



Creationtide

20th September 2026

♪ Hymn (652) ♪

Guide me, O thou great Redeemer,
pilgrim through this barren land;
I am weak, but Thou art mighty;
hold me with Thy powerful hand:
Bread of heaven,
feed me now and evermore.

Open now the crystal fountain
whence the healing stream doth flow;
let the fiery cloudy pillar
lead me all my journey through:
strong Deliverer,
be Thou still my Strength and Shield.

When I tread the verge of Jordan,
bid my anxious fears subside;
death of death, and hell's destruction,
land me safe on Canaan's side;
songs and praises,
I will ever give to Thee.

William Williams (1717-1791)
trans. Peter Williams (1727-1796)

♪ Hymn (629) ♪

Father, hear the prayer we offer:
not for ease that prayer shall be,
but for strength that we may ever
live our lives courageously.

Not for ever in green pastures
do we ask our way to be;
but the steep and rugged pathway
may we tread rejoicingly.

Not for ever by still waters
would we idly rest and stay;
but would smite the living fountains
from the rocks along our way.

Be our strength in hours of weakness,
in our wanderings be our guide;
through endeavour, failure, danger,
Father, be Thou at our side.

Love Maria Willis (1824-1908)

♪ Hymn (453) ♪

Lord, enthroned in heavenly splendour,
first-begotten from the dead,
Thou alone, our strong defender,
liftest up Thy people's head.
Alleluia, alleluia,
Jesu, true and living bread.

Here our humblest homage pay we,
here in loving reverence bow;
here for faith's discernment pray we,
lest we fail to know Thee now.
Alleluia, alleluia,
Thou art here, we ask not how.

Though the lowliest form doth veil
Thee
as of old in Bethlehem,
here as there Thine angels hail Thee,
Branch and Flower of Jesse's stem.
Alleluia, alleluia,
we in worship join with them.

Paschal Lamb, Thine offering, finished
once for all when Thou wast slain,
in its fullness undiminished
shall for evermore remain.
Alleluia, alleluia,
cleansing souls from every stain.

Life-imparting heavenly Manna,
stricken Rock with streaming side,
heaven and earth with loud hosanna
worship Thee, the Lamb who died.
Alleluia, alleluia,
risen, ascended, glorified!

George Hugh Bourne (1840-1925)

♪ Chant (600) ♪

Bless the Lord, my soul,
And bless God's holy name.
Bless the Lord, my soul,
Who leads me into life.

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♪ Hymn (165) ♪

An Upper Room did our Lord prepare
for those He loved until the end:
and His disciples still gather there
to celebrate their Risen Friend.

A lasting gift Jesus gave His own:
to share His bread, His loving cup.
Whatever burdens may bow us down,
He by His Cross shall lift us up.

And after Supper He washed their feet,
for service, too, is sacrament.
In Him our joy shall be made complete
sent out to serve, as He was sent.

No end there is! We depart in peace.
He loves beyond the uttermost:
in every room in our Father's house
He will be there, as Lord and Host.

Fred Pratt Green (1903-2000) © 1974 Stainer and Bell Ltd

♪ Hymn (650) ♪

Great is Thy faithfulness,
O God my Father,
there is no shadow of
turning with Thee;
Thou changest not,
Thy compassions, they fail not;
as Thou hast been,
Thou for ever wilt be.

Great is Thy faithfulness!
Great is Thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning
new mercies I see;
all I have needed

*Thy hand hath provided,
great is Thy faithfulness,
Lord, unto me.*

Summer and winter,
and springtime and harvest,
sun, moon and stars
in their courses above,
join with all nature
in manifold witness
to Thy great faithfulness,
mercy and love.

Pardon for sin and
a peace that endureth,
Thine own dear presence
to cheer and to guide;
strength for today and
bright hope for tomorrow,
blessings all mine,
with ten thousand beside!

Thomas Obadiah Chisholm (1866-1960)
Music by William M. Runyan (1870-1957)
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First Reading

Exodus 16.2–15

The whole congregation of the Israelites complained against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness. ³The Israelites said to them, 'If only we had died by the hand of the Lord in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the fleshpots and ate our fill of bread; for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger.'

⁴Then the Lord said to Moses, 'I am going to rain bread from heaven for you, and each day the people shall go out and gather enough for that day. In that way I will test them, whether they will follow my instruction or not. ⁵On the sixth day, when they prepare what they bring in, it will be twice as much as they gather on other days.' ⁶So Moses and

Aaron said to all the Israelites, 'In the evening you shall know that it was the Lord who brought you out of the land of Egypt,⁷ and in the morning you shall see the glory of the Lord, because he has heard your complaining against the Lord. For what are we, that you complain against us?' ⁸And Moses said, 'When the Lord gives you meat to eat in the evening and your fill of bread in the morning, because the Lord has heard the complaining that you utter against him—what are we? Your complaining is not against us but against the Lord.'

⁹Then Moses said to Aaron, 'Say to the whole congregation of the Israelites, "Draw near to the Lord, for he has heard your complaining." ' ¹⁰And as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the Israelites, they looked towards the wilderness, and the glory of the Lord appeared in the cloud. ¹¹The Lord spoke to Moses and said, ¹²'I have heard the complaining of the Israelites; say to them, "At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall have your fill of bread; then you shall know that I am the Lord your God." ' '

¹³In the evening quails came up and covered the camp; and in the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp. ¹⁴When the layer of dew lifted, there on the surface of the wilderness was a fine flaky substance, as fine as frost on the ground. ¹⁵When the Israelites saw it, they said to one another, 'What is it?' For they did not know what it was. Moses said to them, 'It is the bread that the Lord has given you to eat.'

Second Reading

Philippians 1.21–end

For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain. ²²If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labour for me; and I do not know which I prefer. ²³I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; ²⁴but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. ²⁵Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, ²⁶so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again.

²⁷Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, ²⁸and are in no way intimidated by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. ²⁹For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well— ³⁰since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

Gospel

Matthew 20.1–16

Jesus said to his disciples, 'For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire labourers for his vineyard. ²After agreeing with the labourers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. ³When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the market-place; ⁴and he said to them, "You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right." So they went. ⁵When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. ⁶And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, "Why are you standing here idle all day?" ⁷They said to him, "Because no one has hired us." He said to them, "You also go into the vineyard."

⁸When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, "Call the labourers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first." ⁹When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. ¹⁰Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. ¹¹And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, ¹²saying, "These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat." ¹³But he replied to one of them, "Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage?" ¹⁴Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. ¹⁵Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?" ¹⁶So the last will be first, and the first will be last.'

The Collect

O Lord, we beseech you mercifully to hear the prayers

of your people who call upon you;
and grant that they may both perceive
and know

what things they ought to do,
and also may have grace and power
faithfully to fulfil them;
through Jesus Christ your Son our
Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Post Communion Prayer

Almighty God,
you have taught us through your Son
that love is the fulfilling of the law:
grant that we may love you with our
whole heart
and our neighbours as ourselves;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.