



PENTECOST 5 August 2018

Walking the Way

Call to Worship

We are not asking God to be present in church this morning;

Of course not – God was here before we arrived.

We will not take God into the world when we leave;

Of course not – God will be waiting for us in his world.

We will not try to begin God's work in the world;

Rather – we will co-operate in what God is already doing in his world.

We rejoice in the Christ whom God sent into the world.

We rejoice that Christ calls us to be God's people in God's world.

(Called to Praise, an anthology based on Christian seasons and major themes compiled by Donald Hilton, no 556, p. 266)

PROCESSIONAL HYMN 485 Dear Lord and Father of Mankind

Welcome and Notices

Prayer

URC Prayer book 2005-6

p103

Almighty God,
Yours is the kingdom, the power and the glory.
But we have power too.
Forgive us when we misuse, or diminish it,
Or fail to live in your strength.

You set before us the example of King David,
A boy to conquer giants; a king to fulfil your purposes –
But not when power led to lust, lust to lies, lies to lawlessness:
Corrupting absolutely the power that was his.
Still people are bullied and brought down by those in high places.
Forgive us if we use *our* power to hide our sin and gain the advantage.
But forgive us, also, for treating our leaders as fair game –
Easy targets, to cover our own shortcomings.

You set before us the example of Jesus,
Who, empowered by you, fed the crowds and walked the waves.
Forgive us for putting ourselves down, and him on a pedestal.

Remind us that when they tried to make him king
He refused the power that corrupts and turned to you.
And remind us that he came to show us that we can do great things;
Share the gifts we have and watch them grow;
Weather the storms of life and tread uncertain paths;
Rise above our helplessness but not above the law;
Be our best for you, and in you find our worth.

You set before us the example of St Paul,
Whose power your redirected for your purposes,
And who prayed on his knees for his people to be strengthened
By the power of your Spirit in their heart.
May we, with them, have the power to comprehend the love of Christ
To know his power within us, and to give him the glory.

Hebrew Scripture Reading **2 Samuel 11: 26 – 12: 13a** **p266**

HYMN 462 The King of love

tune: Dominus Regit Me

Hebrew Scripture Reading **Exodus 16: 2-4 ; 9-15** **p58**



REFLECTION

Whose Path?

HYMN 167

Guide Me oh Thou Great Jehovah

Christian Scripture Reading **Ephesians 4: 1-16** **p179**

REFLECTION

Fresh Bread



OFFERTORY HYMN 718

We cannot measure how you heal

Dedication, intercessions and Lord's Prayer

HYMN

Words by John Samson, 2018

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Now with bread shared with each other
A small portion by your grace
Help us share with one another
All across the human race
Make us kind and always giving
Selfless people, honest and true
Brothers and sisters in our living
Shown in all we say and do

Called disciples, you we follow
Working in community
Let us strive today, tomorrow
For a sense of unity
Where we're different give us wisdom
To embrace the joy therein
Let us all live in your kingdom
Freed from prejudice and sin

You have called us as your people
Called us all to walk the way
Whether strong or whether feeble
Guide our steps from day to day
In our work and in our leisure
May your will be always done
Till we reach that final pleasure
When all humankind is one.

The Blessing after which we sing HYMN 786

**Lord of life, we come to you. Lord of all, our saviour be;
come to bless and to heal with the light of your love**

**Through the days of doubt and toil, in our joy and in our pain;
guide our steps in your way, make us one in your love**