

30 Apr 2023

Worship Sheet for Sunday 30 April

Resurrection Vision

It took some time for the wider group of Jesus' followers to realise that Jesus was alive and risen – as it can for the penny to drop nowadays. You can only go so far on the say so of others – there comes a time when we need to become convinced ourselves – and that involves us meeting with Jesus. Today we explore Resurrection Vision – meeting the risen Jesus and seeing things from that viewpoint.

Call: Come and meet Jesus. Come and meet the one you loves you, the one who died for you, the one who is risen – the Lord. Don't be content with a second hand faith, come and meet him for yourself. Worship the risen Lord and see things in the light of the resurrection. See how things being to make sense, be ready to change – to live differently. He is risen!

Pray : Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ welcomes us, assures us that we are his friends. We come then at his invitation, at his command. Everything he did and does is to please and honour you, so we can be sure that you welcome us in him. We really are welcome, forgiven, accepted – and there isn't a catch. Holy, Heavenly Friend, you really do accept us, freely and without any condition except that we love you. Take from us not only our sin but our tendency to want to prove ourselves worthy – and let us be content that you love us and accept us as we are – with all our shortcomings. And being accepted in Jesus – help us to BE his friends by loving one another as he has loved us. Loving some people may be no hardship but there are others who are tough to love. Sometimes we aren't always the easiest people to get on with. Your love doesn't distinguish – your love goes deep, goes under the surface of first impressions and image, it goes to the heart. Your Son came not to love those who create a good impression and who tried their best – he came, he died to save the lost, for us all, that we might go at last to heaven saved by his precious blood. Teach us to change: to be changed, by your love, by Easter, by Jesus so that we may love him truly from our hearts, and so that we may love one another as he has loved us. We pray together saying Our Father...

Reading Luke 24:36-48. On the shore.

Thought I've been very fortunate with my eyesight over the years. I wear glasses for reading and I get regular check-ups for pressure etc but otherwise am fine. Very grateful for the attention given to other members of the family's eyes. I wonder whether we give enough attention to "spiritual vision"? We talk about getting the "full picture" – listening to people, maximising the information about an issue so that we are best placed to understand what's involved and so as to make decisions with the best possible outcome. News of Jesus being alive was getting out and more and more people were meeting him. At the end of Luke's gospel we have Jesus welcoming the fishermen to the beach, reminiscent of their call to follow him years before. He eats breakfast with them (dead people don't eat!) and talks with them. He equips them for what is to be THEIR mission – to take the good news of Jesus the Saviour Son of God to all who will hear it. Their eyes were opened in a spiritual way and it dawned on them that God needed THEM to carry out Jesus' mission. We need to be open to spiritual things, to have our vision opened up – what I'm calling "Resurrection vision" – seeing Jesus, God's purposes and the needs of the world in the light of Jesus having risen from the dead. It definitely changes our outlook – and offers real hope and encouragement. Get the full picture – ask God for spiritual vision, resurrection vision.

Praise CH4 470 Jesus shall reign

Pray Lord, your love IS at work in the world. We are rather good at highlighting the troubles and difficulties, the hatred and greed, the lives that are spoiled and broken BUT you are there – you are right at the heart of where people need you –binding up the broken wounds, comforting the dying, working for justice and peace – in the hurt and devastation in war zones, in the refugee camps, in the drought hit lands in Africa, you have access to North Korea and you are among the grieving families in our own land, you are prepared to get alongside those whose lives are really in tatters. You love with an unending love, that does

not distinguish between worthy and unworthy – for your love is for us all. Help us to share in sharing your love – across the globe and, perhaps even tougher, in our own community. Lord as we turn to pray for the church and for our community remind us that you are already working in our midst. You’ve always loved Montrose, and you still do. Help us to see your concern for us, for our neighbours being worked out in our midst – to praise you for it and to share in it. So we pray that you will continue to be that catalyst for change that is at the heart of your very being – change that brings the love and forgiveness of Christ home to us, to enable us to love you and others for your sake, that extends Christ-like qualities and kingdom values to our churches, homes, community. May people see that we are Christians by our love. We pray for the folks who live or work in India Street and India Lane. SILENCE. You love us with a love that knows no limits join our prayers with those of your dear Son and answer them, whether spoken out or offered silently, for your glory’s sake. Amen.

Blessing May the Lord bless you. Amen.

Notices

- **Sunday 30th April is Communion Sunday and will followed by a short Stated Annual Meeting of the Congregation when the approved accounts will be presented.**
- **Please note there will be a further meeting of the congregation after the service on Sunday 14th May when members and registered adherents will be asked to vote on the Basis of Union (of the three congregations). A special newsletter is being circulated and the text of the Basis will be uploaded to the church website in due course.**
- **Edict to be read**
- **Many thanks to those who led service on Sunday 23rd in the Minister’s absence.**
- **Lego Church this afternoon 4pm**
- **Congregational Lunch after the service Sunday 7th for Coronation**

To assist those unable to access material via the internet we have established a phone line where people can phone in to hear the mini service or sermon.

01674 902624.

To hear the mini service people just need to dial in and wait. To hear the sermon, after dialling you need to press 1 then #. In either case there is a few seconds delay while the message loads so tell folk not to hang up! If folk press 1 for the sermon before the intro finishes the system doesn’t pick up on it and it defaults to the mini service. The message now says wait until after the tone before pressing 1 but give it a few seconds after that and do press # after pressing 1.

Sermon, prayers and news (or links to them) will be uploaded to our website www.oldandstandrews.com and the Old and St Andrew’s Facebook page. Feel free to copy this and pass it on to Church members or friends who might not use the web or social media

Please continue to pray for one another and support where you can and remember that the congregation is united in love wherever we are and however we are worshipping.

Stay safe! May the Lord bless you!

Ian

Rev Dr Ian A McLean