

ORDER OF SERVICE

***ENTRANCE MUSIC: Prelude in C major from Book I of the
Well-Tempered Clavier by Bach***

MINISTER'S WELCOME

THE GATHERING

"Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted." Matthew. 5 v. 4

INTRODUCTION & OPENING PRAYERS

Abide With Me

Henry Francis Lyte

Abide with me, fast falls the eventide:
The darkness deepens, Lord, with me abide:
When other helpers fail, and comforts flee,
Help of the helpless, O abide with me.

I need thy presence every passing hour,
What but thy grace can foil the tempter's power?
Who, like thyself, my guide and stay can be?
Through cloud and sunshine, Lord, abide with me.

I fear no foe with thee at hand to bless,
Ills have no weight, and tears no bitterness.
Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy victory?
I triumph still, if thou abide with me.

Hold thou thy cross before my closing eyes,
Shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies,
Heaven's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee,
In life, in death, O Lord, abide with me.

PRAYERS OF PENITENCE & COLLECT

THE FIRST READING

Rosemary Lockley

Psalm 23: The Lord My Pasture Shall Prepare

Joseph Addison (1672 - 1719)

The Lord my pasture shall prepare
And feed me with a shepherd's care;
His presence shall my wants supply
And guard me with a watchful eye;
My noonday walks He shall attend
And all my midnight hours defend.

When in the sultry glebe I faint
Or on the thirsty mountain pant,
To fertile vales and dewy meads
My weary, wandering steps He leads,
Where peaceful rivers, soft and slow,
Amid the verdant landscape flow.

Though in a bare and rugged way,
Through devious lonely wilds, I stray,
Thy bounty shall my pains beguile;
The barren wilderness shall smile,
With sudden greens and herbage crowned,
And streams shall murmur all around.

Though in the paths of death I tread,
With gloomy horrors overspread,
My steadfast heart shall fear no ill,
For Thou, O Lord, art with me still;
Thy friendly crook shall give me aid
And guide me through the dreadful shade.

A REFLECTION ON GORDON'S LIFE - Graham Sparks

THE SECOND READING

Revd Paolo Di Leo

Extract from The Pilgrim's Progress

John Bunyan (1628 - 1688)

"You are going now, said they, to the Paradise of God...And when you come there, you shall have white robes given you, and your walk and talk shall be every day with the King, even all the days of eternity...You must there receive the comfort of all your toil, and have joy for all your sorrow...There also you shall serve him continually with praise, with shouting and thanksgiving...There your eyes shall be delighted with seeing, and your ears with hearing the pleasant voice of the mighty One. There you shall enjoy your friends again that are gone thither before you; and there you shall with joy receive even every one that follows into the Holy place after you...There also you will be clothed with Glory and Majesty, and put into an equipage fit to ride out with the King of Glory."

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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 trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever. *Amen*

Praise, my Soul, the King of Heaven

Praise, my soul, the King of heaven;
To his feet thy tribute bring.
Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,
Who like me his praise should sing?
Praise him! Praise him! Praise him! Praise him!
Praise the everlasting King!

Praise him for his grace and favour
To our fathers in distress.
Praise him, still the same forever,
Slow to chide, and swift to bless.
Praise him! Praise him! Praise him! Praise him!
Glorious in his faithfulness!

Angels, help us to adore him;
Ye behold him face to face.
Sun and moon, bow down before him,
Dwellers all in time and space.
Praise him! Praise him! Praise him! Praise him!
Praise with us the God of grace!

DISMISSAL & BLESSING

“The Lord bless you and keep you;
the Lord make his face shine on you
and be gracious to you;
the Lord turn his face toward you
and give you peace.” Numbers 6 vv 24-26

EXIT MUSIC: "Nimrod" (from "Enigma Variations") Elgar

Please remain seated to allow the family to process by you and leave the church. Then please proceed to follow us outside for the committal.