

## Service Sheet - Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> September Aberfeldy Parish Church.

### Words of Welcome

Welcome to our worship this morning, the third in our series looking at the wisdom of Proverbs.

### Our opening Hymn CH4 36

God is our refuge and our strength

*God is our refuge and our strength,  
in straits a present aid;  
therefore, although the earth be moved,  
we will not be afraid:*

*Though hills amidst the seas be cast;  
though waters roaring make,  
and troubled be; yea, though the hills  
by swelling seas do shake.*

*A river is, whose streams make glad  
the city of our God:  
the holy place, wherein the Lord  
most high hath his abode.*

*God in the midst of her doth dwell;  
nothing shall her remove:  
The Lord to her an helper will,  
and that right early, prove.*

Psalm 46 verses 1 -5  
The Scottish Psalter

### Opening Prayer

Yes, we admit  
We heard you this week  
And we didn't always say yes

You were there in the call for help  
And we didn't want to hear  
You were there in pictures people in distress  
And we were unmoved  
You were there when the stillness told us to  
slow down  
And we stayed in a hurry

You were there in a moment  
When we inflated ourselves, put our own  
selves in the centre of the universe  
And started to worship our very selves  
And you sent prophets to stop such folly.

You were there  
Always there  
And we confess that we didn't always want to  
hear you  
And we say sorry  
We mean it  
We really mean it  
Sorry.

And now let this be a different moment  
A moment when we hear the invitation  
To come in  
To sit  
To pray  
To sing  
To believe that angels are encamped outside  
And your Spirit is birthing us anew

In the silence  
Let our restless hearts be still  
And let Jesus Christ himself speak the gospel  
And teach us to be good,  
Teach us to be good like him,  
AMEN

### Reading

#### Proverbs 22:1-4, 8-9 NIV

A good name is more desirable than great riches; to be esteemed is better than silver or gold.

Rich and poor have this in common:  
The LORD is the Maker of them all.

The prudent see danger and take refuge,  
but the simple keep going and pay the penalty.

Humility is the fear of the LORD;  
its wages are riches and honour and life.

Whoever sows injustice reaps calamity,  
and the rod they wield in fury will be broken.

The generous will themselves be blessed,  
for they share their food with the poor.

### Our next hymn is CH4 132

Immortal, Invisible, God only wise

*Immortal, invisible, God only wise,  
in light inaccessible, hid from our eyes,  
most blessed, most glorious,  
the Ancient of Days,  
almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.*

*Unresting, unchanging, and silent as light,  
nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might.  
thy justice like mountains high soaring above  
thy clouds, which are fountains of goodness  
and love.*

*To all, life thou givest, to both great and small.  
In all life thou livest, the true life of all.  
We blossom and flourish as leaves on the tree  
and wither and perish, but naught changeth  
thee.*

*Great Father of all glory, pure Father of light,  
thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight.  
All praise we would render; O help us to see  
'tis only the splendour of light hideth thee.*

Walter Chalmers Smith (1824 -1908)

### Sermon

You will find the sermon printed at the end of  
this service sheet. It's probably easier to read it  
if it's printed across the page and not set out in  
columns.

### Prayer for others

Oh God,  
Hear our prayer

Hear our prayer  
Where the poor are denied justice  
And violent people hold power

Hear our prayer  
Where justice is delayed in our own courts  
Where the courts are over run  
And the poorest cannot find representation  
Hear our prayer

Hear our prayer  
For the friend we have who is despondent  
Hear our prayer  
For the friend we have who has lost their faith  
Hear our prayer  
For the friend we have who does not know  
what to do

In the silence,  
Hear our prayers  
For those we love  
And those we hold before you now

### Silence

And now hear us, as we pray in the words of  
Jesus...

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,  
Your kingdom come, your will be done,  
On earth as it is in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread,  
And forgive us our debts  
As we forgive our debtors.

Lead us not into temptation,  
But deliver us from evil.

For yours is the kingdom, the power  
and the glory forever.  
AMEN

### Our final hymn is Hymn CH4 465

#### Be Thou my Vision

*Be thou my Vision, O Lord of my heart;  
naught be all else to me, save that thou art.  
Thou my best thought in the day or the night,  
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.*

*Be thou my Wisdom, be thou my true Word;  
I ever with thee, and thou with me, Lord.  
Thou my great Father; thine own I would be;  
thou in me dwelling and I one with thee.*

*Be thou my breastplate, my sword for the fight.  
Be thou my dignity, thou my delight,  
thou my soul's shelter, and thou my high  
tower.  
Raise thou me heavenward, O Power of my  
power.*

*Riches I heed not, nor earth's empty praise;  
thou mine inheritance, now and always.  
Thou and thou only, the first in my heart,  
High King of Heaven, my treasure thou art.*

*High King of Heaven, after victory won,  
may I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's  
Sun!  
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,  
still be my Vision, O Ruler of all.*

Irish 8<sup>th</sup> century

Translated Mary Elizabeth Byrne (1880 – 1931)

### **Blessing**

God make you wise, in the moment of  
temptation.

God make you wise, where the light is hard to  
see.

God make you wise, where a choice must be  
made.

God make you wise, to be wise like Jesus.

In the name of the Father, the Son, and the  
Spirit.

AMEN