



**Welcome to our Service**

**Sunday 2nd August 2020**

**Acts – the Unstoppable word of God**

**Welcome:** David Horrocks

**Song:**

Come praise and glorify our God  
The Father of our Lord  
In Christ He has in heav'nly realms  
His blessings on us poured  
For pure and blameless in His sight  
He destined us to be  
And now we've been adopted through  
His Son eternally

*To the praise of Your glory  
To the praise of Your mercy and grace  
To the praise of Your glory  
You are the God who saves*

Come praise and glorify our God  
Who gives His grace in Christ  
In Him our sins are washed away  
Redeemed through sacrifice  
In Him God has made known to us  
The myst'ry of His will  
That Christ should be the head of all  
His purpose to fulfill

*To the praise of Your glory...*

Come praise and glorify our God  
For we've believed the Word  
And through our faith we have a seal  
The Spirit of the Lord  
The Spirit guarantees our hope  
Until redemption's done  
Until we join in endless praise  
To God, the Three in One

*To the praise of Your glory...*

## **Confession:**

**Almighty God, our heavenly Father,  
we have sinned against You in thought and word and deed,  
through negligence, through weakness,  
through our own deliberate fault.  
We are truly sorry  
and repent of all our sins.  
For the sake of Your Son Jesus Christ, who died for us,  
forgive us all that is past;  
and grant that we may serve You in newness of life  
to the glory of Your name. Amen.**

## **Prayers**

### **Psalm 1:**

- <sup>1</sup>Blessed is the one  
who does not walk in step with the wicked  
or stand in the way that sinners take  
or sit in the company of mockers,  
<sup>2</sup>but whose delight is in the law of the Lord,  
and who meditates on his law day and night.  
<sup>3</sup>That person is like a tree planted by streams of water,  
which yields its fruit in season  
and whose leaf does not wither –  
whatever they do prospers.**
- <sup>4</sup>Not so the wicked!  
They are like chaff  
that the wind blows away.  
<sup>5</sup>Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment,  
nor sinners in the assembly of the righteous.**
- <sup>6</sup>For the Lord watches over the way of the righteous,  
but the way of the wicked leads to destruction.**

### **Reading: Acts 8:26-40**

<sup>26</sup> Now an angel of the Lord said to Philip, 'Go south to the road – the desert road – that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.' <sup>27</sup> So he started out, and on his way he met an Ethiopian eunuch, an important official in charge of all the treasury of the Kandake (which means 'queen of the Ethiopians'). This man had gone to Jerusalem to worship, <sup>28</sup> and on his way home was sitting in his chariot reading the Book of Isaiah the prophet. <sup>29</sup> The Spirit told Philip, 'Go to that chariot and stay near it.'

<sup>30</sup> Then Philip ran up to the chariot and heard the man reading Isaiah the prophet. 'Do you understand what you are reading?' Philip asked.

<sup>31</sup> 'How can I,' he said, 'unless someone explains it to me?' So he invited Philip to come up and sit with him.

<sup>32</sup> This is the passage of Scripture the eunuch was reading:

'He was led like a sheep to the slaughter,  
and as a lamb before its shearer is silent,  
so he did not open his mouth.

<sup>33</sup> In his humiliation he was deprived of justice.

Who can speak of his descendants?

For his life was taken from the earth.'

<sup>34</sup> The eunuch asked Philip, 'Tell me, please, who is the prophet talking about, himself or someone else?' <sup>35</sup> Then Philip began with that very passage of Scripture and told him the good news about Jesus.

<sup>36</sup> As they travelled along the road, they came to some water and the eunuch said, 'Look, here is water. What can stand in the way of my being baptised?'

<sup>38</sup> And he gave orders to stop the chariot. Then both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water and Philip baptised him. <sup>39</sup> When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord suddenly took Philip away, and the eunuch did not see him again, but went on his way rejoicing. <sup>40</sup> Philip, however, appeared at Azotus and travelled about, preaching the gospel in all the towns until he reached Caesarea.

**Sermon:** Julian Bidgood

**Prayer:**

**We do not presume  
to come to this your table, merciful Lord,  
trusting in our own righteousness,  
but in your manifold and great mercies.  
We are not worthy  
so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table.  
But you are the same Lord  
whose nature is always to have mercy.  
Grant us therefore, gracious Lord,  
so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ,  
and to drink his blood,  
that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body  
and our souls washed through his most precious blood,  
and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us.  
Amen.**

# The Lord's Supper

## Song:

Behold the Lamb who bears our sins away,  
Slain for us: and we remember  
The promise made that all who come in faith  
Find forgiveness at the cross.  
So we share in this Bread of life,  
And we drink of His sacrifice,  
As a sign of our bonds of peace  
Around the table of the King.

The body of our Saviour, Jesus Christ,  
Torn for you: eat and remember  
The wounds that heal, the death that brings us life,  
Paid the price to make us one.  
So we share in this Bread of life,  
And we drink of His sacrifice,  
As a sign of our bonds of love  
Around the table of the King.

The blood that cleanses every stain of sin,  
Shed for you: drink and remember  
He drained death's cup that all may enter in  
To receive the life of God.  
So we share in this Bread of life,  
And we drink of His sacrifice,  
As a sign of our bonds of grace  
Around the table of the King.

And so with thankfulness and faith  
We rise to respond: and to remember.  
Our call to follow in the steps of Christ  
As His body here on earth.  
As we share in His suffering,  
We proclaim: Christ will come again!  
And we'll join in the feast of heaven  
Around the table of the King.

Stuart Townend & Keith Getty  
© 2007 Thankyou Music

## Final Prayer

---

### Next Week

We start out summer series in Psalms  
and David Horrocks will be speaking on Psalm 46.



All copyright songs reproduced under CCL licences 1188 & 903210 and PRS for music

Email: [office@abch.org.uk](mailto:office@abch.org.uk)

Website: [www.abch.org.uk](http://www.abch.org.uk)

