

Sunday 23rd August 2026
The Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Rev. Ian Taylor, A.C.I.B.S., B.D., Th.M., Dip. P.S.R.P.
Musical Director: Mr. Alan A. Craig, M.B.E., B.Mus., P.G.C.E.
Guest Organist: Sheena Crichton

Welcome & Intimations

- Please ensure all mobile phones are switched off or in silent mode during the Service.
- Please place your offering in the Offering Plates as these are uplifted during the Service.
- Tea and Coffee will be available after Church today in the Cameron Hall.
- There will **NOT** be a Vestry Hour or a midweek Service on Wednesday 26th August 2026,
- **The Kirk Session** will meet on **Tuesday 1st September 2026 at 7.30pm** in the Cambridge Chapel.

Introit

Call to Worship

Hymn 64 Sing all creation, sing to God in gladness; (Psalm 100)

- 1 Sing all creation, sing to God in gladness ;
joyously serve him, singing hymns of homage,
chanting his praises, come before his presence :
praise the Almighty !
- 2 Know that our God is Lord of all the ages ;
he is our maker : we are all his creatures,
people he fashioned, sheep he leads to pasture :
praise the Almighty !
- 3 Enter his temple, ringing out his praises ;
sing in thanksgiving as you come before him ;
blessing his bounty, glorify his greatness :
praise the Almighty !
- 4 Great in his goodness is the Lord we worship ;
steadfast his kindness, love that knows no ending ;
faithful his word is, changeless, everlasting :
praise the Almighty !

Psalm 100 James Quinn (b. 1919) Reproduced from CH4 CD-ROM edition, number 64 Words: © Continuum International Publishing Group Ltd, The Tower Building, 11 York Road, London SE1 7NX. Used by permission.

Call to Prayer

Prayers of Approach and Confession

Children's Address

Hymn 504 Two little fishes, five loaves of bread,

- 1 Two little fishes, five loaves of bread,
five thousand people by Jesus were fed.
This is what happened when one little lad
gladly gave Jesus all that he had.
*All that I have, all that I have,
I will give Jesus all that I have.*
- 2 One lonely widow, two coins so small,
Jesus was watching when she gave her all,
and Jesus said, as his heart was made glad,
that she had given all that she had.

Exodus 1:8-2:10

⁸ Now a new king arose over Egypt, who did not know Joseph. ⁹ He said to his people, ‘Look, the Israelite people are more numerous and more powerful than we. ¹⁰ Come, let us deal shrewdly with them, or they will increase and, in the event of war, join our enemies and fight against us and escape from the land.’ ¹¹ Therefore they set taskmasters over them to oppress them with forced labour. They built supply cities, Pithom and Rameses, for Pharaoh. ¹² But the more they were oppressed, the more they multiplied and spread, so that the Egyptians came to dread the Israelites. ¹³ The Egyptians became ruthless in imposing tasks on the Israelites, ¹⁴ and made their lives bitter with hard service in mortar and brick and in every kind of field labour. They were ruthless in all the tasks that they imposed on them. ¹⁵ The king of Egypt said to the Hebrew midwives, one of whom was named Shiphrah and the other Puah, ¹⁶ ‘When you act as midwives to the Hebrew women, and see them on the birthstool, if it is a boy, kill him; but if it is a girl, she shall live.’ ¹⁷ But the midwives feared God; they did not do as the king of Egypt commanded them, but they let the boys live. ¹⁸ So the king of Egypt summoned the midwives and said to them, ‘Why have you done this, and allowed the boys to live?’ ¹⁹ The midwives said to Pharaoh, ‘Because the Hebrew women are not like the Egyptian women; for they are vigorous and give birth before the midwife comes to them.’ ²⁰ So God dealt well with the midwives; and the people multiplied and became very strong. ²¹ And because the midwives feared God, he gave them families. ²² Then Pharaoh commanded all his people, ‘Every boy that is born to the Hebrews^[a] you shall throw into the Nile, but you shall let every girl live.’

2 Now a man from the house of Levi went and married a Levite woman. ² The woman conceived and bore a son; and when she saw that he was a fine baby, she hid him for three months. ³ When she could hide him no longer she got a papyrus basket for him, and plastered it with bitumen and pitch; she put the child in it and placed it among the reeds on the bank of the river. ⁴ His sister stood at a distance, to see what would happen to him. ⁵ The daughter of Pharaoh came down to bathe at the river, while her attendants walked beside the river. She saw the basket among the reeds and sent her maid to bring it. ⁶ When she opened it, she saw the child. He was crying, and she took pity on him. ‘This must be one of the Hebrews’ children,’ she said. ⁷ Then his sister said to Pharaoh’s daughter, ‘Shall I go and get you a nurse from the Hebrew women to nurse the child for you?’ ⁸ Pharaoh’s daughter said to her, ‘Yes.’ So the girl went and called the child’s mother. ⁹ Pharaoh’s daughter said to her, ‘Take this child and nurse it for me, and I will give you your wages.’ So the woman took the child and nursed it. ¹⁰ When the child grew up, she brought him to Pharaoh’s daughter, and she took him as her son. She named him Moses,^[b] ‘because’, she said, ‘I drew him out^[c] of the water.’

Romans 12:1-8

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters,^[a] by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual^[b] worship. ² Do not be conformed to this world,^[c] but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect.^[d] ³ For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgement, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. ⁴ For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, ⁵ so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. ⁶ We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ⁷ ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; ⁸ the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

Hymn 172 Sing for God’s glory that colours the dawn of creation,

1. Sing for God's glory that colours the dawn of creation,
racing across the sky, trailing bright clouds of elation;
sun of delight
succeeds the velvet of night,
warming the earth's exultation.

2. Sing for God's power that shatters the chains that would bind us,
searing the darkness of fear and despair that could blind us,
touching our shame
with love that will not lay blame,
reaching out gently to find us.

3. Sing for God's justice disturbing each easy illusion,
tearing down tyrants and putting our pride to confusion;
lifeblood of right,
resisting evil and slight,
offering freedom's transfusion.

4. Sing for God's saints who have travelled faith's journey before us,
who in our weariness give us their hope to restore us;
in them we see
the new creation to be,
spirit of love made flesh for us.

Kathryn Galloway(1952-2026)

St. Mathew 16:13-20

¹³ Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, 'Who do people say that the Son of Man is?' ¹⁴ And they said, 'Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.' ¹⁵ He said to them, 'But who do you say that I am?' ¹⁶ Simon Peter answered, 'You are the Messiah,^[c] the Son of the living God.' ¹⁷ And Jesus answered him, 'Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. ¹⁸ And I tell you, you are Peter,^[d] and on this rock^[e] I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. ¹⁹ I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.' ²⁰ Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was^[f] the Messiah.^[g]

Hymn 503 I will offer up my life in spirit and truth

1. I will offer up my life in spirit and truth
Pouring out the oil of love, as my worship to you
In surrender I must give my every part
Lord, receive this sacrifice of a broken heart

*Jesus, what can I give, what can I bring
To so faithful a Friend, to so loving a King?
Saviour, what can be said, what can be sung
As a praise of Your name for the things You have done?
Oh, my words could not tell, not even in part
Of the debt of love that is owed by this thankful heart*

2. You deserve my every breath, for You've paid the great cost
Giving up your life to death, even death on the cross
You took all my shame away, there defeated my sin
Open up the gates of heaven and have beckoned me in

*Jesus, what can I give, what can I bring
To so faithful a Friend, to so loving a King?
Saviour, what can be said, what can be sung
As a praise of Your name for the things You have done?
Oh, my words could not tell, not even in part
Of the debt of love that is owed by this thankful heart*

Sermon

The Offering (& Sung Doxology: Hymn 807)

Prayers of Thanksgiving, Intercession and the Lord's Prayer

Our Father which art in heaven,

Hallowed be thy Name.

Thy Kingdom come.

Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil:

For thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. **AMEN.**

Hymn 123 God is love: let heaven adore him;

1 God is Love: let heaven adore him;
 God is Love: let earth rejoice;
 let creation sing before him,
 and exalt him with one voice.
 He who laid the earth's foundation,
 he who spread the heavens above,
 he who breathes through all creation,
 God is Love, eternal Love.

2 God is Love: and is enfolding
 all the world in one embrace:
 with unfailing grasp is holding
 every child of every race.
 And when human hearts are breaking
 under sorrow's iron rod,
 then they find that selfsame aching
 deep within the heart of God.

3 God is Love, and though with blindness
 sin afflicts the souls of all,
 God's eternal loving-kindness
 holds and guides us when we fall.
 Sin and death and hell shall never
 o'er us final triumph gain;
 God is Love, so Love for ever
 o'er the universe must reign.

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Benediction

Choral Amen