Thanksgiving Service

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Date: 23 November 2022

[0:00] 25 verses 1 to 6 from the Scottish Psalter. O come, let us sing to the Lord. Come, let us everyone a joyful noise make to the rock of our salvation.

Let us before his presence come with praise and thankful voice. Let us sing psalms to him with grace and make a joyful noise. For God, a great God and great King, above all gods he is, depths of the earth are in his hand, the strength of hills is his.

To him the spacious sea belongs, for he the same did make. The dry land also from his hands its form at first did take. O come and let us worship him, let us bow down with all.

And on our knees before the Lord, our maker, let us fall. Verses 1 to 6, Psalm 95. O come, let us sing to the Lord. O come, let us sing to the Lord. Come, let us everyone.

And on our knees before the Lord, our maker, let us sing to the Lord. And on our knees before the Lord, our maker, let us sing to the Lord.itions across the Lord, our maker, let us sing to the Wu's Awée.

[1:36] for His presence God with great and thankful voice.

Let us take down to Him with grace and make a joyful noise.

For God our great God and great King how all God He is Heaps of the earth are in His hand the strength of wilt this is to Him that spacious need d task to king anduth The dry land also from His hands is for the worshiping.

O come and let us worship Him, let us burn out with all.

And honor He before the Lord, our maker, let us call.

Let us bow in prayer. Lord, as we gather before you this evening, we pray for grace that we may worship you in a right way.

We give thanks for this opportunity of offering praise and thanksgiving to you. Indeed, we have been created to praise. Glory is the world of eternal praise.

And when you put a new song in our mouth here, it is the beginning of that praise that will go on forever and ever. And so we pray, O Lord, that our hearts might be stirred up to offer that praise to you.

We give thanks for the song that we just sang just now. We give thanks, Lord, for the way we sang it, the heartiness of it. And that is how it should always be when we seek to praise and magnify our Lord, because you are worthy of all praise and honor and glory.

We pray that it might be an integral part of our lives, day in, day out, because there is always a reason to praise thee, even when things might be difficult in our own lives and when we might be facing heartache and pain and sorrow and difficulties.

while these things in and of themselves are hard and there is nothing praiseworthy in these things, you are always worthy of praise.

And so we pray that whatever our situation, we may lift up our hearts to you and that we might acknowledge you as God of heaven and earth and that we might praise you with all our heart and that we will give this sense of adoration and commitment that we belong to you.

We give thanks for all your wonderful promises that are in the word and we pray that we might have this spirit of thanksgiving about us at all times, that we might remember that you have been gracious to us and that you have dealt with us not according to our deserving.

You have dealt with us by your steadfast love you have dealt with us in ways that are often beyond our understanding or comprehension. But we give thanks, Lord, for your patience with us because there are so many times it would have been right for you to cast us off but you've stuck with us.

Your love is unchanging because you are unchanging in your nature. And so we give thanks tonight for that unchanging love and we give thanks, Lord, for the way that you draw us to yourself, that you give us a heart for yourself.

[6:32] We have to confess, Lord, there was a day when we didn't have that and even if there was a sense of maybe of ascribing something to you, we didn't understand, we weren't aware, we were too caught up with ourselves but when you set your love upon us that changed and we began to see things in a different way.

And so we give thanks, Lord, for delivering us from a fearful pit and mighty clay and setting our feet upon a rock, establishing our way and putting a new song in our mouth. And we pray that we will continue to sing that new song every day and every night and that you'll help us as we journey through this world.

Bless this congregation, we pray. Bless our homes, our families and all whom we love. We pray to bless all who serve you. We pray for all the office bearers.

We pray for all those who work in so many ways behind the scene. We pray, Lord, for our church officers. We pray for cleaners. We pray, Lord, for those who work with the young people.

Lord, we give thanks for them. We remember the 55 plus fellowship as well. We remember, oh Lord, all our young people as they grow up in a very challenging and a very difficult day.

[7:54] We pray, Lord, to protect them and to keep them. Grant wisdom to parents and wisdom to leaders who are teaching them in the right way. What a wonderful opportunity that is given.

And we pray that the seed that is sown in the early days of their life may indeed bear fruit that you will keep them from the evil that abounds in this world, the temptations which are many, and that you will watch over them.

Lord, our God, we pray for those who love you and serve you in places of influence and prominence throughout our communities and indeed throughout our land.

We give thanks, Lord, for every voice that is raised on your behalf and for every testimony that is born speaking of you. We give thanks, Lord, for the wonderful way that the gospel is spread and so often we don't hear about it.

Every so often we get little glimpses that even in this country of ours when so often we see it as simply as in darkness. Yet so often there are pockets here and there are pockets there and where maybe the media doesn't in any way reflect maybe how many actually are seeking you and how many have a desire or a heart for you.

[9:14] Oh, Lord, grant us your grace as we wait upon you. Help us, Lord, to grow more like you day by day. Forgive us for what we are in and of ourselves. Forgive us, Lord, for the sympathy that we have with sin.

Forgive us, Lord, for maybe how unkind we can be to one another by our actions and by our words. Lord, we pray that we may have a heart for one another, that the love of Jesus Christ may be evident in our lives, that we may care for one another.

So often it's said of Jesus that he was moved with compassion. We pray that we might have something of our Savior's compassion in this world that we live in where it is difficult.

Lord, we pray as we face challenges with financial restraints and with the cost of living crisis, we ask, Lord, that you will help and that you will grant wisdom to those who lead us, those in authority over us.

We are commanded to pray for kings and for those in authority over us. It is our duty and so we pray for our king, for the royal family. We pray for those who lead us in Westminster, in Holyrood, and locally here in the council.

[10:26] Lord, grant them wisdom from above and even for those who don't look to you, we pray that you will move them in the right way because the king's heart is in the hand of the Lord and he will move it in whichever way he pleases because it is yours to do according to your will with the armies of heaven and with the inhabitants of the earth.

It is up to you, Lord, to raise one up and to cast another down. You are the God who can change the times and the seasons. Help us, Lord, to have an insight and a sense of who you are in our life.

May our focus always be upon you. And so we give thanks then for this evening as we seek to individually and personally and collectively give thanks to you for all that you do for us.

You do so much. We have so much to be thankful for. We give thanks for the community that we live in, the community that we were brought up in. We give thanks, Lord, for, although it's not as it was, there is still gospel influence here.

We give thanks and we pray that it might always be so. We pray to encourage the ministers here. We pray for Mr. McKeever and Mr. Smith, Lord. We pray to bless them and wives and families, Lord.

[11:40] We commit to your care and keeping. We give thanks, Lord, for bringing Calamurdu here and Joan. Lord, we pray that you'll bless them. Watch over us now, we pray, and as you brought them here, we pray for the congregation of North U.S.

O Lord, we ask that it might please you to direct them in a way where you will lead a pastor to them because their loss is great, whereas as so often happens when one moves, then, although we are pleased, it leaves our congregation empty.

So we pray for them. Watch over us, we pray, and do us good, cleansing us from our every sin in Jesus' name. Amen. We're going to sing again. Is it 23 or 139?

139. I couldn't remember. We're going to sing in Psalm 139A and sing Psalms. Psalm 139A verses 13 to 16.

Psalm 139A and sing Psalms. And we're going to sing from verse 13 to verse 16.

[12:58] For you, O Lord, created me, you wove me on your loom, my inmost being you have formed within my mother's womb. because I'm wonderfully made with all your praise I'll tell.

Your workmanship is marvelous and this I know full well. When in the secret place my frame was made before my birth, you saw my body yet unformed within the depths of earth.

And all the days that I should live which you ordained for me were written in your book, O Lord, before they came to be. Verses 13 to 16 of Psalm 139A that's on page 181.

For you, O Lord, created me. Amen. For you, O Lord, created me, you wove me on your loom

I am, O Lord, in you, that part within my brotherhood.

[14:21] Because I'm wonderfully with all your praise I tell.

Your workmanship is marvelous and this I know Thank you, COVID-19.

To solve my body evermore Within the depths of earth And all the days that I should live With you are made for me Were written in your book, O Lord Before they came to me We're going to read now in the book of Psalms Two Psalms, first of all in Psalm 145

And then in Psalm 100 First of all in the book of Psalms In Psalm 145 I will extol you, my God and King And bless your name forever and ever Every day I will bless you And praise your name forever and ever Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised And his greatness is unsearchable One generation shall commend your works to another And shall declare your mighty acts On the glorious splendor of your majesty And on your wondrous works I will meditate They shall speak of the might of your awesome deeds And I will declare your greatness They shall pour forth the fame of your abundant goodness

And shall sing aloud of your righteousness The Lord is gracious and merciful Slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love The Lord is good to all And his mercy is over all that he has made All your works shall give thanks to you, O Lord And all your saints shall bless you They shall speak of the glory of your kingdom And tell of your power To make known to the children of man Your mighty deeds And the glorious splendor of your kingdom Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom And your dominion endures throughout all generations The Lord is faithful in all his words And kind in all his works The Lord upholds all who are falling And raises up all who are bowed down The eyes of all look to you

And you give them their food in due season You open your hand And you satisfy the desire of every living thing The Lord is righteous in all his ways And kind in all his works. The Lord is near to all who call on him To all who call on him in truth He fulfills the desire of those who fear him He also hears their cry and saves them The Lord preserves all who love him But the wicked he will destroy My mouth will speak the praise of the Lord And let all flesh bless his holy name forever and ever Then we turn to Psalm 100 And we're going to look at this Psalm after we sing Psalm 100 Make a joyful noise to the Lord

All the earth Serve the Lord with gladness Come into his presence with singing Know that the Lord, he is God It is he who made us And we are his We are his people And the sheep of his pasture Enter his gates with thanksgiving And his courts with praise Give thanks to him Bless his name For the Lord is good His steadfast love endures forever And his faithfulness to all generations Amen and may God bless to us These readings of his holy word We're going to sing again in Psalm 23 This is in Sing Psalm Psalm 23 The whole psalm Page 28 in the psalm book Psalm 23 The Lord is my shepherd No want shall I know He makes me lie down

Where the green pastures grow He leads me to rest Where the calm waters flow My wandering steps He brings back to his way In straight paths of righteousness Making me stay And this he has done His great name to display Though I walk in death's valley Where darkness is near Because you are with me No evil I'll fear Your rod and your staff Bring me comfort and cheer In the sight of my enemies A table you spread The oil of rejoicing You pour on my head My cup overflows And I'm graciously fed So surely your covenant Mercy and grace Will follow me closely In all of my ways I will dwell In the house of the Lord All my days The whole psalm Psalm 23 The Lord is my shepherd The Lord is my shepherd No want shall I know

He makes me lie down Where the green pastures grow He leads me to rest Where the calm waters flow He leads me to rest Where the calm waters flow By wandering steps He brings back to his way In shape of righteousness Making me stay And this he has done His great name to display And this he has done His great name to display

Though I walk in Dex Valley Where darkness is near Because you are with me No evil and fear Your rod and your staff Bring me comfort and cheer Your rod and your staff Bring me comfort and cheer In the sight of my enemies The table you spread The oil of rejoicing Here pour on my hands My cup overflows And I'm graciously fed

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[23:29] My cup overflows And I'm graciously fed So surely your covenant And mercy and grace Will follow me closely In all of my ways I will dwell in the house Of the Lord Almighty I will dwell in the house Of the Lord Almighty Let's turn again to our second reading Psalm 100 Just reflect for a little On this psalm Just read at the beginning I won't read the whole psalm again

Make a joyful noise To the Lord all the earth Serve the Lord with gladness Come into his presence With singing And so on Now we know that Thanksgiving Is an essential part of life People who don't give thanks Just even in a general way Just in life in itself Are by and large I would say fairly unhappy people Because giving thanks Is something that really is spontaneous From a heart That appreciates And a heart That responds To life in general So if you find somebody Who is incapable Or rarely gives thanks You say to yourself Well there's something wrong With this person It would almost look like This person is fairly unhappy And certainly for a Christian Not to be giving thanks

Is almost a contradiction Because it's part and partial Of our Christian life And you cannot read the scriptures You can't Particularly you can't Go through the Psalms Without being made aware Of thanksgiving And praise Really being at the very heart It's at the very heart Of the Psalter And so it would be very difficult For a Christian To be somebody Who is not a person Who is given to praise And given to thanksgiving Of course our time of thanksgiving Is a very important part Of our Christian calendar It has been for years and years We used to call it The harvest thanksgiving And rightly so Because I suppose Back in the day Most people were involved At one level or another With Even if it was only A few Crops And of Whether it was Hay Or barley Or whatever But most people Had something Or planted something Or grew something

And so the harvest Thanksgiving Was a very Very important part Because there was An acknowledging That God is the God Of the seasons God said that There would always be Seed time And harvest time And so It is important That we Do give God The thanks That is due to his name Because we know That he is ultimately The God of the seasons So Thanksgiving And it is right That we always have This period of Thanksgiving Every year Now this psalm As we see Psalm 100 Is a psalm That is bursting With praise And thanksgiving And in a sense It is almost fitting That it is Psalm 100 Because 100 in a sense Is a standout number Whenever you get 100 It is always something That stops you Whether it is Like for instance In cricket And they talk about Somebody getting A century of runs And they They count out

How many centuries He made Or We When somebody reaches 100 years of age It is a landmark time And there is Well it was Up until very recently A card With a message Came from the queen Now it is It is the king So 100 is always recognised When you go through The bible You will often see 100 as a Very special number And it is only fitting That Psalm 100 Is this psalm That is just Filled It is bursting With praise And thanksgiving To God And we find The title If you have it It is an ESV You have it It says at the top of it His steadfast love Endures forever And what a wonderful Thought that is God's steadfast love Endures forever And even if there was No other statement Made Other than The title that we have Over that That would be A reason itself For praise And thanksgiving Tonight But then we see Below that It says

A psalm For giving thanks So that is what What this Particular psalm Is here tonight And it begins By showing us Ways of being Thankful to the Lord It says Make a joyful noise To the Lord Serve the Lord With gladness And come into His presence With singing So to make A joyful noise In a sense This is making A public confession It is It's almost like A royal fanfare It's a declaration Before God That he is God Of heaven and earth And that he is Worthy of honour And praise And glory In fact You'll often find In the Psalms There's a A cry A call For us To Worship God Making a noise Now the singing Tonight Was really Beautiful And So it should be Because It's God

We're praising And I know That everybody Hasn't been blessed With the best voice Some people Have been blessed With great voices Other people Haven't I know some people And they long To get to glory One man in particular Very much used By the Lord Was the late Kenny MacDonald And he couldn't Sing at all And he would say You know this I can't wait To get to glory Where I'll be able To express To praise God Because It's something I can't do here I haven't Just don't have A singing voice So But we can still Do it with our heart And we do Praise God With our heart As well Even if we can But So often In the Bible It talks about Giving Visible And audible Expression To God For instance In Psalm 47 It says Clap your hands All peoples Shout to God With loud songs Now I know our Culture is different I'm sure we would Get a shock

If we started Actually Doing that Just now And making these Shouts And clap But the idea We find So often In scripture Is that God is somebody Who is worthy Of praise And honour And when you Look round In this world And you see So many people Who are calling Out their rights And people Who are shouting About this And shouting About that They do shout They do make A noise And so often The church Is just It's almost Like a wee Whisper You look at Football matches And the singing And terracing And the shouting And yet And so often When we Maybe come To worship God Might only be A whisper Or A poor Sound Now Don't get me wrong I'm not saying That's how It is here But it can be And as I say I thank the Lord Tonight For the The lovely The lovely singing So it's important Make a joy Joyful noise

To the To the Lord All the earth And then It says in verse 2 Serve the Lord With gladness And you know This is the most Incredible privilege That you and I Have been given Because all of us In here tonight If you love the Lord You are in service To the Lord And the Lord Will always give you Something to do And sometimes We need a little bit Of pushing into That service But we should all Be involved In serving the Lord And here he is The creator Of heaven And earth And he has us As his servants Here in this world Because you think about it The Lord didn't send The Lord doesn't send Angels down from heaven To preach Or to lead the singing Or to open churches Or to do the Sunday school Or to teach people Or to witness Or to help Or to be missionaries It's not angels He sent It's us Uses us And so

We've always got to Remember that The witnessing The telling Of people Telling people About Jesus Christ It's our responsibility It's our duty It's our Work To serve And so We're told here That we are to Serve the Lord With What does it say Serve the Lord With gladness And so When we come in To service with the Lord When we come to serve When we come to Worship the Lord We need to have Gladness in our heart And I think There's quite a responsibility Upon us Because Sometimes we can Come into church Going through all kinds Of do We can come in with And we do With all our issues With all our baggage With all that's been going on Throughout the day Or throughout the week And that's important as well That we come with these things And bring them before the Lord But there comes a specific time When our focus Is upon the Lord And we must put aside

All these other things And focus upon Him And give Him This worship And this service
That is due to His name But Whatever we're doing For the Lord Make sure that we do Our
service With gladness Because the Lord Sees our attitude He sees how we serve He
sees the spirit That we have In our service He sees whether we do it Willingly Or
grudgingly Whether we do it gladly Or whether it's just A burden to us You know If If you're
out for a meal And The waiter or waitress Is sort of Really grumpy And kind of Throwing
the food at you I don't mean Like throwing the food But throwing the plates down And It's
like Everything is a It's a burden And you just You can see This person Just does not want
To be here And their whole Demeanor And everything about it

Is just In fact It Spoils the meal Because the actual Service that you can That you can get Can either be An uplifting experience Or else It can put you down And how much more With regard to Our service To the king of glory Because We're serving Every single Christian All of you You're serving the lord Wherever he has put you And whether it's In a big thing Or in a little thing You're still serving So you make sure That your service Is done With Gladness Because that's what That is That's what is Required of it Of us That our heart Is in it And that we are To come Into his presence With singing And again This involves Like our whole being Where we're giving We're giving to the lord A sense of Our adoration To him Of we're paying As it were Like homage to him

And as we go back To verse 1 Where it says Make a joyful noise To the lord We're saying All people We know how it goes In the psalm In the metrics All people That on earth To dwell Sing to the lord With cheerful voice It's like It's like the whole world Is They're making a claim On Who god is And so We have to We have to Give Voice In our praise And then verse 3 It says Know That the lord He is god Yes we give thanks And we do so joyfully But we also do it Intelligently In other words We know Who we're Who we're Singing to We know who we're Praising We know who we're Giving thanks to We're not doing this Kind of blindly We know Who this god is And tonight We give him thanks We give him thanks For who he is In himself For his glory

His majesty His authority His dominion His rule His government We give thanks To god For all that He is in himself And all that He's done for us For answering Our prayers For his grace For his mercy For his pardon His forgiveness His peace His love His joy Just so much That he gives us And so When we When we come Worshiping the lord That's what it says We know the lord We know who We're worshipping Many Don't worship god Because they don't know I'm sure many people Wonder why are they Going Why are they going To church during the week What's it all about Well if they knew god They would join us But it's because They don't know They don't know Who god is They've never come To grasp Who he is If they did If they had the same Understanding And knowledge Of who god is

Then it would be different They would They would join With us And that's what What we do We worship A god we know Remember how Paul in Athens He came across People who are Worshipping the Unknown god None of us Tonight Are worshipping The unknown god We know Who we worship And then it says Know that the lord He is god It is he who Made us And we Are his Now Isaiah Terms that We are the work Of his hands And when you think About it The awesome Skill And the intricate Minuteness That went into The creation Of us When you think That from the dust To the ground That god took And he made He formed When you think Of the Skeletal structure That we are

[38:39] And we think Of all the The different Whether it's The respiratory System Or the pulmonary System Or the reproductive System Or the nervous System And all the joints And all the tendons And all the muscles And this awesome Brain Who just Just beyond Any mind The comprehension To comprehend Just what it is And it's from the Dust to the ground When you think Of the wisdom And the planning And the power That went in To the creation And then In the creating Of the woman From the man Taking the rib And built And fashioned And shaped And brought together And that's That's what It's telling us Here Know that the Lord he is God It is he Who has made us And we are his And it's little Wonder that the Psalmist Was saying We are fearfully And wonderfully

Made But as we know Tragically Despite the wonder Of what God did It wasn't enough Remember how Adam and Eve What God Did for them What God Made them What God Provided for them It still wasn't Enough They wanted more And it's still The same today And we know The result Of where Everything Beautiful That was made Was smashed Not only did God Make us Brilliantly Physically And mentally But he also Morally And spiritually And knowledge Righteousness And holiness And bang The fall Shattered Everything Not only Ourselves But the Whole Creation The whole Creation Is groaning Everything That's why There's tsunamis And earthquakes And floods And droughts And everything The fall Impacted Everything Altogether But you God God God Didn't give Up on us God

Came after Us And right From the Very dawn Of history We find God's Promises Running Right Through the Word Because God Had a purpose In all that He did And his love And his love His patience His foreknowledge He worked It all And so we Are his Twice over We were his First of all In the Original creation And then we Are his again Through Jesus Christ Because Jesus Is termed The redeemer And a redeemer's Work is to buy Back What once Belonged That's what Jesus has done He has bought Us Back To God Bought us And brought us Paid the price And brought us Back to God So we Are his So here's A great cause For thanksgiving Here's this love That Absolutely Refused To give up So we Are his It is He who made us

And we are his We are his people And the sheep Of his pasture You know It's one of the Great themes Of the Bible Is that We are God's sheep Right through The Old Testament God was termed Israel's shepherd In the New Testament Jesus is termed The good shepherd The great shepherd And the chief shepherd And he is the shepherd Who cares And tends And looks after And provides The shepherd Who has never lost A sheep Or a lamb Ever And so We are His people Now I think maybe We've said this before But in In the parts Where we Belong With the parts Where we live So often Maybe with more And more People moving in From From Out with But it used to be such That when you would Meet somebody Maybe for the first time People would ask Who are your people?

So that question Has been asked Of you Throughout your life At some time Who are your people? When somebody's trying To work out who you are Now who are your people? And rightly or wrongly When they maybe work out Who your people are They make a judgment Of an assessment Of who you are Whether it's a right assessment Or a wrong assessment But your people Come into play As they look At you And We can apply that Spiritually as well Because We are God's people We belong To God And you know How The characteristics And mannerisms Run through families You see it in people Quite often We say Oh it's in their people Whether it might be a wit It might be People who are really clever Traits of character Oh it's in the people We often say that Well we apply that

[43:44] Spiritually And it should be true Of every Christian It's in the people What's in the people? Christ likeness We should be Ressembling Jesus More and more Every year Because He is Our saviour He is Our shepherd He is at work Within us He's moulding us And he's shaping us And he's changing us Every day Every week Every month Every year So that we Become more And more Like him And That's That's What the Lord Is doing And although This is a wonderful thing It says We are his people You know God has made everything In this world We're told that That everything that was made Was made by him But out of Everything in the whole Wide world And everyone In the whole wide world There is only one

Group That he's Has a special Claim upon And that's you and me His people Out of everything in the world He doesn't say that about Anything else His people Are his portion Nothing else The end of the day Nothing else counts This is all That counts That's not a reason For pride It's not a reason For taking any Glory to ourselves In fact It's the very opposite That should be The most humbling thing And yet Which should Fire us up With a great sense Of thanksgiving And awe And wonder That the God Of heaven and earth Has set his love Upon you and me Out of all the people Of the world And you Are his special People His special Portion And he takes glory To his own name In you It's a humbling It's quite an extraordinary thing And then It says here We are his people

And the sheep Of his pasture The sheep Of his pasture And that's what We sang there In Psalm 23 That How we lie down In green pastures You and I know That there are Certain times The sheep Will not lie down Sheep won't lie down If they're scared If they're afraid Sheep won't lie down If they're hungry You can't get a hungry Sheep to lie down Do you know If you want to see This picture of contentment That Psalm 23 Paints for us And it's such a beautiful Picture of the sheep By the still water And the green pasture It's a picture Of absolute contentment That only Well watered Well fed sheep Will give you And that's What it's talking about here It's his pasture He has provided For us This pasture land And where is it?

Well it's here His word It's here Where we come together That's why God's house Is a special place Because God Meets with us And he gives us Of his food And Remember this The world Has not one Thing For your soul Nothing Zero You will never get Anything in this world That will Nourish Or fill Your soul There's things in this world Which might be good For the body And such like And good for the mind But there's nothing For the soul It is through The word Through the feeding Through the teaching Through the work Of God's spirit Touching our hearts And so He's given us This lavish feeding And if we're struggling If we're empty If we're hungry The fault is not With a shepherd It's not with a pasture Because a beautiful Pasture land It's rich It's luscious

There's everything You could want In it So we're hungry Then there's something Wrong with us Not with a shepherd Not with the pasture land It can only be with us So we need to ask The Lord Lord help me Help me to appreciate The feeding You've given Help me to Enjoy it Help me to be Nourished by it Help me to be Strengthened by it Help me to be Built up by it Thank him for this And then finally Just in a word We see the invitation That is given Enter his gates With thanksgiving And his courts With praise You know It's quite wonderful When you see Enter his gates With thanksgiving And his courts With praise It would bring you Back into the Old Testament And to the temple And to the courts That are there And to God's house And you know One of the wonderful Things is That when we Think back There was one Special place Within the temple Which was

The most holy place Or the holy of holies It was the one place Nobody could get to Apart from the high priest Once a year But remember When Jesus Cried out It is finished The veil of the temple Was torn in two And now there is Immediate access Into his presence And that's where We're invited We're invited Ushered in Through Through the door Through into The presence Of the king And that's a wonder Wonder and glory Of it Give thanks to him Bless his name For the lord is good His steadfast love Endures forever Isn't that wonderful See that word Steadfast It means that it Cannot be moved It is absolutely It's a rock Of fixedness And that's who God's love Is to you And also notice It also finishes By saying His faithfulness

To all Generations It's not great All generations And you look back And you look at The faithfulness Of God To Noah And to Abraham And to Isaac And to Jacob And to Joseph And to Moses And to David And to Daniel To John And to Paul And so on Right down to you Throughout the generations And he will continue His faithfulness Will continue Throughout all generations So tonight May we seek To praise the lord And give him thanks Because sometimes You know We get used to it Don't we There are times We get used To what we have We've lost The sense of wonder That we should have Remember how it first was When you First came To see the lord To appreciate What he had done When you first Took a wee taste In the pasture land When you first Laid hold upon

The fact that You were his That he had made you The wonder of it The newness of it But sometimes The years cause That to fade They shouldn't It shouldn't It should be the reverse We should in fact Be praising him More and more And more For what he has done For us Let us pray Lord our God We give thanks For our time together Where we were able To think about Why we should be Praising and thanking you And there is no end For our reason To praise and thank It's what we will be doing Throughout an endless eternity It is Indeed what we see That The The The saints In glory Are praising the lamb Worthy as a lamb To receive honour And glory And praise And as we journey Through this world We pray And the closer we get To the land Of eternal praise We pray That praise Might become

More and more Part Of what we are about Bless us And we pray Bless us Lord Those who mourn Those who are sad And despite the fact That we do think Tonight Of praise And thanksgiving We do know Lord That while you require This of us You are the God Who understands Our weaknesses You are the God Who is able to Bind up the broken hearted And so we give thanks Lord Even for that Do us good then And take us to our home Safely And cleanse us From our every sin In Jesus name We ask it Amen We are going to conclude Singing in Psalm 72 Psalm 72 There are so many Psalms that we could have Sung in conclusion Could have sung this Psalm Itself Psalm 100 But of course This is one that We are all so familiar with It is a Psalm

That is absolutely Bursting Full of praise His name forever From verse 17 The last three verses Of Psalm 72 Page 314 In the Scottish Psalter His name forever Shall endure Last like the sun It shall Men shall be blessed In him And blessed All nations Shall him call Now blessed be The Lord our God The God of Israel For he alone Doth wondrous works In glory That excel And blessed be His glorious name To all eternity The whole earth Let his glory fill Amen So let it be 17 to the end Psalm 72 His name forever Amen His name forever Shall endure Past like the sun Past like the sun It shall Men shall be blessed

In heaven And then All nations Shall him call Now blessed be The Lord our God The God [53:52] of Israel For he alone The wondrous works In glory The Lord our God And blessed be His glorious name And blessed be And blessed be His glorious name To all eternity

> The Lord our God The Lord our God And blessed be Amen So let it be Now may the grace, mercy, and peace Of God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit Rest and abide upon each one of you Now and forevermore Amen Amen Amen

Thank you.