

Barthol Chapel and Tarves

Sunday 8 August 2021 9.45 for 10.00 am



Call to Worship

Leader: Forests are dark places, sometimes feeling bereft of light.

All: The streets of our world are places of darkness, and light.

Leader: Amidst the forest trees are signs of life— living, abundant, teeming life.

All: The villages, towns and cities in which we live are places of darkness, and light.

Leader: Shafts of light pierce the darkness of the forest canopy.

All: Our world in places is overcome with darkness, yet the light of hope and redemption is never absent.

Leader: Today, we worship you, Lord of Light, for the darkness will never defeat your love.

Praise CH4 167 Guide me, O thou great Jehovah

Guide me, O thou great Jehovah,
pilgrim through this barren land;
I am weak, but thou art mighty;
Hold me with thy powerful hand:
Bread of heaven, Bread of heaven,
feed me till my want is o'er.

Open now the crystal fountain
whence the healing stream doth flow;
Let the fire and cloudy pillar

lead me all my journey through:
strong Deliverer, strong Deliverer,
be thou still my strength and shield.

When I trade the verge of Jordan,
bid my anxious fears subside!
Death of deaths, and hell's destruction,
land me safe on Canaan's side!
Songs of praises, songs of praises,
I will ever give to thee.

Prayers of Approach

Lord's Prayer (You might like to unmute yourself for this and remute afterwards)

The Word of God

2 Samuel 18:5-9,15,31-33

⁵The king gave orders to Joab and Abishai and Ittai, saying, 'Deal gently for my sake with the young man Absalom.' And all the people heard when the king gave orders to all the commanders concerning Absalom.

⁶ So the army went out into the field against Israel; and the battle was fought in the forest of Ephraim. ⁷The men of Israel were defeated there by the servants of David, and the slaughter there was great on that day, twenty thousand men. ⁸The battle spread over the face of all the country; and the forest claimed more victims that day than the sword.

⁹ Absalom happened to meet the servants of David. Absalom was riding on his mule, and the mule went under the thick branches of a great oak. His head caught fast in the oak, and he was left hanging between heaven and earth, while the mule that was under him went on.

¹⁵And ten young men, Joab's armour-bearers, surrounded Absalom and struck him, and killed him.

³¹ Then the Cushite came; and the Cushite said, 'Good tidings for my lord the king! For the LORD has vindicated you this day, delivering you from the power of all who rose up against you.' ³²The king said to the Cushite, 'Is it well with the young man Absalom?' The Cushite answered, 'May the enemies of my lord the king, and all who rise up to do you harm, be like that young man.'

³³ The king was deeply moved, and went up to the chamber over the gate, and wept; and as he went, he said, 'O my son Absalom, my son, my son Absalom! Would that I had died instead of you, O Absalom, my son, my son!'

Ephesians 4:25-5:2

²⁵ So then, putting away falsehood, let all of us speak the truth to our neighbours, for we are members of one another. ²⁶Be angry but do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, ²⁷and do not make room for the devil. ²⁸Thieves must give up stealing; rather let them labour and work honestly with their own hands, so as to have something to share with the needy. ²⁹Let no evil talk come out of your mouths, but only what is useful for building up, as there is need, so that your words may give grace to those who hear. ³⁰And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with which you were marked with a seal for the day of redemption. ³¹Put away from you all bitterness and wrath and anger and wrangling and slander, together with all malice, ³²and be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you. ⁵¹Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children, ²and live in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

Music CH4 168 God weeps

Reflection

Prayers for others

Praise CH4 721 We lay our broken world

We lay our broken world
in sorrow at your feet,
haunted by hunger, war, and fear,
oppressed by power and hate.

Here human life seems less
than profit, might, and pride,
though to unite us all in you,
you lived and loved and died.

We bring our broken towns,
our neighbours hurt and bruised;
You show us how old pain and wounds
for new life can be used.

We bring our broken loves,
friends parted, families torn;
then in your life and death we see
that love must be reborn.

We bring our broken selves,
confused and closed and tired;
then through your healing gift of grace
new purpose is inspired.

Come Spirit, on us breathe,
with life and strength anew;
Find in us love, and hope, and trust,
and lift us up to you.

Blessing

Notices

Next Sunday 15 August Morning Worship All Welcome

9.30am Tarves Kirk The Church will be laid out café-style and coffee will be served after worship.

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.

Tuesday 17 August 7.30pm Barthol Chapel Kirk Session and Board meeting on Zoom – link to follow.

Sunday 29 August Parish Grouping Big Sing at Haddo

Pastoral Care Please contact Alison 01651 851295