

16th May 2021



Then into His hand crept mine,
And into my heart came He.
And I walked in a light divine
the path I had feared to see.

(The friendship book 1942)

This is the day the Lord has made.

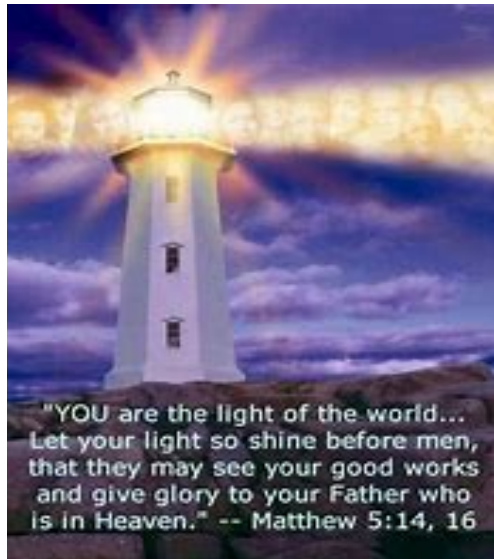
The Grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the Love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all

And also with you

Call to worship

Rejoice in the Lord always, again I will say, Rejoice! People: Today we choose to rejoice. Today we choose to worship and give thanks. Seek the peace of God that will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus. Today we choose God's peace; today we place our trust in God.

A period of silence



Highland Cathedral



highland cathedral - dunblane cathedral

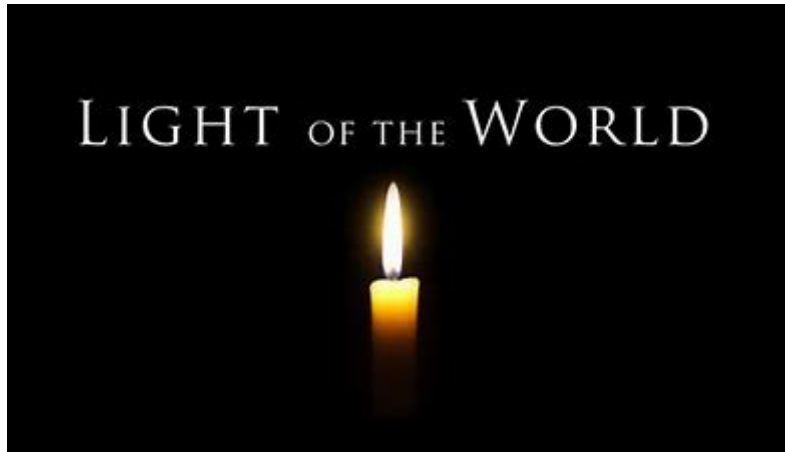
•1 Jan 2009

SHARE SAVE



[mao](#)

Christ is the world's light



Christ is the world's Light, he and no other;
 born in our darkness, he became our brother.
 If we have seen him, we have seen the Father:
 glory to God on high.

Christ is the world's Peace, he and no other;
 no man can serve him and despise his brother
 who else unites us, one in God the Father?
 Glory to God on high.

Christ is the world's Life, he and no other;
 sold once for silver, murdered here, our Brother -
 he who redeems us, reigns with God the Father:
 Glory to God on high.

Give God the glory, God and no other;
 give God the glory, Spirit, Son and Father;
 give God the glory, God in man my brother:
 glory to God on high.

Fred Pratt Green (1903-2000)



Poem

I see the morning sunshine here, the birds upon the wing; In winter nearly every-day I hear the robin sing. The taps are cheeky thing, somehow, I'm sure they wink at me! And when the washing up is done, how glad they seem to be! You'll think it queer, but more than once I've bent my head to pray that with the suds my fears might all as quickly run away. Perhaps you didn't think there is so much to thank God for while standing at the sink! (FB 1942)

Prayer

Almighty God, our Heavenly Father, we call to remembrance thy loving kindness and thy tender mercies; and with grateful hearts we raise to thee the voice of thanksgiving. For beauty and the bounty of the world, for summer and winter; for seed-time and harvest; for all gifts of loveliness which each season brings, we praise thee. For our homes, our friends, we praise thee. For all desire and power to help others; for the tasks and trials by which we are trained to be patience, we praise thee O God. (F B 1942)

We turn to you in our times of need, as we celebrate and give thanks to , for you are here...today is the day you have made and at this time we turn to thee with our asks, needs and desires...we turn to thee, and say forgive us for not following in what you may require of thee...as George said a country Clergyman to an old man who sat by the wayside breaking stones...that pile doesn't seem to get any less. No minister the old man replied, "them stones are like the ten commandments, yer can go on breaking em, but yer cant get rid of them..."

Help us O' God, as we break your commands, forgive our foolish ways and lead us forth into the light of what you wish for us to do, forgive our worldly ways and bring us nearer to thee Amen.



The Lord called Ezekiel as the "son of man" (ben-'adam), to remind him of the truth that he is a member of the human family. It was through human networks that God planned to carry His message of salvation to lost human beings. He could have used other means. For example, angels might have been used to evangelize the world. Or the Lord could have used a voice from heaven to tell of His truth to the world.

But the Lord wanted to give man the great honour of being a co-worker with Him in the mission of reaching out for the lost. Thus, the Lord ordained that man would unite with Him in sharing the "word of reconciliation" (2 Corinthians 5:19). This task no true "son of man" may refuse. The destiny of humans depends on man's responsibility and his work on behalf of others. Thus, when the Lord called Ezekiel as a "son of man," He presented him with a mission for public ministry.

Ezekiel 3:17-19

Son of man, I have made thee a watchman unto the house of Israel: therefore, hear the word at my mouth, and give them warning from me. When I say unto the wicked, Thou shalt surely die; and thou givest him not warning, nor speakest to warn the wicked from his wicked way, to save his life; the same wicked [man] shall die in his iniquity; but his blood will I require at thine hand. Yet if thou warn the wicked, and he turn not from his wickedness, nor from his wicked way, he shall die in his iniquity; but thou hast delivered thy soul.



Ezekiel 3: 22-27

²² The hand of the LORD was on me there, and he said to me, "Get up and go out to the plain, and there I will speak to you." ²³ So I got up and went out to the plain. And the glory of the LORD was standing there, like the glory I had seen by the Kebar River, and I fell facedown.

²⁴ Then the Spirit came into me and raised me to my feet. He spoke to me and said: "Go, shut yourself inside your house." ²⁵ And you, son of man, they will tie with ropes; you will be bound so that you cannot go out among the people. ²⁶ I will make your tongue stick to the roof of your mouth so that you will be silent and unable to rebuke them, for they are a rebellious people. ²⁷ But when I speak to you, I will open your mouth and you shall say to them, 'This is what the Sovereign LORD says.' Whoever will listen let them listen, and whoever will refuse let them refuse; for they are a rebellious people.

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Verse 22

Verse Ezekiel 3:22. Arise, go forth into the plain — Into a place remote from observation and noise; a place where the glory of God might have sufficient room to manifest itself, that the prophet might see all its movements distinctly.

Verse 24

Verse Ezekiel 3:24. The spirit - said unto me, Go, shut thyself within thine house. — Hide thyself for the present. The reason is immediately subjoined.

Verse 25

Verse **Ezekiel 3:25**. *They shall put bands upon thee* — Thy countrymen will rise up against thee; and, to prevent thy prophesying, will confine thee.

Verse 26

Verse **Ezekiel 3:26**. *I will make thy tongue cleave to the roof of thy mouth* — I will not give thee any message to deliver to them. They are so rebellious; it is useless to give them farther warning.

Verse 27

Verse **Ezekiel 3:27**. *I will open thy mouth* — When it is necessary to address them again, thou shalt sum up what thou hast said in this one speech: *Thus, saith the Lord, "He that heareth, let him hear; and he that forbeareth, let him forbear."* Let him who feels obedience to the voice of God his interest, be steadfast. Let him who disregards the Divine monition go in his own way, and abide the consequences



I Will Follow Him

Sister Act - I Will Follow Him - Deloris and the Sisters (1992)

•19 May 2020 SHARE SAVE



[TV Streaming World](#)

I will follow him
 Follow him where ever he may go
 And near him I always will be
 For nothing can keep me away
 He is my destiny

I will follow him
 Ever since he touched my heart, I knew
 There isn't an ocean too deep
 A mountain so high it can keep
 Keep me away, away from his love

I love him, I love him, I love him
 And where he goes I'll follow, I'll follow, I'll follow
 I will follow him, follow him where ever he may go
 There isn't an ocean too deep
 A mountain so high it can keep, keep me away

We will follow him
 Follow him where ever he may go
 There isn't an ocean too deep
 A mountain so high it can keep
 Keep us away, away from his love

(I love him)
 Oh yes, I love him
 (I'll follow)
 I'm gonna follow
 True love, he'll always be my true love
 (Forever)
 From now until forever

I love him, I love him, I love him
 And where he goes I'll follow, I'll follow, I'll follow
 He'll always be my true love, my true love, my true love
 From now until forever, forever, forever

There isn't an ocean too deep
 A mountain so high it can keep
 Keep us away, away from his love



Brothers and sisters in Christ, you have been created by God, redeemed by God, named by God, and claimed by God. This is why you do not ever need to be afraid. For God is with you. And it is because we know that God's presence is always with us -we can be confident that there is no water that is too deep, no fire that burns too hot, no problem that is too big and no situation in which we find ourselves that can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus. This is the promise of God for you, but not only for you but for us all. And...because we know this, and are sustained by this, we all can dare to wonder: what is God calling me to do and to be today? How is God calling me to live? May you remember each and every day that you are a beloved, claimed child of God, and may the love of Christ poured into you joyfully overflow in all of your words and deeds. In Jesus' name. Amen



Reflection

My child



You may not know me, but I know everything about you (Psalm 139:1). I know when you sit down and when you rise up (Psalm 139:2). I am familiar with your ways (Psalm 139:3). Even the very hairs on your head are numbered (Matt 10:29-31) for you were made in my image (Genesis 1:27). In me, you live and move and have your being (Acts 17:28) for you are my offspring (Acts 17:28).

I knew you even before you were conceived (Jeremiah 1:4-5). I chose you even before I planned creation (Ephesians 1:11-12). You were not a mistake; all your days are written in my book (Psalm 139:15-16). I determined the exact time of your birth and where you would live (Acts 17:26). You were fearfully and

wonderfully made (Psalm 139:14). I knit you together in your mother's womb (Psalm 139:13) and brought you forth on the day you were born (Psalm 71:6).

I have been misrepresented by those who don't know me (John 8:41-44). I am not distant and angry, but I am the complete expression of love (1 John 4:16), and it is my desire to lavish my love on you (1 John 3:1). I offer you more than your earthly father ever could (Matthew 7:11) for I am the perfect father (Matthew 5:48). Every good gift that you receive comes from my hand (James 1:17) for I am your provider, and I meet all your needs (Matthew 6:31-33)

My plan for your future has always been filled with hope. (Jeremiah 29:11) Because I love you with an everlasting love (Jeremiah 31:3), my thoughts toward you are as countless as the sand on the seashore (Psalm 139:17-18) and I rejoice over you with singing (Zephaniah 3:17). I will never stop doing good to you (Jeremiah 32:40) for you are my treasured possession (Exodus 19:5). I desire to establish you with all my heart and all my soul (Jeremiah 32:41).

I want to show you great and marvellous things (Jeremiah 33:3). If you seek me with all your heart, you will find me (Deuteronomy 4:29). Delight in me, and I will give you the desires of your heart (Psalm 37:4) for it is I who gave you those desires (Philippians 2:13).

I am able to do more for you than you could possibly imagine (Ephesians 3:20) for I am your greatest encourager (2 Thessalonians 2:16-17). I am also the father who comforts you in all your troubles (2 Corinthians 1:3-4). When you are broken-hearted, I am close to you (Psalm 34:18). As a Shepard carries a lamb, I have carried you close to my heart (Isaiah 40:11).

One day, I will wipe away every tear from your eyes (Revelation 21:3-4) and I'll take away all the pain you have suffered on this earth (Revelation 21:3-4). I am your father, and I love you even as I love my son, Jesus (John 17:26). He is the exact representation of my being (Hebrews 1:3). He came to demonstrate that I am for you, not against you (Romans 8:31) and to tell you that I am not counting your sins (2 Corinthians 5:18-19).

Jesus died so that you could be reconciled (2 Corinthians 5:18-19). His death was the ultimate expression of my love for you (1 John 4:10). I gave up everything I loved so that I might gain your love (Romans 8:31-32). If you

receive the gift of my son, Jesus, you receive me (1 John 2:23), and nothing will ever separate you from my love again (Romans 8:38-39).

Come home, and I'll throw the biggest party heaven has ever seen (Luke 15:7). I have always been your father and will always be your father (Ephesians 3:14-15).

My question is, will you be my child (John 1:1-13)? I am waiting for you (Luke 15:11-32).

Love,

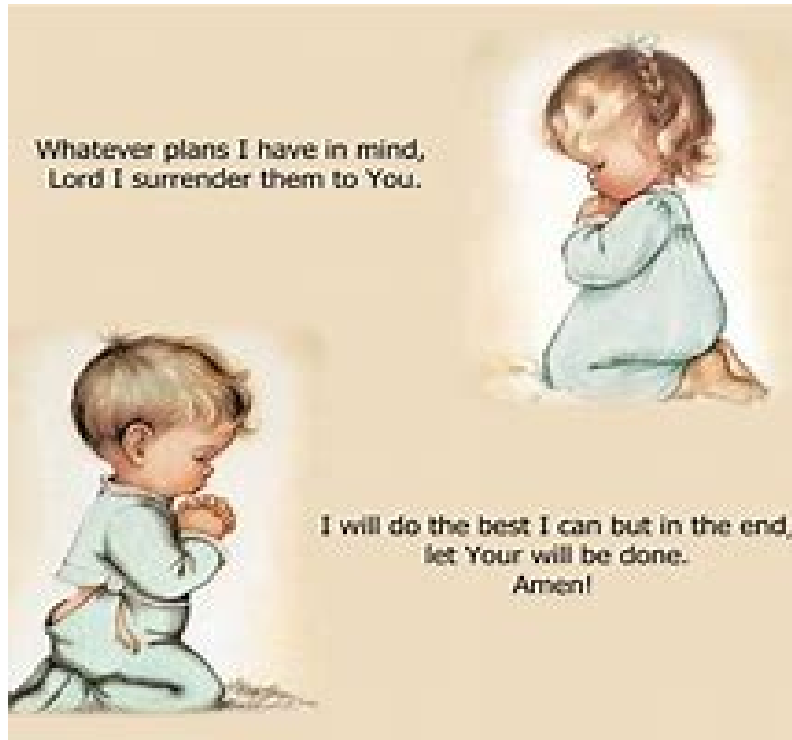
Your Dad, Almighty God

Here is a lovely story from Francis Gay, 1942, who went to church in a little town where he happened to be staying over the weekend. After the evening service he came out with perhaps a hundred other folk. Everybody seemed to know everybody else, and all had someone to speak to except Francis. And then a little lady, not very smartly dressed detached herself from the crowd outside," Good evening, she said kindly, "you'll be a stranger around here?" "Yes," said Francis. "I came yesterday and I'll be off to-morrow. "We're only humble people," said the lady, "but if you'd care to come home with me there will be a wee bit of supper and a log on the fire, my husband who's an invalid will be glad to have a chat." I accepted, said Francis her hospitality, and a pleasant, friendly evening I had. Thought I, "that's practical religion praying on your knees and being useful on your feet!"

I want to show you great and marvellous things (Jeremiah 33:3). If you seek me with all your heart, you will find me (Deuteronomy 4:29). Delight in me, and I will give you the desires of your heart (Psalm 37:4) for it is I who gave you those desires (Philippians 2:13). I am able to do more for you than you could possibly imagine. God has just spoken to you....

In the name of the Father Son and Holy Spirit Amen.

A Child's Prayer



A Child's Prayer - Mormon Tabernacle Choir

•4 Apr 2014

SHARE SAVE



The Tabernacle Choir at Temple Square

1. Heavenly Father, are you really there?
 And do you hear and answer ev'ry child's prayer?
 Some say that heaven is far away,
 But I feel it close around me as I pray.
 Heavenly Father, I remember now
 Something that Jesus told disciples long ago:

"Suffer the children to come to me."
 Father, in prayer I'm coming now to thee.

2. Pray, he is there;
 Speak, he is list'ning.
 You are his child;
 His love now surrounds you.
 He hears your prayer;
 He loves the children.

Of such is the kingdom, the kingdom of heav'n.

Right hand of fellowship and Peace

"Peace in Christ"

Father of Peace, and God of Love (St Paul)

Father of Peace, and God of Love (St Paul)

•6 Apr 2015 SHARE SAVE



Andrew Remillard

1 Father of peace, and God of love!
we own your power to save,
that power by which our Shepherd rose
victorious o'er the grave.

2 Him from the dead you brought again,
when, by his sacred blood,
confirmed and sealed forevermore
the eternal covenant stood.

3 O may your Spirit seal our souls,
and mould them to your will,
that our weak hearts no more may stray,
but keep your precepts still;

4 That to perfection's sacred height
we nearer still may rise,
and all we think, and all we do,
be pleasing in your eyes.

I am leaving with you a gift, peace of mind and heart. John 14;17

Peace be with you.

God of life, O King of Peace,
 make wars throughout the world to cease.
 The wrath of sinful man restrain;
 Give peace, O God, give peace again. (F B 1942)

**May we take time to pray for the Israel-Gaza conflict
 That the fighting
 and the killing which is taking place
 will stop now!!**



Intercession Prayer

This is the day the Lord has made and within your creation your love has been at work...while there are many times, where we can see human hands at work which can be faulty and so Lord we are very much in need of your Godly help. We pray for peace, where neighbours are struggling to live alongside each-other. We understand that you are about love and each religion is centred in loving thy neighbour and loving you. We pray for people whose lives are being torn apart because of their faith, what they believe in, their lack of understanding or interpretation or seen as second-class citizens. Help each of us to listen more clearly and to be open to your guidance. We pray for the people of the Israel-Gaza conflict and the divide which seems to be growing ever wider. In a country where so many believe to be their spiritual home, where many faiths live

alongside each-other. A nation where our Lord Jesus Christ was born and lived, and his footsteps have left its mark on the world. We pray for acceptance and love to shine through the actions of man-made wars. We pray that people will not see fighting , destruction of homes and lives lost a as religious wars...for if they were really religious, we know there would be peace and all weapons would be replaced with handshakes and voices saying, peace be with you, we are one in God and equal, let us talk out our differences. Lord we pray for all people around the world who rely upon charitable donations...help all who are collecting money for Christian aid this week, and we ask your blessing upon all which is given and received. We pray that all the funds collected shall go to where there is a need...We hand over to you, all causes and charitable organisations which help those who cry out for help... O God, help! cloth the poor, feed the needy, heal the wounded, give strength to the weak, direct the lost, shine your light upon those who live in darkness...who are struggling with their physical and mental health. It is you Lord we turn to and hand over those who rest upon our hearts and who need our prayers, yet Lord there are times when we need to say help me, I am finding life difficult and need your Holy hands to rest upon me. I cry out, give me the nourishment I so need, as my neighbour is wanting, I also need for myself. Lord God, you are here for us all, in silence hear our personal prayers....**Silence**.....Lord there are many people with a varied list of help me Lord wishes, give guidance and help all who today cannot rest for they worry and have become anxious about their own lives, the lives of others and the life of the world.....Help your Church, be at the centre of the General Assembly which will be taking place next weekend. We pray for the Moderator-designate Jim Wallace, and for Right Reverend Dr Martin Fair who will be standing down on Saturday. We give thanks for his leadership and words of support throughout the last year. Be with all the commissioners who shall be attending the General Assembly via zoom and committee members, and for the decisions which will be made...Guide our new Moderator as he moderates our highest court within the Church of Scotland, and we ask you Lord to help the church in moving forward, making your doors be open for your Holy Spirit to come in, be at the centre of all decision making. Shake your church up and lead us forward into a new exciting time where we can worship you as words are turned into action. We pray, that your church will become about you, not how many attend or money...may your will be done, and your church family be good representatives of

you...As we walk in the footsteps of Christ, we pray his true character will be witnessed in our lives as we say together.

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever. Amen

Poem

I had a friendly smile, I gave that smile away,
 The milkman and the postie seemed glad of it each day.
 I took it to the shop, I had it in the street,
 I gave it without thinking to all I chanced to meet.
 I gave my smile away as thoughtless as could be
 yet every time, I gave it my smile came back to me!

(F B 1942)

Gloria in excelsis Deo



GLORIA IN EXCELSIS DEO. Antonio Vivaldi. Director: Antonio Fauró
 •16 Jul 2013 SHARESAVE



Solimusí Voces para la Paz

Gloria in excelsis Deo

Gloria, gloria, gloria, gloria
 In excelsis Deo, in excelsis Deo,
 Gloria, gloria, gloria, gloria in excelsis Deo,
 Gloria, gloria in excelsis Deo,
 Gloria in excelsis, Gloria in excelsis Deo,
 Gloria in excelsis Deo,
 In excelsis,
 Gloria in excelsis Deo!

OR

Glory to God in the Highest

Glory, glory, glory, glory
 To God in the highest, to God in the highest,
 Glory, glory, glory, glory to God in the highest,
 Glory, glory to God in the highest,
 Glory to God, glory to God in the highest,
 Glory to God in the highest,
 In the highest,
 Glory to God in the highest!



Benediction

May the Father from whom every family
in earth and heaven receives its name
strengthen you with his Spirit in your inner being
so that Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith
and that, knowing his love,
broad and long, deep and high beyond all knowledge,
you may be filled with all the fullness of God;

and in the power of the Holy Spirit,
we now go forth into the world,
to fulfil our calling as the people of God,
the body of Christ.

Israelis and Palestinians urged to bring an end to violence

Published on 12 May 2021

The Church of Scotland has urged Israelis and Palestinians to step back from the brink and show restraint.

Deeply concerned about the growing violence in Jerusalem, Gaza and across Israel/Palestine, it is calling on the UK Government to use its influence to help bring an end to the current situation.

Very Rev Dr Susan Brown, convener of the Faith Impact Forum, said "violence only breeds violence" and the events earlier this week at the Al Aqsa Mosque in East Jerusalem were "deeply alarming".



Jerusalem

The Church of Scotland has a long history of supporting people and advocating for peace in the region in political and religious arenas.

It works closely with partners including the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land.

Bishop Sani Ibrahim Azar said: "As a religious leader in the Holy City of Jerusalem, I urge all parties involved to respect the status quo (which guarantees access to holy sites during religious celebrations), to act responsibly and calmly, and to preserve human life at all costs.'

The World Council of Churches has supported the Bishop's call and the Church of Scotland joins them in calling for all to refrain from further violence, and from all provocative and destabilising actions.

Structural injustice

Dr Brown said: "The planned forced evictions of Palestinian families from the Sheikh Jarrah neighbourhood of Occupied East Jerusalem not only dispossess those living there of their homes, dignity and human rights, but represent a major obstacle to ending the occupation and achieving a just peace for all.

"Whilst the grievances on the part of the Palestinian people stem from the structural injustice of the ongoing occupation, where land expropriation and

home eviction orders force Palestinians off their land and out of their homes, violence, and the incitement to violence is never the solution.

"Violence only serves to breed violence, and to fuel continuing intolerance and hatred.

Just peace

Dr Brown said the Church of Scotland, which has two congregations, a school, guesthouse and hotel in Israel, will continue to work with its Jewish, Israeli and Palestinian partners on the ground.

"We do so in the hope of achieving a just peace for all until the dignity and human rights of all those living in this deeply asymmetrical and intractable conflict can be equally respected," she added.

(Taken from the Church of Scotland website)
