

**Order of Service Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> October 2021**  
**Barthol Chapel and Tarves Kirks**

**Call to Worship**

Leader: Praise the Lord!

**All: Praise the Lord, my soul!**

Leader: I will praise him as long as I live;

**All: I will sing to God all my life.**

Leader: Happy are those who trust in God.

**All: He always keep his promise.**

Leader: The Lord is King forever.

**All: Let us worship the Lord**



**Praise CH4 181 For the Beauty of the Earth**

**1.**For the beauty of the earth  
 For the glory of the skies  
 For the love which from our birth  
 Over and around us lies  
 Over and around us lies

*'Lord of all, to Thee we raise  
 This our joyful hymn of praise*

**2.**For the beauty of each hour  
 Of the day and of the night  
 Hill and vale and tree and flow'r  
 Sun and Moon and stars of light  
 Sun and Moon and stars of light

*'Lord of all, to Thee we raise  
 This our joyful hymn of praise*

**3.**For the joy of human love  
 Brother, sister, parent, child  
 Friends on earth and friends above  
 For all gentle thoughts and mild  
 For all gentle thoughts and mild

*'Lord of all, to Thee we raise  
 This our joyful hymn of praise*

**4.**For each perfect gift of Thine  
 To our race so freely given  
 Graces human and divine  
 Flow'rs of earth and buds of heav'n  
 Flow'rs of earth and buds of heav'n

*'Lord of all, to Thee we raise  
 This our joyful hymn of praise*

**Prayers of Approach**

**Lord's Prayer**

## **The Word of God – Ruth 1:1-18 (The Message)**

*1 1-2 Once upon a time—it was back in the days when judges led Israel—there was a famine in the land. A man from Bethlehem in Judah left home to live in the country of Moab, he and his wife and his two sons. The man’s name was Elimelech; his wife’s name was Naomi; his sons were named Mahlon and Kilion—all Ephrathites from Bethlehem in Judah. They all went to the country of Moab and settled there.*

*3-5 Elimelech died and Naomi was left, she and her two sons. The sons took Moabite wives; the name of the first was Orpah, the second Ruth. They lived there in Moab for the next ten years. But then the two brothers, Mahlon and Kilion, died. Now the woman was left without either her young men or her husband.*

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*6-7 One day she got herself together, she and her two daughters-in-law, to leave the country of Moab and set out for home; she had heard that God had been pleased to visit his people and give them food. And so she started out from the place she had been living, she and her two daughters-in-law with her, on the road back to the land of Judah.*

*8-9 After a short while on the road, Naomi told her two daughters-in-law, “Go back. Go home and live with your mothers. And may God treat you as graciously as you treated your deceased husbands and me. May God give each of you a new home and a new husband!” She kissed them and they cried openly.*

*10 They said, “No, we’re going on with you to your people.”*

*11-13 But Naomi was firm: “Go back, my dear daughters. Why would you come with me? Do you suppose I still have sons in my womb who can become your future husbands? Go back, dear daughters—on your way, please! I’m too old to get a husband. Why, even if I said, ‘There’s still hope!’ and this very night got a man and had sons, can you imagine being satisfied to wait until they were grown? Would you wait that long to get married again? No, dear daughters; this is a bitter pill for me to swallow—more bitter for me than for you. God has dealt me a hard blow.”*

*14 Again they cried openly. Orpah kissed her mother-in-law good-bye; but Ruth embraced her and held on.*

*15 Naomi said, "Look, your sister-in-law is going back home to live with her own people and gods; go with her."*

*16-17 But Ruth said, "Don't force me to leave you; don't make me go home. Where you go, I go; and where you live, I'll live. Your people are my people, your God is my god; where you die, I'll die, and that's where I'll be buried, so help me God—not even death itself is going to come between us!"*

*18-19 When Naomi saw that Ruth had her heart set on going with her, she gave in. And so the two of them travelled on together to Bethlehem.*

## **Reflection**

### **The Word of God – Mark 12:28-34**

#### **The Greatest Commandment**

*<sup>28</sup> One of the teachers of the law came and heard them debating. Noticing that Jesus had given them a good answer, he asked him, 'Of all the commandments, which is the most important?'*

*<sup>29</sup> 'The most important one,' answered Jesus, 'is this: "Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one."<sup>[a]</sup> <sup>30</sup> Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength."<sup>[b]</sup> <sup>31</sup> The second is this: "Love your neighbour as yourself."<sup>[c]</sup> There is no commandment greater than these.'*

*<sup>32</sup> 'Well said, teacher,' the man replied. 'You are right in saying that God is one and there is no other but him. <sup>33</sup> To love him with all your heart, with all your understanding and with all your strength, and to love your neighbour as yourself is more important than all burnt offerings and sacrifices.'*

*<sup>34</sup> When Jesus saw that he had answered wisely, he said to him, 'You are not far from the kingdom of God.' And from then on no one dared ask him any more questions.*

## **Reflection**

### **Praise CH4 549 – How Deep the Father's Love for us**

1. How deep the Father's love for us,  
How vast beyond all measure!  
That He should give His only Son,  
To make a wretch His treasure.  
How great the pain of searing loss!  
The Father turns His face away;  
As wounds which marred the Chosen One  
Bring many sons to glory.

2. How deep the Father's love for us,  
How vast beyond all measure!  
That He should give His only Son,  
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Bring many sons to glory.

**3.** Behold the man upon a cross:  
 My sin upon His shoulders;  
 Ashamed I hear my mocking voice  
 Call out among the scoffers.  
 It was my sin that held Him there  
 Until it was accomplished;  
 His dying breath has brought me life:  
 I know that it is finished.

**4.** I will not boast in anything:  
 No gifts, no power, no wisdom;  
 But I will boast in Jesus Christ:  
 His death and resurrection.  
 Why should I gain from His reward?  
 I cannot give an answer;  
 But this I know with all my heart:  
 His wounds have paid my ransom.

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## Prayers for others

### Praise CH4 519 – Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

**1.** Love divine, all loves excelling,  
 joy of heaven, to earth come down,  
 fix in us your humble dwelling,  
 all your faithful mercies crown.  
 Jesus, you are all compassion,  
 pure, unbounded love impart;  
 visit us with your salvation,  
 enter every trembling heart.

**2.** Come, almighty to deliver,  
 let us all your grace receive;  
 suddenly return, and never,  
 never more your temples leave.  
 We would always give you blessing,  
 serve you as your hosts above,  
 pray, and praise you without ceasing,  
 glory in your perfect love.

**3.** Finish then your new creation;  
 pure and spotless let us be;  
 let us see your great salvation,  
 perfect in eternity:  
 Changed from glory into glory  
 till in heaven we take our place,  
 there to sing salvation's story  
 lost in wonder, love, and praise!

## Blessing

### Take Home Suggestion

Who are the strangers I meet?

Am I a stranger in a strange land? How does it feel to be in an unfamiliar place, think about times when you have visited a foreign country and haven't spoken the language or understood local customs; reflect on your experiences - positive and negative, and imagine that it wasn't a holiday or a temporary visit but the place where you have been forced through circumstance to live.

How can I demonstrate God's love for others in practical ways this week?

## Notices

Can elders please collect the freewill offering envelopes for their district from the vestry for distribution.

There will be no refreshments following the service this morning.

## Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> November Morning Worship All Welcome – Guild Dedication Services

**9.30am Tarves Kirk** The Church will be laid out café-style and coffee will be served after worship. The service can also be accessed live on Zoom.

**11.15am Barthol Chapel** Gather from 10.45am. Bring your own coffee.

Please note that certain restrictions will still apply, viz, hand-sanitising, wearing of masks and Contact and Trace. Please respect in so far as possible the wishes of anyone who wants to maintain physical distancing. Anyone with symptoms of Covid should remain at home.

**Pastoral Care** Please contact Alison 01651 851295.