

**January 18th 2026 2nd Sunday after Epiphany
Communion and ordination of Elder, Hinckley URC
Beginning of Week of Prayer for Christian Unity**

Rev Dr Kirsty Thorpe

Welcome / notices

Call to Worship

Hymn

Let us build a house where love can dwell (StF 409)

Let us build a house where love can dwell
and all can safely live,
a place where saints and children tell
how hearts learn to forgive.

Built of hopes and dreams and visions,
rock of faith and vault of grace;
here the love of Christ shall end divisions:
*All are welcome, all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place.*

Let us build a house where prophets speak,
and words are strong and true,
where all God's children dare to seek
to dream God's reign anew.

Here the cross shall stand as witness
and as symbol of God's grace;
here as one we claim the faith of Jesus:
All are welcome...

Let us build a house where love is found
in water, wine and wheat:
a banquet hall on holy ground
where peace and justice meet.

Here the love of God, through Jesus,
is revealed in time and space;
as we share in Christ the feast that frees us:
All are welcome...

Let us build a house where hands will reach

beyond the wood and stone
to heal and strengthen, serve and teach,
and live the Word they've known

Here the outcast and the stranger
bear the image of God's face;
let us bring an end to fear and danger:
All are welcome...

Let us build a house where all are named,
their songs and visions heard
and loved and treasured, taught and claimed
as words within the Word.

Built of tears and cries and laughter,
prayers of faith and songs of grace,
let this house proclaim from floor to rafter:
All are welcome, ...

Prayer and Lords' Prayer

Reading **Isaiah 49. 1-7**

Hymn **Will you come and follow me (R&S 558)**

Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?
Will you go where you don't know and never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown, will you let my name be known,
Will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?

Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name?
Will you care for cruel and kind and never be the same?
Will you risk the hostile stare should your life attract or scare?
Will you let me answer prayer in you and you in me?

Will you let the blinded see if I but call your name?
Will you set the prisoners free and never be the same?
Will you kiss the leper clean and do such as this unseen,
And admit to what I mean in you and you in me?

Will you love the "you" you hide if I but call your name?
Will you quell the fear inside and never be the same?
Will you use the faith you've found to reshape the world around,
Through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?

Lord, your summons echoes true when you but call my name.
Let me turn and follow you and never be the same.
In your company I'll go where your love and footsteps show.
Thus I'll move and live and grow in you - and you in me.

Reading

John 1. 29-42

Offertory

Songs

God forgave my sin in Jesus' name (StF 424)

God forgave my sin in Jesus' name;
I've been born again in Jesus' name,
and in Jesus' name I come to you
to share His love as He told me to.

(Chorus)

He said:

*'Freely, freely you have received ,
freely, freely give;
go in My name and because you believe,
others will know that I live.'*

All power is given in Jesus' name
in earth and heaven in Jesus' name;
and in Jesus' name I come to you
to share His power as He told me to.

(Chorus)

My Jesus, my saviour (StF 363)

My Jesus, my Saviour,
Lord, there is none like You.
All of my days I want to praise
The wonders of Your mighty love.
My comfort, my shelter,
Tower of refuge and strength,
Let every breath, all that I am,
Never cease to worship You.

*Shout to the Lord all the earth,
let us sing
Power and majesty,
praise to the King.
Mountains bow down
And the seas will roar
At the sound of Your name.*

*I sing for joy
at the work of Your hands.
Forever I'll love You,
forever I'll stand.*

*Nothing compares to the
Promise I have in You.
(Repeat from beginning then repeat chorus)*

Sermon

Prayers of intercession

Hymn

Brother, sister, let me serve you (R&S 474)

Brother, sister, let me serve you,
let me be as Christ to you;
pray that I may have the grace to
let you be my servant too.

We are pilgrims on a journey,
and companions on the road;
we are here to help each other
walk the mile and bear the load.

I will hold the Christ-light for you
in the night time of your fear;
I will hold my hand out to you,
speak the peace you long to hear.

I will weep when you are weeping;
when you laugh I'll laugh with you;
I will share your joy and sorrow
till we've seen this journey through.

When we sing to God in heaven
we shall find such harmony,
born of all we've known together
of Christ's love and agony.

Brother, sister, let me serve you,
let me be as Christ to you;
pray that I may have the grace to
let you be my servant too.

Ordination and induction of Elder- including Statement concerning Nature, Faith and Order of URC, affirmations by new Elder, words of welcome and recommitment by congregation

Communion

Hymn

Living God, your joyful Spirit (R&S 530)

Living God, your joyful Spirit
breaks the bounds of time and space,

rests in love upon your people,
drawn together in this place.

Here we join in glad thanksgiving,
here rejoice to pray and praise:
Lord of all our past traditions,
Lord of all our future days.

As your bread may we be broken,
scattered in community;
we who know your greatest blessings
called to share Christ's ministry.

May we gently lead each other,
share our hunger and our thirst;
learn that only through our weakness
shall we know the strength of Christ.

Lord, when we grow tired of giving,
feel frustration, hurt and strain,
by your Spirit's quiet compulsion,
draw us back to you again.

Guide us through the bitter searching
when our confidence is lost;
give us hope from desolation,
arms outstretched upon a cross.

Living God, your power surrounds us,
as we face the way Christ trod,
challenge us to fresh commitment
to the purposes of God:

Called to share a new creation,
called to preach a living word,
promised all the joys of heaven,
through the grace of Christ our Lord

Blessing