



AMERSHAM FREE CHURCH

Sunday 27th April 2025

MORNING WORSHIP

led by The Revd Ian Green and The Revd Heather McIntyre

Organist: Edward Cross

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

Prelude: Meditation from Suite 'Laudate Dominum' : Peter Hurford (1930 - 2019)

GOD INVITES US TO WORSHIP

*** Hymn:** In the garden Mary lingers *Tune: Angel Voices R&S 405*

During which the bible is taken to the pulpit

**1 In the garden Mary lingers,
broken and forlorn,
then an unexpected greeting
names her in the dawn:
so she meets her risen Saviour
on the resurrection morn.**

**2 Evening journey: two disciples,
grieving for the dead,
find a stranger walks beside them,
cheers their hearts instead-
finally they recognise him
as he breaks and shares the bread.**

**3 Ten distraught, confused apostles
hide away in fear;
rumours that the grave is empty
they are shocked to hear-
yet when Jesus stands among them
dread and sorrow disappear.**

**4 Fishermen who toiled for nothing
on the lake all night
hear the sound of Jesus' welcome
in the morning light:**

in the friendship shared at breakfast
old mistakes are lost to sight.

**5 Every day a fresh beginning-
newness, come what may!
In the most unlikely places
Jesus reigns today;
from the past to new horizons
Christ our Saviour leads the way.** *Martin E Leckebusch CCL 257/20*

Opening Responses

Minister: We gather to worship God,

All: to present our prayers and praises.

Minister: We gather to listen out for God,

**All: who speaks through bible and sermon,
in silence and in fellowship.**

Minister: On seeing the Lord

All: The disciples were overjoyed.

Minister: The Lord be with you

All: And also with you.

Opening Prayers of Praise, Confession and Lord's Prayer

Welcome and Notices

Commissioning of Elders

***Hymn:** Your love alone *Tune: Finlandia*

**I. Your love alone turns action into service.
Your grace alone turns speaking into prayer.
All that we are is held within your mercy,
All that we do, made holy in your care.**

**Spirit of God, breath through us in our worship,
Take and transform the gifts and griefs we bear.**

**2. Bind with your truth this act of dedication;
Confirm with hope each step of faith we take;
Disturb with joy our cautious hesitation,
Renew with strength the promises we make.
Spirit of God, pour out your affirmation,
Bless us for life, made sacred for your sake.**

Sue McCoan

WE LISTEN FOR THE WORD OF GOD

Readings: Psalm 150 O.T. p. 109

John 20.19-31 p.99

This morning's reader is Sara Autton

Reader: In this is the word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

Hymn 243: Now the green blade rises

Sermon: The man who missed Easter

followed by Silent Reflection. Sermon notes are available as you leave and on the church website

*** Hymn 248:** This joyful Eastertide

Prayers of 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: We have a gospel to proclaim *Tune: R&S 613 Fulda*

**1. We have a gospel to proclaim
Good news for all throughout the earth;
The gospel of a Saviour's name:
We sing His glory, tell His worth.**

**2 Tell of His birth at Bethlehem,
Not in a royal house or hall
But in a stable dark and dim:
The Word made flesh, a light for all.**

**3. Tell of His death at Calvary,
Hated by those He came to save;
In lonely suffering on the cross
For all He loved His life He gave.**

**4. Tell of that glorious Easter morn:
Empty the tomb, for He was free.
He broke the power of death and hell
That we might share His victory.**

**5. Tell of His reign at God's right hand,
By all creation glorified;
He sends His Spirit on His Church
To live for Him, the Lamb who died.**

**6. Now we rejoice to name Him King:
Jesus is Lord of all the earth.
This gospel message we proclaim:
We sing His glory, tell His worth.**

Rev. Edward Burns (b.1938) CCL257120

***Dismissal and Blessing with sung Amen** *All Standing*

Postlude: A Miniature : Gordon Phillips (1908 - 1991)

Sunday Lunch is served in the Church Hall after the service – all welcome