

Sunday Worship 31st May 2020

OPENING PRAYER: Almighty God, nothing is hidden from you, not even the secrets of our hearts. By your Holy Spirit, purify our deepest thoughts, so that we may truly love you and bring honour to your name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

SONGS:

Contemporary – Blessed be Your name - <https://youtu.be/0STy6QXpdiQ>

Hymn - Tell out my soul - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M5Y5-fxLDfA>

FAMILY SPOT: 7 Days of Creation: God filled the ocean -

<https://youtu.be/oRzLq3kHmKU>

FAMILY SONG: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_pCirKZr8QY

Mark 4:30-34 The Parable of the Mustard Seed – read by Isaiah Polkinghorne - <https://youtu.be/3xHZ0xeaRzk>

³⁰ Again he said, “What shall we say the kingdom of God is like, or what parable shall we use to describe it? ³¹ It is like a mustard seed, which is the smallest of all seeds on earth. ³² Yet when planted, it grows and becomes the largest of all garden plants, with such big branches that the birds can perch in its shade.”

³³ With many similar parables Jesus spoke the word to them, as much as they could understand. ³⁴ He did not say anything to them without using a parable. But when he was alone with his own disciples, he explained everything.

BIBLE SPOT: *Who is this man? The one who speaks in parables -*

<https://youtu.be/fPObTFUYoc>

CONFESSION: Almighty God, our heavenly Father, you are merciful and kind, but we have gone our own way, not loving you as we ought, nor loving our neighbours as ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word and deed and in what we have failed to do. We deserve your condemnation. Father, forgive us. Help us to love you and our neighbour, and to live for your honour and glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

COMMUNITY SPOT Reconciliation: Love thy neighbour -

<https://youtu.be/TVNxVqwRjIA>

Psalm 104:26-36 ²⁶ There the ships go to and fro, and Leviathan, which you formed to frolic there. ²⁷ All creatures look to you to give them their food at the proper time. ²⁸ When you give it to them, they gather it up; when you open your hand, they are satisfied with good things. ²⁹ When you hide your face, they are terrified; when you take away their breath, they die and return to the dust. ³⁰ When you send your Spirit, they are created, and you renew the face of the ground.

³¹ May the glory of the LORD endure forever; may the LORD rejoice in his works— ³² he who looks at the earth, and it trembles, who touches the mountains, and they smoke.

³³ I will sing to the LORD all my life; I will sing praise to my God as long as I live.

³⁴ May my meditation be pleasing to him, as I rejoice in the LORD. ³⁵ But may sinners vanish from the earth and the wicked be no more. Praise the LORD, my soul. Praise the LORD. ³⁶

PRAYER SPOT:

Reconciliation prayer - https://youtu.be/h_bGGZSe8t8

Corporate prayers, including Lord's Prayer - <https://youtu.be/IQsfGJr6szU>

PRAYER

Lord God, bring us together as one, reconciled with you and reconciled with each other. You made us in your likeness, you gave, us your Son, Jesus Christ. He has given us forgiveness from sin.

Lord God, bring us together as one, different in culture, but given new life in Jesus Christ, together as your body, your Church, your people.

Lord God, bring us together as one, reconciled, healed, forgiven, sharing you with others as you have called us to do.

In Jesus Christ, let us be together as one. Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

SONG: Amazing Grace - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N3yLV2M0rlc>

FINAL PRAYER: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all evermore. Amen.

For offertory and financial partnership with our church please visit

<https://swac.church/giving/>

FOR LATER: *How could a good God allow suffering? (Part 6) – Don Carson*

<https://youtu.be/Xvx4cVSTRNc> Below is a study guide or delete when no relevant.



How could a good God allow suffering?

Video Discussion Guide

Video

Don Carson, *How could a good God allow suffering?*
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cksr6amsDHM>

Aim

- Don Carson's video is a very long lecture, full of some big words and ideas!
- Don does not give easy answers, but proposes 6 Biblical insights that together help give us God's perspective on suffering.
- It is a very helpful way to think more slowly and deeply about suffering, on your own, with a friend, or small group.
- You could individually watch 1 section of the video at home, and then meet up online (or on the phone) to discuss and pray about it. You could chat about 'what stood out for you' or use the questions below.

Insight 6: From the persecuted global church [Acts 5:41]

Watch 1:05:56 – 1:35

- "Genuine disciples of Jesus go to their death". How is this true?
- "Man's soul is restless until it finds its rest in God." How does this lead to Jesus' followers being willing to take on suffering?
- "Living 70 years with as few complaints as possible ... is not the ultimate goal ... [Our] ultimate goal is to be like Jesus". How does this change everything?