



# AMERSHAM FREE CHURCH

Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> August 2025

## MORNING WORSHIP

led by The Revd Ian Green and The Revd Heather McIntyre

Organist: Edward Cross

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*If you are able, please stand for those parts of the service marked with an asterisk (\*)*

*Prelude: Plein Jeu - Nicholas-Antoine Lebegue (ca. 1631-1702)*

## GOD INVITES US TO WORSHIP

### \* **HYMN 262:** Crown Him with many crowns

*During which the bible is placed in the pulpit*

### \* **Opening Responses**

Minister: We gather as the people of God  
in the presence of our loving Father

**All: We gather as fellow pilgrims  
in the presence of the Living Christ**

Minister: We gather as seekers after truth  
in the presence of God the Spirit

**All: Who enlightens and comforts us.**

Minister: The Lord is my light and my salvation;

**All: the Lord is the stronghold of my life.**

Minister: The Lord be with you

**All: And also with you**

### **Prayers of Adoration and confession**

**The Lord's Prayer** back cover of the hymn book

### **Welcome and Notices**

\* **Hymn:** In a byre near Bethlehem *Tune: Wild Mountain Thyme*

**In a byre near Bethlehem ,  
Passed by many a wand'ring stranger,  
The most precious Word of Life**

**Was heard gurgling in a manger,  
For the good of us all.**

**Refrain: *And He's here when we call Him,  
Bringing health, love and laughter  
To life now and ever after,  
For the good of us all.***

**By the Galilean Lake  
Where the people flocked for teaching,  
The most precious Word of Life  
Fed their mouths as well as preaching,  
For the good of us all. *Refrain***

**Quiet was Gethsemane,  
Camouflaging priest and soldier;  
The most precious Word of Life  
Took the world's weight on his shoulder,  
For the good of us all. *Refrain***

**On the hill of Calvary -  
Place to end all hope of living -  
The most precious Word of Life  
Breathed his last and died forgiving,  
For the good of us all. *Refrain***

**In a garden, just at dawn,  
Near the grave of human violence,  
The most precious Word of Life  
Cleared his throat and ended silence,  
For the good of us all. *Refrain***

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## **WE LISTEN FOR THE WORD OF GOD**

### **Responsive Psalm 71**

**I In you, O Lord, do I seek refuge;  
let me never be put to shame.**

- 2 In your righteousness, deliver me and set me free;  
**incline your ear to me and save me.**
- 3 Be for me a stronghold to which I may ever resort;  
**send out to save me, for you are my rock and my fortress.**
- 4 Deliver me, my God, from the hand of the wicked,  
**from the grasp of the evildoer and the oppressor.**
- 5 For you are my hope, O Lord God,  
**my confidence, even from my youth.**
- 6 Upon you have I leaned from my birth,  
**when you drew me from my mother's womb;**  
**my praise shall be always of you.**  
**Glory be to you, our God,**  
**Creator, Saviour and Spirit. Amen**

## **Introduction to the theme**

**Readings:** Isaiah 58.9-14 OT p.619  
Luke 13.10-17 NT p.64 *This morning's reader is Janet Reid*  
**Reader:** In this is the word of the Lord  
**All: Thanks be to God**

**\*Hymn 679:** The Lord's my shepherd

**Sermon:** Was it a 'nice' sermon?

*Followed by silent reflection, sermon notes are available in the entrance pillar envelopes*

## **OUR RESPONSE**

**\* Hymn:** We limit not the truth of God *Tune: Kingsfold R&S 201*

**I We limit not the truth of God**  
**to our poor reach of mind**  
**by notions of our day and sect,**  
**crude, partial, and confined.**  
**No, let a new and better hope**

**within our hearts be stirred–  
the Lord hath yet more light and truth  
to break forth from his word.**

**2 Who dares to bind to their dull sense  
the oracles of heav'n  
for all the nations, tongues, and climes,  
and all the ages given?  
That universe, how much unknown!  
that ocean unexplored!  
The Lord hath yet more light and truth  
to break forth from his word.**

**3 O Father, Son, and Spirit, send  
us increase from above;  
enlarge, expand all Christian souls  
to comprehend thy love;  
and make us all go on to know,  
with nobler pow'rs conferred,  
he Lord hath yet more light and truth  
to break forth from his word.**

*George Rawson CCL257120*

## **Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession**

### **\*Presentation of the Offering**

*Each week we make our gifts in a variety of ways, by placing cash or envelopes in the baskets as we enter or exit church or through direct bank giving. All these offerings are dedicated now as we sing:*

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow,  
praise him, all creatures here below,  
praise him above, ye heavenly host,  
praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.**

*Thomas Ken (1637-1711)*

**\*Hymn 625: God of freedom, God of justice**

**\*Dismissal and Blessing with sung Amen**

*Postlude: Praludium et Fuga - Gottlieb Nitauß (1685-1722)  
Morning Coffee and Tea will be served in the Church Hall after the service*