



Sunday 29 March 2020

Introduction

Welcome to the second in our series of Quarantine Worship, an opportunity for us to join in worship together, even though we are confined to our homes and unable to join in worship at the Hall. Last week over 100 people joined us online, not just from Basingstoke and around the UK, but from Europe and the USA too.

If you're able to join us online, we'll be live at 11am every Sunday, and you can follow along with us, using this sheet. You can find us online at

<https://www.christianworldmedia.com/livesite/BasingstokeSalvationArmy> or on our Facebook page - <https://www.facebook.com/BasingstokeSalvationArmy/>

If not, why not stop at 11am on Sunday and sense that we're joining together, whether we're online or using a piece of paper. Of course, you can use this resource at any time.

Song – Stand Up and Bless the Lord

Stand up and bless the Lord,
Ye people of his choice;
Stand up and bless the Lord your God
With heart and soul and voice.

Praise ye the Lord, hallelujah!

4 God is our strength and song,
And his salvation ours;
Then be his love in Christ proclaimed
With all our ransomed powers.

5 Stand up and bless the Lord,
The Lord your God adore;
Stand up and bless his glorious name
Henceforth for evermore.

James Montgomery (1771-1854)

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Prayer

Today is The Salvation Army's International Day of Prayer for Children. So why not pause and pray for children across the world, particularly for those affected by the COVID-19 (Coronavirus) pandemic and all illness and disease. And pray for Basingstoke Corps' young people too; each one of them is very precious to us.

When my heart was so broken
that I could not pray,
When love wasn't easy to see.
Someone was there, somebody cared,
Somebody prayed for me.

*Somebody went to the throne of heaven,
Somebody lifted my name.
Bringing me into His holy presence,
Saying what I could not say.
Somebody showed me the
face of His mercy,
When darkness was all I could see.
Somebody pleaded the Blood of Jesus,
Somebody prayed for me.*

Thank you for your prayers.



Song – What a wonderful change in my heart has been wrought

What a wonderful change in my life has been wrought,
Since Jesus came into my heart.
I have light in my soul for which long I had sought,
Since Jesus came into my heart.

*Since Jesus came into my heart,
Since Jesus came into my heart,
Floods of joy o'er my soul
Like the sea billows roll,
Since Jesus came into my heart.*

3 I'm possessed of a hope that is steadfast and sure,
Since Jesus came into my heart.
And no dark clouds of doubt now my pathway obscure,
Since Jesus came into my heart.

4 I shall go there to dwell in that city I know,
Since Jesus came into my heart.
I am happy, so happy, as onward I go,
Since Jesus came into my heart.

*Rufus Henry McDaniel (1850-1940)
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A Time for Reflection

It's easy to focus on the negative in this crisis – after all, it's all that the news and social media seem to focus on. But why not take a few moments to count your blessings?

When upon life's billows you are tempest-tossed,
When you are discouraged, thinking all is lost,
Count your many blessings, name them one by one,
And it will surprise you what the Lord hath done.

*Count your blessings, name them one by one,
Count your blessings, see what God hath done.
Count your blessings, name them one by one,
And it will surprise you what the Lord hath done.*

2 Are you ever burdened with a load of care?
Does the cross seem heavy you are called to bear?
Count your many blessings, every doubt will fly
And you will keep singing as the days go by.

3 So amid the conflict, whether great or small,
Do not be disheartened, God is over all;
Count your many blessings, angels will attend,
Help and comfort give you to your journey's end.

*Johnson Oatman (1856-1922)
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Song – Bless the Lord, o my soul, o my soul

*Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul,
worship his holy name.
Sing like never before, O my soul.
I'll worship your holy name.*

1 The sun comes up, it's a new day dawning;
it's time to sing your song again.
Whatever may pass, and whatever lies before me,
let me be singing when the evening comes.



2 You're rich in love and you're slow to anger.
Your name is great, and your heart is kind.
For all your goodness, I will keep on singing;
ten thousand reasons for my heart to find.

3 And on that day when my strength is failing,
the end draws near, and my time has come;
still my soul will sing your praise unending:
Ten thousand years and then forevermore!

Jonas Myrin and Matt Redman

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Bible Reading: Matthew 6:19-34 (NLT)

Bible Message: Worry is Unnecessary

A worrying time

This is a worrying time for all of us. We end another week with even more restrictions on our movement. The predictions of where COVID-19 will go next are scary. It's only natural that we are worried. But when we stop to think of it, worrying is a waste of time. We know it doesn't change anything. And we know it stresses us out even more. That's why Jesus addressed it.

Worrying makes the problem grow

Matthew 6:25 NLT

"That is why I tell you not to worry about everyday life—whether you have enough food and drink, or enough clothes to wear. Isn't life more than food, and your body more than clothing?"

Now he wasn't thinking about people stockpiling in a global pandemic. But his words do apply to today. Our problems with food and drink supplies won't shrink whilst we're all worrying, they'll simply grow and get worse.

We weren't created to worry

Matthew 6:26 NLT

Look at the birds. They don't plant or harvest or store food in barns, for your heavenly Father feeds them. And aren't you far more valuable to him than they are?

We weren't born to worry. We've learned to worry as we've grown up.

Don't worry - it's unnecessary

Matthew 6:27 NLT

Can all your worries add a single moment to your life?

The only thing that changes when you worry is you, because it makes you miserable. It's also entirely unnecessary. Jesus concludes:

Matthew 6:30 NLT

And if God cares so wonderfully for wildflowers that are here today and thrown into the fire tomorrow, he will certainly care for you. Why do you have so little faith?

God certainly cares for you. He will surely meet all of your needs. He has put his Spirit in you to help you to trust him. He specialises in things thought impossible. There's never been anything God



cannot do. If you feel like you've reached the end of your rope this week, then God offers you hope. Give your worries to him this morning.

Song – I'll go in the strength of the Lord

I'll go in the strength of the Lord,
In paths he has marked for my feet;
I'll follow the light of his Word,
Nor shrink from the dangers I meet.
His presence my steps shall attend,
His fullness my wants shall supply;
On him, till my journey shall end,
My unwavering faith shall rely.

*I'll go, I'll go in the strength,
I'll go in the strength of the Lord;
I'll go, I'll go in the strength,
I'll go in the strength of the Lord.
(repeat last line after third chorus)*

2 I'll go in the strength of the Lord
To work he appoints me to do;
In joy which his smile doth afford
My soul shall her vigour renew.
His wisdom shall guard me from harm,
His power my sufficiency prove;
I'll trust his omnipotent arm,
And prove his unchangeable love.

3 I'll go in the strength of the Lord
To conflicts which faith will require,
His grace as my shield and reward,
My courage and zeal shall inspire.
Since he gives the word of command
To meet and encounter the foe,
With his sword of truth in my hand,
To suffer and triumph I'll go.

Edward Turney (1816-1872)

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Benediction

In his kindness God called you to share in his eternal glory by means of Christ Jesus. So after you have suffered a little while, he will restore, support, and strengthen you, and he will place you on a firm foundation. All power to him forever! Amen. (1 Peter 5:10-11 NLT)