



Sunday Service

13th September 2020

We warmly welcome everyone to St Mary's, whether you are a visitor or a regular member. Please take part in as much of the service as you feel comfortable with. The leader today is Jefferson Lynch and Clive Hawkins will be speaking on Acts 17:1-15, 'Paul in Thessalonica and Berea'.

CONFESSION

Lord God,
we have sinned against You; we have done evil in Your sight.
We are sorry and repent.
Have mercy on us according to Your love.
Wash away our wrong-doing and cleanse us from our sin.
Renew a right spirit within us
and restore us to the joy of Your salvation,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE CREED

Do you believe and trust in God the Father, who made all things?

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Do you believe and trust in His Son Jesus Christ, who redeemed the world?

I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day He rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

Do you believe and trust in the Holy Spirit, who gives life to the people of God?

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name,
Your kingdom come, Your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power and the glory are Yours
now and for ever. Amen.

1. WE'RE NOT ALONE, for Christ is here
Immanuel our God come near
We're not alone, for to our world
Jesus has come, eternal Word.
And as He speaks, our souls laid bare
Naked, ashamed, sin is made clear
And yet He clothes us in His love
Never alone, Christ is with us, is with us.

The longest walk, earth's darkest day
The pressing crowd, His mounting pain.
A heavy load of grief and shame
Breathless that we should breathe again.
"Father forgive them," comes His cry
Silence from God blackens the sky.
A creeping dread in every heart
Lost in the world now God departs, God
departs.

The dawn will come, the sun will rise
Out of the grave we'll see hope's light.
Tomb opened wide, stone rolled away
Morning has come, a brand new day.
"He isn't here," the angel said.
"He is alive no longer dead."
Our hearts are lifted, souls raised high
Christ is with us, Christ is our life, He's
our life.

Never alone, is now our cry
In joy, in grief, in lonely sin.
Never alone, for Christ is ours
He lives in us, we live in Him.
And 'til we reach that final day
When fears are gone, cast far away
We'll live secure, trust in His love,
Never alone, Christ is with us, He's with
us.

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PSALM 16

- 1 Preserve me, O God, for in you
have I taken refuge;
I have said to the Lord, 'You are my
lord, all my good depends on you.'
- 2 All my delight is upon the godly that
are in the land,
upon those who are noble in heart.
- 3 Though the idols are legion that
many run after,
their drink offerings of blood I will
not offer,
neither make mention of their names
upon my lips.
- 4 The Lord himself is my portion and
my cup;
in your hands alone is my fortune.
- 5 My share has fallen in a fair land;
indeed, I have a goodly heritage.
- 6 I will bless the Lord who has given
me counsel,
and in the night watches he instructs
my heart.
- 7 I have set the Lord always before
me;
he is at my right hand; I shall not
fall.
- 8 Wherefore my heart is glad and my
spirit rejoices;
my flesh also shall rest secure.
- 9 For you will not abandon my soul to
Death,
nor suffer your faithful one to see
the Pit.
- 10 You will show me the path of life;
in your presence is the fullness of
joy
and in your right hand are pleasures
for evermore.

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2. WHO HAS PLANNED the journey for
life that lies ahead?
Who has made the pathway for every step
I tread?
Who has seen the future that no-one else
can see?
Only the creator of all that I will be.

*Greater are the plans of Him who sees it
all,
Who knows my heart, who holds my days.
His thoughts are not my thoughts, His
ways are not my ways;
Greater, much greater are His plans.*

Who can give the reasons for all that's in
the past?
Who can give the answers to questions
not yet asked?
Who can keep in safety the days ordained
for me?
Only the creator of all that I will be.
Greater are the plans...

Who will give life's picture its colours and
design?
Who will make the sorrows and joys to
intertwine?
Who will weave the pattern, designed in
secrecy?
Only the creator of all that I will be.
Greater are the plans...

This is my Creator, my times are in His
hands;
I will walk the pathway surrendered to His
plans.
He will walk beside me until this life is
done,
He who made and loves me, my Lord, the
Faithful One.
Greater are the plans... (repeat)

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3. WHEN I FEAR MY FAITH WILL FAIL,
Christ will hold me fast;
When the tempter would prevail,
He will hold me fast.
I could never keep my hold
Through life's fearful path;
For my love is often cold;
He must hold me fast.

*He will hold me fast,
He will hold me fast;
For my Savior loves me so,
He will hold me fast.*

Those He saves are His delight,
Christ will hold me fast;
Precious in His holy sight,
He will hold me fast.
He'll not let my soul be lost;
His promises shall last;
Bought by Him at such a cost,
He will hold me fast.

For my life He bled and died,
Christ will hold me fast;
Justice has been satisfied;
He will hold me fast.
Raised with Him to endless life,
He will hold me fast
'Till our faith is turned to sight
When He comes at last!

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Notes

Acts 17:1-15, 'Paul in Thessalonica and Berea'.

Introduction

How do we gain an entry to communicate the Christian faith in today's world?

Main

1. A familiar pattern

a)

b)

c)

d)

e)

f)

2. At Thessalonica

3. At Berea

Remember

1.

2.

3.