

## Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> March 2021 – TIMC Online

### WELCOME

Welcome to Tyldesley Independent Methodist's Church Online service for Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> March. Thank you for joining us. Can you believe it that this Sunday marks the anniversary of our very first online service? How time really does fly! March 22<sup>nd</sup> last year witnessed the start of our online services and featured recordings from all the way across the border in Scotland. Over the year, even I, probably the most ultimate technophobe, with Jen's help have managed to get to grips with some of the basics of recording. However, believe me, over the year, I could quite easily fill a 'You've been framed' programme with all the mistakes I've made in them. The words 'Take 20' come quite frequently in our house at recording time. But that's for another time and I just want to start off today by just thanking all those who have contributed to the services over the last year, be it a message, a bible reading or a song. Thank you to you all and for all your prayers over the last year. A particular thank you to Andy and Heather for all their skill and hard work in putting the services online over the last year. They have done a mighty fine job, I think you would agree. A big thank you to them.

Whether this is your first venture into TIMC Online or whether you have been through the whole year with us, you are most welcome and I just pray that in our time together today, as we sing praises to our God. As we come before Him in prayer and as we look through His word. May the Holy Spirit speak personally to you today. May each one of us come with expectant hearts ready to praise and glorify and encounter the living God.

I'm delighted to share that we've got a guest speaker today. Gavin Calver, the CEO of the Evangelical Alliance has recorded a message for churches to use during lockdown and we're going to be sharing that a little bit later. But first of all we're going to begin by singing God's praises. A glorious old hymn which declares these amazing words: Praise my soul the king of heaven. To his feet thy tribute bring. Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven. Who like thee his praise should sing? Praise Him, Praise Him. Praise Him! Praise Him! Praise the everlasting King. As we sing this song, may we bring our tributes of praise to the King of Heaven. Give it all you've got to the everlasting King. Let's sing together 'Praise, my soul, the king of heaven'.

### **SONG: Praise, my soul, the King of heaven**

Praise Him! Praise Him! Praise Him! Praise Him! Praise with us the God of grace. It's such a great hymn of praise, this song. So rich in biblical truths. Wonderful

words that capture so many of the things that we can praise our God for. That He is the King of heaven. That we are ransomed, healed, restored and forgiven because of what Jesus has done for us on the Cross. We can praise Him for his grace and favour. That He is the same yesterday, today and forever and for His amazing faithfulness to each one of us. For the way He tends and spares us and for the amazing way that He knows us so well. That He rescues us and for the wonder of His mercy. We praise Him - the God of grace. And we are just going to continue praising Him. How great is our God. Sing with me, How great is our God. And all will see how great, how great is our God. Let's sing together 'The splendour of the King'.

### **SONG: The splendour of the King**

Name above all names. You are worthy of all praise. My heart will sing: How great is our God. We're just going to come before the Lord in prayer right now and I just invite you to lift up your prayers of thanksgiving and praise to the living God. Bring your tributes of praise to Him right now in prayer and just lift him high. May He be lifted up in your prayers right now. Give glory to the Alpha and the Omega- the beginning and the end. Lift up the One who has the name above all other names and declare how great he is! I just invite you now in this time to come before him and exalt Him in your prayers. Praise Him for who he is and all that He has done for you and then I'll close this time with a prayer of my own.

### **PRAYER**

Great is the Lord and most worthy of praise. Lord, you are worthy of all our praise. All honour and blessing and power belongs to you. As we humbly come before You- the King of Kings, may You be lifted high. Lord, we thank you for your amazing faithfulness to each one of us and the promises that we have in You. May we stand on those promises. May we honour You in everything that we do and say. For your glory, we ask it. Amen.

We're just going to continue in prayer for a few moments and in this time let's just lift up those people who we have a concern for before the Lord. Be it for healing or for strength or peace for a situation that they are facing right now. Either out loud or in the quiet of your own heart, just lift them up to the Lord right now and then I will say a prayer of my own.

## **PRAYER**

Lord, for all those we have brought before you, hear our prayer and meet their need. In your mercy we ask it and for Your glory. Amen.

As I shared earlier, we have a guest speaker today and Gavin Calver is going to be sharing from God's word. He's the son of Clive Calver whose name some of you may recognise. He has previously worked for Youth for Christ, Spring Harvest and he is currently the CEO of the Evangelical Alliance and he has recorded a message and made it available for churches to use during lockdown. I just pray that you are blessed, strengthened and challenged by it. In fact, let's just pray right now before he shares with us. Lord, open our ears to your voice and may we be obedient to your call. Lord, may the words of his mouth and the meditation of each heart be pleasing in your sight, O Lord our Rock and our Redeemer. Amen.

## **MESSAGE**

### **INTRODUCTION: THIS IS AMAZING GRACE**

I pray that God has spoken to you personally through the word this morning. We're going to share together in the Lord's Supper in a few moments and as we lead into that time, we're going to sing together the song 'This is amazing grace'.

### **SONG: This is amazing grace**

## **COMMUNION**

This is amazing grace. This is unfailing love. That You would take my place. That You would bear my cross. You laid down Your life. That I would be set free. Oh Jesus, I sing for all that You've done for me. Hallelujah! Praise Him! We began this morning by singing those wonderful words: Praise Him for his grace and favour. Praise with us the God of grace. He is a God of grace. Paul was a man who praised God for the grace and mercy that God poured out on Him. Writing to the Church at Ephesus, he declares these wonderful words:

But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions – it is by grace you have been saved. And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus. For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith- and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God- not by works, so that no-one can boast. For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

Praise Him! Out of his great love for us, God sent his own Son Jesus to die on that cross for you and for me. Out of the richness of his mercy, even when we were separated and spiritually dead, He made us alive with Christ and has raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, that in the ages to come He might clearly show the immeasurable and unsurpassed riches of his grace in his kindness towards us in Christ Jesus. It is all of Him! The immeasurable and unsurpassed riches of His grace! It is by that grace that we are saved. That all those who confess with their mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in their heart that God raised him from the dead, will be saved. But we could never earn that amazing grace – the unmerited, undeserved favour of God. It is entirely of Him! It is a gift of God - God's riches at Christ's expense. As we eat the bread and we drink the cup, may we remember the amazing sacrifice that Jesus made for each one of us. That he laid down his life that we may go free. That we may declare as we sang in our first song this morning that we are ransomed, healed, restored and forgiven because of the amazing grace and the unfailing love of our gracious living God. May we, as His workmanship, His own master work, His poem, be prepared to do the good works that God has prepared for us in advance for us to do.

The Lord Jesus, on the night He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks. He broke it and said, 'This is my body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of Me.'

Let's give thanks for the bread.

Lord, as we take this bread, we remember your body and thank you Lord that You laid down your life that we may go free. Thank you Lord for the amazing sacrifice that You made on the cross for each one of us. Amen.

Let's eat with thanks.

In the same way, after supper He took the cup, saying "This cup is the new covenant in my blood; do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of

me." For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

Let's give thanks for the cup, as we proclaim His death until He comes again.

Worthy is the Lamb, who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and strength and honour and glory and praise. Lord, as we take this cup, by which we remember the shed blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, we praise You the precious Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world. Lord, we thank you for the richness of your mercy and your amazing grace that we could never earn. Lord, we thank you and give you glory for all that you have done for us. Amen.

Let's drink with thanks.

We're going to close by singing the song 'This is my desire'. As we sing this song together, may that indeed be our heart's cry. May our desire be to honour Him. To worship Him with all our hearts. To give Him praise with all that we have within us. May we live for Him alone and let Him have His way in us for his glory. Let's sing together 'This is my desire'.

**SONG: This is my desire**

**BLESSING:**

Lord, may we honour and glorify you in everything that we say and do. Lord, may you have your way in us. May your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. For your glory, we ask it. Amen.

Thank you for joining our online service. I pray that you have been blessed, encouraged and strengthened and that the Holy Spirit has spoken personally to you. Let's just close today by sharing the 'Grace' together.

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all, evermore. Amen!