do we trust, nor find you to fail.
Your mercies, how tender, how firm
to the end,
our Maker, Defender, Redeemer, and
Friend!

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Praise

Our hearts overflow with praise and thanksgiving as we realise
that God is not 'out there', distant and seated high above us,
but is here with us in this moment, not distant but close.

Our hearts overflow as God's being infuses ours,
as God's love warms us, shelters and comforts us,
as God's Spirit gives us strength and hope, passion and purpose.

Our hearts overflow as we know we need not fear God,
that God's treasure is closer than we can feel
and deeper than we can know,
wider than we can see and more real than we can imagine.

Our hearts overflow to know that the place we have searched for is this place,
and that the time we have been searching for is here and now.
Our hearts overflow with praise and thanksgiving.

Amen.

Reading: Luke 12:32-40 ESV

“Fear not, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. Sell your possessions and give to the needy. Provide yourselves with moneybags that do not grow old, with a treasure in the heavens that does not fail, where no thief approaches and no moth destroys. For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

You Must Be Ready

“Stay dressed for action and keep your lamps burning, and be like men who are waiting for their master to come home from the wedding feast, so that they may open the door to him at once when he comes and knocks. Blessed are those servants whom the master finds awake when he comes. Truly, I say to you, he will dress himself for service and have them recline at table, and he will come and serve them. If he comes in the second watch, or in the third, and finds them awake, blessed are those servants! But know this, that if the master of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have left his house to be broken into. You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.”

Prayer of Confession

As we confess , O God

May we be ready for your forgiveness

As we confess those times we have failed to serve
And failed to be served:

May we be ready for your forgiveness.

As we confess those treasures we have stored up
That have tarnished and spoiled:

May we be ready for your forgiveness.

As we confess those times when our lamps have dulled and us with them:

May we be ready for your forgiveness.

Yet you call us once more to be renewed, to set our lamps alight, focus our minds and to be servants again.

You forgive us and transform us:

May we be ready for your renewal.

Amen.

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HYMN: STF 489 Blessed assurance

Blessèd assurance, Jesus is mine:
O what a foretaste of glory divine!
Heir of salvation, purchase of God;
born of his Spirit, washed in his blood:

*This is my story, this is my song,
praising my Saviour all the day long.
This is my story, this is my song,
praising my Saviour all the day long.*

Perfect submission, perfect delight,
visions of rapture burst on my sight;
angels descending bring from above
echoes of mercy, whispers of love:

This is my story, this is my song,....

Perfect submission, all is at rest,
I in my Saviour am happy and blest —
watching and waiting, looking above,
filled with his goodness, lost in his
love:

*This is my story, this is my song,
praising my Saviour all the day long.
This is my story, this is my song,
praising my Saviour all the day long.*

Reading: 1 Timothy 6: 6-19

But godliness with contentment is great gain, for we brought nothing into the world, and we cannot take anything out of the world. But if we have food and clothing, with these we will be content. But those who desire to be rich fall into temptation, into a snare, into many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evils. It is through this craving that some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pangs.

But as for you, O man of God, flee these things. Pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, steadfastness, gentleness. Fight the good fight of the faith.

As for the rich in this present age, charge them not to be haughty, nor to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but on God, who richly provides us with everything to enjoy. They are to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and ready to share, thus storing up treasure for themselves as a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of that which is truly life.

HYMN: STF 706 Longing for light

Longing for light, we wait in darkness.
Longing for truth, we turn to you.
Make us your own, your holy people,
light for the world to see.

Christ, be our light!

Shine in our hearts.

Shine through the darkness.

Christ, be our light!

Shine in your Church gathered
today.

Longing for peace, our world is trou-
bled.

Longing for hope, many despair.
Your word alone has power to save
us.

Make us your living voice.

Longing for food, many are hungry.
Longing for water, many still thirst.
Make us your bread, broken for oth-
ers,
shared until all are fed.

Longing for shelter, many are home-
less.

Longing for warmth, many are cold.
Make us your building, sheltering oth-
ers,
walls made of living stone.

Many the gifts, many the people,
many the hearts that yearn to belong.
Let us be servants to one another,
making your kingdom come.

Sermon: See this week's CWEO

HYMN: STF 347 Crown Him with many crowns

Crown Him with many crowns
The Lamb upon the throne
Hark How the heav'nly anthems
drowns
All music but its own!
Awake, my soul And sing
Of Him Who died for thee
And hail Him as thy chosen King
Thru all eternity

Crown him the Son of God
Before the worlds began
and ye who tread where he hath trod
Crown him the Son of Man
Who every grief hath known
that wrings the human breast
and takes and bears them for his own
that all in him may rest

HYMN: Crown Him with many crowns

Crown him the Lord of life
who triumphs o'er the grave
and rose victorious in the strife
For those he came to save:
His glories now we sing
who died and reigns on high;
who died eternal life to bring
and lives that death may die.

Crown him the Lord of heaven
enthroned in worlds above
Crown him the King to whom is given
the wondrous name of love
All hail, Redeemer, hail,
for thou hast died for me;
Thy praise shall never, never fail
throughout eternity!

Intercessory Prayer

Loving God. Your Kingdom is a Kingdom of justice and mercy. We pray for the leaders of the nation's that they might rule fairly and with compassion. Respecting the rights and needs of all people and promoting peace.

Your Kingdom come. Your will be done.

Loving God. Your Kingdom is a Kingdom of hope and joy. We pray for those in sorrow or need. We remember the bereaved, the anxious and the ill, the destitute, the hungry, and the homeless.

Your Kingdom come. Your will be done.

Loving God. Your Kingdom is a Kingdom of love and unity. We pray for the church here in Billerica and the church throughout the world asking that we might be true agents of and witnesses to your saving love.

Your Kingdom come. Your will be done.

Loving God. Your Kingdom is a Kingdom of light and life. We pray for ourselves, that you will guide us safely on our journey through life so that we might come to be with you in your eternal Kingdom.

Your Kingdom come. Your will be done.

(The Word in the world: prayers for Christian worship, book 2 NCEC, 1997 Donald Hilton)

Eternal God, “your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.”

We pray for a fresh vision of the life of heaven

that renews our passion to see your kingdom here on earth.

May we be captivated anew by heaven’s breath-taking beauty:

beauty revealed in glorious worship;

worship flowing from a great multitude;

a multitude united in celebration of rich diversity;

a diversity that embraces all nations, tribes, people and tongues.*

And so then may our lives re-shape this world.

In the name of Christ. **Amen.**

(Leslie Newton, Yorkshire North and East District Chair)

HYMN: STF 545 Be thou my wisdom,.

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart
Naught be all else to me, save that thou art
Thou my best thought, by day or by night
Waking or sleeping, thy presence my light

Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord
Thou my great Father, and I thy true son
Thou in me dwelling and I with thee one

Be thou my battle shield sword for the fight
be thou my dignity thou my delight
Thou mu souls shelter, thou my high tower
Raise thou me heavenward O power of my power

Riches I heed not, nor man’s empty praise
Thou mine inheritance, now and always
Thou and thou only first in my heart
High King of heaven, my treasure thou art

Heart of my own heart, whatever befall
Still be my vision, O ruler of all
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall
Still be my vision, O ruler of all.

Blessing

Lord, go with us.

Help us to seek your treasure.

Help us to look for all you're doing right now.

Help us – by our example as much as by our words –
to share your treasure and your life-giving story
with the people we meet this week.

Amen.

The Grace

*As we close our worship we recommit ourselves to God
and one another in the words of the Grace:*

**The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the Fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all, evermore. Amen.**



[Ongoing worship and pastoral care](#)

For those worshipping online, as the service finishes we can join together in a time of fellowship via Zoom. For those without internet access why not get on the phone to someone in similar circumstances to yourself, and encourage and help each other as part of your ongoing worship and care of one another. To watch all or any part of this or previous worship services click [HERE](#) to go to the church website archive or see website for details of all other material

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