

22.6.25 am Family Service

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Date: 22 June 2025

Preacher: Reverend David MacLeod

- [0 : 0 0] Good morning. A warm welcome to the service this morning. And a special welcome to those who are visiting with us.! It's nice to have visitors with us as usual.
- And you're especially welcome. The service is a wee bit different this morning. We have a family service, so the children will be taking part. They'll be answering my questions too. And then there's a few books that we'll be getting at the end of the service.
- So just a little bit different and a wee bit shorter too, hopefully, everybody says. Tea and coffee at the end of the service, please stay if you're able to. And there's a creche that runs just over in that room there during the service.
- So if you've got a wee one and you want to take the wee one to the creche, you're welcome to do that. This evening we have informal prayer time, half past five through to about ten to six as usual, just in the wee room on my left.
- The service this evening at six will be taken by the Reverend John Lachey McLeod. So we've had John Lachey every year, I think, for the last few years. John Lachey has been involved in the Ministry of Children for Christ in Romania.
- [1 : 1 1] And he's going to give us an update on how things are there. And we look forward to that. So be encouraged to come along to that service tonight at six. Prayer meeting on Wednesday as usual at half past seven on Zoom and in person.
- Always better. If you can be in person, please be in person. I know Zoom is a helpful thing. But if you're able to come out, there is huge encouragement in just seeing each other, being together.
- But for those who are not able to, there is Zoom as usual. One thing I'll say just about the prayer meeting is from lockdown, I think it was, we started in a children's prayer meeting from five to seven till ten past.
- And that's still running. There are some maybe who have come into the congregation who are not aware of that. And if you would like to come along to that, you would be very welcome.
- So any of the younger ones, five to seven till ten past seven, please take note of that. It's so refreshing to hear the honest, sincere prayers of the young ones.
- [2 : 2 4] Congregational meal this coming Saturday, 28th of June. Michela's dad and mum are preparing to go back to Romania. So he has offered to make us all Romanian pizzas, which are the best of pizzas.
- No offence to any Italians who may be here. But they're excellent pizzas. Team One are on duty. So hopefully Team One may organise the drinks and some puddings.
- There's a sign-up sheet at the front door for anyone who's able to make puddings or to donate. So six o'clock start time. That's this coming Saturday. So take note of that, please.
- Service is next Sunday. Morning service taken by myself, God willing. The evening service is a Gaelic service at six. Fellowship at half past or quarter past seven. That's going to be organised by Andrew and Iona and Adam and Caroline.

[3 : 31] And I won't go into the whole details of that. But these, I think, are all the notices that I have to draw your attention to. So let's begin this time of worship now.

We'll sing to God's praise. And we're going to sing from Psalm 84. And boys and girls, this is a psalm where we speak about how good it is to be able to come together like we are in church.

And how exciting it is to know that God is with us. And he is the one who helps us. So we're going to sing from verse 1 to verse 9 of this psalm.

Psalm 84. How lovely is thy dwelling place, O Lord of hosts, to me. We'll stand to sing to God's praise. How lovely is thy dwelling place, O Lord of hosts, to me.

The tabernacles of thy place, how blessed Lord may be.

[4 : 43] My mercy soul, O Timothy, it pains thy courts to see.
My belly heart and flesh try out, O living God for thee.
Behold, the spiral findeth that a house where it to rest.
The swallow also for herself hath purchased a nest.
In thine own altars will she sail, her young ones forth may bring.

[5 : 45] O love, almighty Lord of hosts, who art my God and King.
Blessed are they in thy house that dwell, they ever give thee grace.
Blessed is the man who sheds the waters, in whose heart are thy ways.

who last in thorns, who hasting thorns, who hasting thorns, who hasting thorns, who
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thorns, who hasting thorns, who hasting thorns It goes still forward unto strength Until in
time they appear Before the Lord I claim Lord God of hosts my pain are here O Jacob's
God, give me air

See God as shield, look on the face Of thine anointed ear Okay, let's close our eyes and
let's bow our heads and let's talk to God as we pray.

[7 : 49] Heavenly Father, we thank you that you are with us and we thank you as we sang in that
psalm that you are the God who hears our prayers.

We thank you that wherever we are and whoever we are we can come to you and we can
pray and we can call you our Father because Jesus, your Son, has taught us that that's
how we are to pray.

We thank you that we can come to you as children, come to a Father. We thank you that
we can come knowing that you love us knowing that you'll never push us away but you'll
always listen to us and you'll always help us.

And we thank you, Lord God, that you have promised that you will be with us here today.
This is your house not because of the bricks and the shape of the building but because
you have promised that we're two or three of your people come together in the name of
Jesus.

Whether we're in a building or whether we're sitting by a river or on a hill or wherever we are we thank you that when we come together in the name of Jesus you've promised that you will meet with us and you will bless us you will help us.

[9 : 16] And so we thank you for that promise and we ask, Lord, that we would know your help in all that we do today. We pray that as we read the Bible as we think about the life of Moses that you would help me to speak and help the boys and girls to read the verses they've been given.

And we pray that you would open our hearts that we would not just listen with our ears but that your word would go into our hearts and that we would believe you, Lord God that we would be your children.

And we thank you that we can be through Jesus. We know that we are sinners. Your word tells us that. And we know that sin is like a big barrier that stops us from being close with you.

But we thank you that Jesus came into the world to seek and to save sinners. We thank you that he lived for us a perfect life without sin.

We thank you that he went to the cross to die for us. He took our place. He was punished for our sin. And we thank you that when we believe in Jesus our sins are taken away and we are saved.

[10 : 30] We are safe forever. We become your friends in this world and we thank you that we are your friends forever. Because you have promised that beyond this world you are preparing a place that is even more amazing than our minds can ever understand.

And so we ask Lord that every one of us would believe in Jesus and that we would have a place there. And we thank you that that place that Jesus speaks about in the Bible is a place where there's no pain and no suffering and no sorrow, no crying.

we see on our news so much crying and so much soreness, so much that makes us sad. But we thank you that you Lord God are preparing a place where that won't happen anymore.

And we thank you that you've promised that when there are people who are struggling as we pray for them even though we might be millions of miles away from them you hear our prayers and you help them.

And so we pray for all who are struggling today we think of those who are sad who have lost loved ones who have died and we ask that you would comfort them.

[11 : 44] We pray for those who are sick some in hospital maybe still some who are at home but who would like to be here and we ask that you would be close to them and that you would give them strength and that you would heal them if that's your will.

And we pray for those who struggle with all kinds of different things that we don't see but you see and we ask Lord that you would help each one of them whether we are in the building or whether they might be watching at home or whether they might be far away doing something else just now as we think of the people that we love we ask that you would help them.

We pray for countries that are in difficulty just now. it scares us sometimes when we put on the news and we see wars and Ukraine and Russia and when we hear about Iran and Israel and America and we ask Lord that where there is trouble and war that you would bring peace and we pray Lord that you would be with us as a country ourselves once we were known as a country that loved the Bible now we are bringing through laws even this week we see laws that are the opposite of the Bible forgive us we pray and draw us back to yourself so hear our prayers and bless us and be especially close to the boys and girls we ask that from their earliest days that they would remember that you are the one who made them you are their creator we pray that from the earliest days they would understand that Jesus is their saviour and we pray that they and we would all know that you are

God our father so hear us help us take away our sin and give us ears to hear as we listen to your word we pray this in Jesus name Amen Boys and girls I've got three things to show you today three three mini talks the first thing to show you is this does anybody know what that is anyone know what that is come on guys don't be so shy wait Fraser it's a diary this is an old diary actually 2023 I haven't had a diary for a wee while but it's a diary what do you use diaries for why would you have a diary most people these days they don't so much have a diary they've got a calendar on their phone but what would you do with a diary pardon what's that

Olivia for writing what you did on your days excellent yeah and so you might write what you did yesterday just so you remember what you did yesterday or you might write your birthday in here you might write what plans you've got for next week or the week after we write our plans in our diaries so some mums and dads or grannies and shenners are planners do you know what planning is you know sometimes you'll get people and they'll say right let's make a plan some people plan everything so they get up in the morning and you're rubbing the sleep out of your eyes and they'll say right great day let's make a plan what will we do we'll have porridge for breakfast that sounds like a good start and then we'll do an hour's homework just to get it over with and then maybe we'll go out for a walk to the beach and then you can go for a game of football and then we'll finish off with an ice cream does that sound like a good plan and you're just trying to wake up but they're full of plans some people love to make plans do you think boys and girls do you think

[16 : 08] God makes plans what do you think Michael yes God makes plans and God uses people to make us plans work in this world now at Sunday school over the last few weeks you have been thinking a lot about one man now can you remember his name Sunday school teachers are sweating now what's the name of the man that you've been learning about in Sunday school I know all your names so I'm going to start just asking you questions if you don't volunteer who have you been learning about in Sunday school Michael Moses and who was Moses well Moses was a man of faith which means that he was somebody who believed in God and Moses came from a family where his mum and his dad and we know his sister as well also believed in God so we're going to hear just a short little summary of some of the life of Moses from Hebrews chapter 11 because in

Hebrews chapter 11 you've got a big list of people who had faith and so Moses is one of the people who had faith so Miriam is going to come out and she is going to read for us from Hebrews chapter 11 and verse 23 so out you come please Miriam by faith Moses when he was born was hidden for three months by his parents because they saw that the child was beautiful and they were not afraid of the king's edict excellent let's read it one more time will we big loud voice by faith Moses when he was born was hidden for three months by his parents because they saw that the child was beautiful and they were not afraid of the king's edict excellent thank you Miriam so the first thing we know about Moses was that he was born and that was part of God's plan because everyone who's born is born because

God planned it even before you're in this world when babies are in their mommy's tummies it's God's plan which means that every baby every person who grows up from being a baby is special to God and that means that every person in this world should also be special to us which means that we need to be kind to each other because everyone is special have you ever had a well let's read the verse first Emily out you come please so Emily if you're ever in a situation where maybe somebody's annoyed you mum or dad or surely Anna would never annoy you and maybe you're starting to get a bit annoyed because sometimes that happens in houses and you're thinking well she annoyed me so I'm going to do something back to her

Ephesians chapter 4 verse 32 is an excellent verse to remember so let's read it out twice nice and clear and boys and girls let's all just let's all just take this in be kind to one another tender hearted forgiving one another as God in Christ forgave you one more time be kind to one another tender hearted forgiving one another as God in Christ forgave you thank you Emily so because God made us he planned our birth because God loves us because we are all special to God he wants us to be kind to each other have you ever had a toy that's your absolute favourite thing have you ever had a toy that's really really special to you and somebody says can I get a wee shot of it and you're thinking oh I don't know about this but then you're under pressure so you say well okay

I'll give you a shot of it but go wash your hands first don't want any sticky stuff on the toy and be very very careful because this is very very special to me think about it this way every single person who is born and who lives is very very special to God you boys and girls babies mums and dads grannies shenners young old we are all special to God and sometimes we forget that and sometimes in this world we don't feel very special we don't feel very loved but we have a God who loves us who planned our birth and who wants us to know that we are special to him so Moses he was born that was

[21 : 57] God's plan but then Moses after he was born do you remember what happened what happened to Moses after he was born did his mum and dad take him round the village in a pram and say everybody I want you to meet Moses he's the most beautiful baby there ever was is that what happened with Moses Fraser well first of all before we get to that I've tangled myself up here but never mind before so he was born and after he was born what exactly happened to him thanks did he take him out in the pram and say everybody I want you to meet Moses what did you read Marianne what does it say after he was born he was hidden for three months imagine that a baby boy a beautiful baby boy he's born and then he's hidden for three months have you ever tried to hide a baby boy anyone

I think it's quite a hard job because sometimes baby boys can be noisy sometimes baby boys can be a bit smelly so hiding them is a bit of a difficult job but here's the question why did baby Moses have to be hidden why did they have to hide him because that's not a normal thing to do you wouldn't normally hide your baby you would want everyone to see your beautiful baby so why did he have to be hidden Katie remember his name the king of Egypt was a bad king pharaoh yes pharaoh said there's far too many people from

Israel in Egypt and there's so many babies and there's so many baby boys and baby boys just make more and more baby boys so any baby boys that are born have to be killed that was his plan but God's plan was that he was protected he'd be kept safe and so as Fraser said just a second ago God planned even to use pharaoh's daughter to keep Moses safe and God planned to use Moses' big sister what was her name Miriam what was her name Miriam well job good job he planned to use Miriam in protecting Moses so God planned the birth of Moses

God planned to keep Moses safe even though this bad king was doing all this bad stuff and God's plan was that Moses we have a special job to do and we'll talk more about that in a minute but just before we do just before we sin do you know boys and girls that God has a plan for your life do you know boys and girls God knows that God knows every single one of your names he planned the day of your birth he's planned all the days that you have he's even planned little jobs good works he calls them Ephesians 2 10 in advance just wee jobs just for you to do for him so

God has a plan for your life and so last question before we sing why why is God why is the God of heaven so interested in you why has he got a plan for your life Joseph why has he got a plan for your life Katie and Lily and Callum Daniel Cammie Flareker why what's the answer why is he planning for you why is he interested in you it's the most important answer for you to remember Louis because he loves you he loves you we're going to sing now we're going to sing the first well the next hymn the second hymn and we're singing about the

[27 : 26] God who knows our names so the hymn is though the nations rage and we're seeing that in the news just now kingdoms rise and fall there is still one king reigning over all I will not fear for this truth remains that my God is the ancient of days we're going to stand to sing in just a minute groan Amen.

Amen. Amen.

Amen. Amen.

Amen. Amen.

For my God is the Ancient of Days. So boys and girls, the first thing we learned about Moses was that God had a plan for Moses.

[31 : 06] His life was planned. But the second thing we're going to see is that Moses, he realizes quite soon that there's a problem. Amen. So Moses, he grows up.

And do you know where Moses was when he was growing up? Where did he grow up? What house did he live in? Michael? The palace. So Moses, he's kind of adopted as the son of Pharaoh's daughter.

And he lives in this super posh palace. And he's well looked after in the palace. He has all the best food. He has all the best toys.

He's always got the latest iPhone. He had all the coolest clothes. You young people would say he had drip. I'd never heard that phrase before last Sunday.

But apparently last Sunday, there was pictures on the screen of Gordon and myself when we were much younger. And we were probably 18.

[32 : 15] And he was maybe, I was 18. He was maybe about 22 or something. And John over there, just so I can point to him and name him. He said when he looked at the photograph that Gordon, he had drip.

Which meant that he looked cool. He says, but David just looked like a farmer. Thanks, John. Anyway, Moses, amazing house.

Best of gear. And Moses could have stayed in that palace. He could have had the life of a rich young prince.

But Moses knew that that would have been the wrong thing to do. So, Fraser is going to come out.

And he's going to read a little bit more from the life of Moses. Hebrews chapter 11, verses 24 and verse 25. So, out you come, Fraser.

[33 : 18] Nice big voice. By faith, Moses, when he was grown up, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter. And choosing rather to be misteeked with the people of God than to enjoy the eating pleasures of sin.

Good job, Fraser. Thank you very much for that. So, Moses, when he was growing up, he realized very quickly that he actually, he wasn't one of Pharaoh's family.

He knew that he was one of God's people. Because his sister, Miriam, was telling him the truth about everything. And Moses could see that even though he was getting all the best of stuff, his people, they were being really badly treated in Egypt.

They weren't being well looked after. They were slaves. They had to work, work, work. And they were sad. And that was a big problem.

And that was a problem that Moses knew something had to be done about. Second thing to show you, boys and girls, the first was the diary.

[34 : 43] Reminds us that God is a God who plans. What's this? What is this? It's a newspaper.

And a newspaper is just full, it's jam-packed full of stories. Now, if I open this newspaper and I look at any page pretty much, what do you think?

Do you think there are more good news stories in a newspaper or there are more bad news stories in a newspaper? Even if you look at the front page, there's big explosions, and then there's things about assisted dying.

Awful things. Newspapers are full of bad news stories. Newspapers tell us about all the problems that are in the world.

But, boys and girls, do you know, what's the biggest problem? Well, I find the biggest problem in the world written down in this newspaper.

[35 : 56] What's the biggest problem in this world? Michael, you're having to work hard today. The biggest problem in this world is sin. And sin makes God sad.

Sin makes us sad. And sin makes the world sad. And actually, if we were to go through the newspaper and we were to look at some of the stories that were the saddest stories, you could trace all of them back.

the reason for them actually is sin. And yet, the Bible tells us that sin isn't just something that other people do. It's not just something that we read about in the newspapers.

Sin is something that is in all of us. We are sinners. Our hearts have sin in them.

The Bible actually says in Romans chapter 6 and verse 20, the Bible talks about us being slaves to sin.

[37 : 03] But just like Moses, when he looked out and he could see all these slaves and how sad things were, and just like Moses, he wanted that problem to be fixed.

He wanted them to be saved. God looks at us. And he wants us to be freed from the problem of our sin.

But here's the question that we kind of finished with after the first point. Why does God want this for us? Why does God, even though we so often are bad towards God in the way that we think and the way that we speak and the things that we do, why does God want us to be saved from sin?

Why does he want to fix the problem of sin? Why does he want us to be taken from far away to close to him? Why does he want us to be taken from being sad in our hearts to happy?

Why? Michael? Because he loves us and he's full of mercy. And we're going to sing about that now, the second hymn, Our sins they are many, his mercy is more.

[38 : 24] We'll stand in just a moment. Bum, Bum, Bum, Bum, Bum, Bum, Bum, Bum, Bum, Amen.

Amen. Amen.

Amen. Amen.

Amen. Stronger in darkness, you may be born. Since we are many, his mercy is born.

Last point. You've listened really well, boys and girls. Last point. So we had the plan. God had a plan for Moses' life. Why? Because he loved them.

[41 : 38] He loves us. And God could see his people in Egypt. They had a problem. As could Moses see that. But God didn't want to leave them with this big problem.

He wanted to fix that. Why? Because he loved them. And he loves us. And then the last thing is the purpose.

And for anyone who might not know what the word purpose means. Purpose kind of means what do you do with your day? What you do with your day. That's your kind of purpose.

So, thinking about Moses. So, thinking about Moses. Moses. Moses. Moses. He left the king's palace. Moses. And he left Egypt.

Which was a brave thing to do. And it was actually a very dangerous thing to do. And he went far away. To where his father-in-law was.

[42 : 36] And he did some work. So, can anybody remember. When Moses left Egypt. And he had to get his first job. Was he washing dishes from the Harvest Hotel?

What was he doing? Michael. As usual. Oh, I forgot. I had a clue. I had a clue as well. That was the clue.

But you didn't even need it. He was looking after sheep. He was a shepherd. So, Moses' first job. Was he was a shepherd.

And he got that job at age 40. And for 40 years. Moses was a shepherd. Looking after sheep.

And then one day. When he was 80 years old. 40 plus 40. Something happened. So, Lois. Come out and tell us.

[43 : 36] From Acts chapter 7. Verse 30. What happened to Moses? Big loud voice.

Now in 40 years have passed. An angel appeared to him in the wilderness. Of Mount Sinai. In a flame of fire. In a bush. When Moses saw it. He was amazed at the sight.

And he drew near to Luke. There came a voice of the Lord. I am. I am the God of your fathers. The God of Abraham. And Isaac. And Joseph. Thank you. So, what happened to Moses when he was 80 years old?

One day. He was just doing the usual stuff. Out with his stick. Looking after the sheep in the field. And he sees a bush. Remember, it was very hot there.

And the bush had started to burn. Which wasn't unusual. But this bush. It just kept on burning. And it wasn't stopping burning.

[44 : 35] And so Moses thought. That's a funny looking thing that's happening over there. So he went over for a closer look. And out of the bush. The burning bush. Who spoke to him?

Who spoke to him? Billy. Olivia. Olivia. Thank you. God spoke to him. And that in itself.

Must have been amazing. The God of heaven and earth. And he speaks to Moses. The shepherd. Boys and girls.

Does God speak to us? Emily. Yes. How? Is it through burning bushes? Pardon?

Through the Bible. Exactly. That's why. Every single week. We open the Bible. It's God's word. We don't say. This week. I think we'll study the newspapers.

[45 : 39] I think we'll look at another book. Every single week. When we come here. And you go to Sunday school. We open the Bible. Because this. Is how God. Speaks to us.

So what did God say. To Moses. Well you can read the whole story. In Exodus chapter 3. And 4. But the short version of it. Is this. God said to Moses.

Moses. I'm going to send you back to Egypt. We can imagine Moses. Moses. With his shepherds. Saying. Egypt.

Where I've just come from. 40 years ago. Yes. Egypt. And Moses. I'm going to give you a new job. No more shepherding just now.

I'm going to give you Moses. A new purpose. Moses. I'm going to use you. Moses. To save my people.

[46 : 41] I'm going to use you to. Speak to Pharaoh. The bad king. And you're going to tell Pharaoh. That he is going to let.

My people. And your people go. What do you think. Moses felt like. When that happened. Do you think he was a bit spooked.

I think he would have been. And what Moses said. When he heard that. That. That job offer. That job that he was being told.

That he was going to do. Moses said. Well. I can't speak for one. I'm not a speaker. And God said to Moses. Don't worry about that.

I'll give you the words. And I'll give you. An assistant. Called Aaron. And Aaron's actually. Quite good at speaking. And Moses said.

[47 : 37] But it's just. Still too far. It's far too big a job. For me. And God said. I know it is. But you don't need to worry. About that.

Because. I will be with you. And to make a. A long story short. God. Was with Moses.

And Moses. Did what God. Asked him to do. And God. Used Moses. To save. His people. From Egypt. And God.

Used Moses. To bring his people. Into a place. Called the promised land. A new land. A new home. That God. Prepared.

For them. And you know. The amazing thing. Boys and girls. Is that. What God. Purposed. To do. For his people.

[48 : 33] Back then. Through Moses. He wants. To do that. For you. And for me. He wants.

To save us. From the problem. Of our sin. He wants. To give us. New life. He wants.

To give us. The promise. Of a new home. That we will go to. Called heaven. But God.

Didn't use. Moses. To save us. Did he? Who did God. Use. To save us. Maybe this is. Another clue. Actually.

Who did God. Use to be. Our savior. Really. Jesus. Jesus. The good shepherd.

[49 : 33] And why. Did God. Send. His son. Jesus. Into the world. To be our savior. When he knew.

That we'd have to suffer. And he would have to go to a cross. To die. To take. Our sin away. Why did he do it? Tell me.

Michael. Because. He. He loves us. Tell us through John 16. T16.

Out you come Michael. For God. So loved the world. That he gave his only son. That whoever believes in him.

Shall not perish. But have eternal life. One more time. Excellent. And a bit slower. So we get this. Let's. Let's just get this. Clear in our minds. And in our hearts. For God. So loved the world.

[50 : 32] That he gave his only son. That whoever believes in him. Shall not perish. But have eternal life. Thank you Michael. So God's purpose. Was to save his people.

From the slavery of sin. God's purpose still is. To save us. From our sin. So that we. Can be his friends.

Forever. And we can have a place. In that promised land. That is called. Heaven. And everything. That he's done. The planning.

The saving us. From the problem. Of our sin. He did it all. Because. He loves us. And that's good news.

Isn't it? If we believe in him. He will save us. Forever. So boys and girls. Let's believe. In Jesus. Let's pray just for a moment.

[51 : 28] Will we? Amen. Lord God. We thank you. For your word. We thank you for Moses. And the story of Moses.

That the boys and girls. Have been reading about. In Sunday school. We thank you. That you had a plan. For Moses life. And that you have a plan. For our lives.

And we thank you. That you. Loved us. Enough. To tell us. That the problem. Of. Our lives. Is actually. In our hearts. And it's the problem.

Of sin. We thank you. That you didn't leave us. With a problem. You father. Sent your son. Into this world. To be the answer.

To our problem. We thank you. That the purpose. That Jesus. Came into this world. For. Was to save. Sinners. And we thank you. That he went. To a cross.

[52 : 25] To die. And then rise. So that if we believe. In him. We will not perish. But we will have. Everlasting life. In the place. That he has prepared.

The promised land. For all. His people. To help us. We pray. Whether we're young. Or whether we're old. To believe. In Jesus. To ask him. To be our savior.

And to know. The love of God. In our lives. Today. And forever. And we ask this. In Jesus name. Amen. Okay boys and girls.

You are going to come up now. And you are going to sing. Two songs. And then you're going to get your books. And then Stuart's going to. Have a short prayer for you.

So. Out you come. And I will sit down. For those who are at home. You will hear. The singing. But I'm afraid you won't see the children.

[53 : 20] Oh my God. Thank you. Thank you.

Thank you.

Thank you.

Thank you.

Thank you.

[55 : 53] Thank you.

Thank you.

Thank you.

Thank you.

Yes, Jesus loves me. Yes, Jesus loves me. The Bible tells me so.

[58 : 04] Thank you. Thank you. Okay, boys and girls, thank you for that.

That was excellent. I think we wanted to say thank you to all the boys and girls for coming, mums and dads for taking them, and the teachers as well. As a congregation, we're thankful for the teachers and all that they do in Sunday school, and for Gordon as well, having just gone out from us.

So Stuart will come, and he'll pray for the children and pray for the ongoing work. Now, please. So boys and girls, let's close our eyes, hands together, and we'll just say a prayer.

Dear Heavenly Father, Lord, we give you thanks that we're able to come here into your house and that we're able to learn more about you, that we come here without the fear of persecution.

We walk through the doors and we walk out the doors in absolute safety, and we know that's not the case for many children across the world, Lord. So we pray for them as well as praying for our own ones here. We pray for each and every young soul, in the world, but here, particularly in the church here, and those that are maybe not able to be with us.

[59 : 17] We ask, Lord, that you would make yourself known to them, that they would come, and that they would follow you, and that they would trust you in the early days of their youth, that they would not seek to put it off to a later time that may not come, Lord, but that they would come to you, and that they would desire to know you better, that they would long to follow you, and that they would seek to make disciples of others around them, whether in the school playground, wherever you have them, Lord, we pray that they would share your word, and we pray for each and every respective home that they come from, whether it's parents, other siblings, grannies, grandpas, aunties, uncles, and friends, whoever they go home to, Lord.

We ask that they would confidently share the words that have been shared with them, that they share that there is a plan for their lives, that all that you do for us is because you love us, and that has come out so evidently in the words that were shared with us today, Lord, that you are a loving God.

You're not a distant God, one that we can't turn to, one that we can speak to, and as was noted as well, through your word, one that speaks to us as well. So we pray that we would not neglect your word, that the books that the girls and boys have been given would not just sit on a shelf gathering dust, but they would be open, they would ask for the books to be read, that they would pester their parents to read them at night, and that we would be able to continually share that word, and to share of a glorious Heavenly Father.

We also pray for the teachers, we give you thanks for all that volunteer, and give up of their time to prepare for lessons each and every week. We give you thanks for them, Lord, and ask that you would continue to equip each and every one of us as we seek to share your wonderful message, as we seek to plant those gospel seeds in the young hearts of the ones that we have with us here, Lord.

So we pray for that continuing ministry, as well as the other youth work that continues on here, Lord. But we pray especially for those young ones that are maybe not here, those that don't ever come here each and every week, that are either stopped by parents, by family, or have just no thought of coming into your house.

[61 : 24] Lord, we pray for the opportunities to speak to them through all the various youth ministry that goes on here. We ask that you give us those opportunities to share your word, to share the most glorious message of all, that you sent your son to die for each and every one of our sins.

We give you thanks for that message, thank you for the word that was spoken to us today, and for the young ones singing praises to your most glorious name. Lord, we pray that you'll go before each and every one of them, that you would surround them with a wall of fire in these difficult times in a nation, as David has prayed already, that was once well acquainted with the word and is not so the case anymore.

So we pray for them as they grow up in this nation, where we see laws being passed that will have a significant impact on them as they grow older, Lord. So we pray for wisdom, we pray for your gospel word being at the root of their lives, Lord.

So forgive us for all of our sins, be around us, keep us, go before us in all that we do. In Jesus' most precious name we pray. Amen. Amen. Thank you, sir. We will close by saying from Mission Praise 746, what a friend we have in Jesus.

Amen. What a friend we have in Jesus, all our sins and needs to bear.

[62 : 54] What a privilege to carry, everything to God in prayer. Oh, what peace we have to call it.

Oh, what needless pain we bear. Oh, because we do not carry, everything to God in prayer.

How many trials and temptations did some trouble anywhere. We should never be discouraged.

Take it to the Lord and bear. Can we find a friend so faithful, who will all our sorrows share?

Jesus knows our heavenly weakness. Take it to the Lord and bear.

[64 : 05] God, we will be blessed. Come, Lord, with a love of care.

Precious Savior, still our refuge. Take it to the Lord and bear. Do thy friends despise for safety.

Take it to the Lord and bear. In his heart to take and shield thee.

Thou wilt find us all as there. Amen. And now may the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God the Father, and the fellowship of God the Holy Spirit be with us all now and forevermore.

Amen. Amen.