

LARGE PRINT WORDS

2nd January 2022

A God makes us a people:

B *we are shaped by God's will.*

A Jesus calls us together:

B *we meet in Jesus' name.*

A The Spirit binds us together:

B *and leads us into truth.*

A We come as a fellowship of believers in God, living under the rule of Jesus Christ:

B *seeking his mind through the guidance of the Spirit and the Scriptures.*

A We come as a people on a journey with God, open to change:

B *ready to discover new ways of being church at this time.*

A We come with our various gifts of ministry, given by the Spirit:

B *called to share in God's mission of reconciliation in the world.*

A *We come as people who are free, because Christ is our Lord:*

B *finding unity in diversity and defending liberty for all.*

A We come to make the body of Christ visible in the local congregation:

B *and to express the fullness of his body in relationships between the churches.*

ALL I ONCE HELD DEAR, built my life upon,
All this world reveres, and wars to own,
All I once thought gain I have counted loss;
Spent and worthless now, compared to this.

*Knowing You, Jesus,
Knowing You, there is no greater thing.
You're my all, You're the best,
You're my joy, my righteousness,
And I love You, Lord.*

Now my heart's desire is to know You more,
To be found in You and known as Yours.
To possess by faith what I could not earn,
All-surpassing gift of righteousness.

Oh, to know the power of Your risen life,
And to know You in Your sufferings.
To become like You in Your death, my Lord,
So with You to live and never die.

O CHURCH, ARISE and put your armour on;
Hear the call of Christ our Captain.
For now the weak can say that they are strong
In the strength that God has given.
With shield of faith and belt of truth,
We'll stand against the devil's lies;
An army bold, whose battle-cry is Love,
Reaching out to those in darkness.

*Arise, shine for your light has come
Arise, shine for the Risen Son
Lift your eyes, we are His radiant bride
Arise, o church arise!*

Our call to war, to love the captive soul
But to rage against the captor;
And with the sword that makes the wounded whole,
We will fight with faith and valour.
When faced with trials on every side
We know the outcome is secure,
And Christ will have the prize for which He died,
An inheritance of nations.

Come see the cross, where love and mercy meet,
As the Son of God is stricken;
Then see His foes lie crushed beneath His feet,
For the Conqueror has risen!
And as the stone is rolled away,
And Christ emerges from the grave,
This victory march continues till the day
Every eye and heart shall see Him.

So Spirit, come, put strength in every stride,
Give grace for every hurdle,
That we may run with faith to win the prize
Of a servant good and faithful.
As saints of old still line the way,
Retelling triumphs of His grace,
We hear their calls, and hunger for the day
When with Christ we stand in glory.

RE-COMMISSIONING

As servants of Christ, this team has been called and appointed as leaders of this church, and as the church family, our calling is to trust them, pray for them, encourage and help them in the work God has called them to. Will you, as the church family promise to support your leaders in this way?

We will and we ask God to help us.

Pastor: (to Leaders)

Do you believe that God has called you through His church to serve as Leaders and do you promise, relying on the Lord's grace and the Spirit's power, to exercise your ministry faithfully?

Leadership team:

We will and we ask God to help us.

Pastor

Let's Pray: Loving God, we wonder at the way you call women and men into partnership with you for the sake of your saving purposes for the world. You call us in Christ and empower us by your Spirit, so that your church may be built up and your gospel proclaimed and lived.

We thank you for these brother and sisters whom you have called to serve you within this fellowship. We give you thanks for all you give us through them, for their following of Jesus and their willingness, by your grace, to serve together.

As we commission them for this ministry, we ask your blessing on them. Guide and equip them by your Spirit that your church may grow in wisdom, love and unity, and that your name may be glorified, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Pastor (to congregation)

Do you as members and regular attenders of Maidstone Road Baptist Church commit yourselves afresh to God's service. Will you support one another in prayer, and in friendship and fellowship? Will you seek to build

one another up in the Scriptures, in worship and in our walk with God? Will you care for one another as members of God's family, serve one another in love, and live and speak Good News to this community.

Church Members

We will and we ask God to help us.

Pastor Almighty God we thank you that you have given us one another to fulfill your mission in this community. As we have commissioned one another to your service, we ask you to bless us, that we will grow closer to you and to one another as we worship, serve, witness and walk together with you. May you strengthen us as we desire to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

All ***By the power of your Holy Spirit
Make bold our vision of your kingdom.
Strengthen us to do your will
and help us to walk together in your way.
Pour down your Spirit,
that the commitments we have made to one another
may be our
our duty and delight,
and that by our life together we may glorify you,
Father Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.***

READING

Matthew 18:1-5 (NIV)

At that time the disciples came to Jesus and asked, "Who, then, is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?" He called a little child to him, and placed the child among them. And he said: "Truly I tell you, unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. Therefore, whoever takes the lowly position of this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. And whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me.

Brian Doerksen.

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PURIFY MY HEART,

Let me be as gold
And precious silver.
Purify my heart,
Let me be as gold,
Pure gold.

*Refiner's fire,
My heart's one desire
Is to be holy,
Set apart for You, Lord.
I choose to be holy,
Set apart for You, my Master,
Ready to do Your will.*

Purify my heart,
Cleanse me from within
And make me holy.
Purify my heart,
Cleanse me from my sin,
Deep within.

Michael Christ.

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IT'S YOUR BLOOD that cleanses me,
It's Your blood that gives me life.
It's Your blood that took my place
In redeeming sacrifice,
And washes me whiter than the snow, than the snow.
My Jesus, God's precious sacrifice.

PRAISE GOD FROM WHOM ALL BLESSINGS FLOW,

Praise Him all creatures here below.

Praise Him above, you heavenly host,

Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

(Repeat)

Give glory to the Father,

Give glory to the Son,

Give glory to the Spirit

While endless ages run.

‘Worthy the Lamb’

All heaven cries,

‘To be exalted thus:’

‘Worthy the Lamb’

Our hearts reply,

‘For He was slain for us.’

Father God *whatever 2021 holds for us, for good or for ill, individually and as your church, Lord may we know your presence in our lives and in the church, your hand leading and guiding us throughout 2021. May we live our lives in the knowledge of your grace and mercy towards us - knowing that nothing can separate us from your love that is in Christ Jesus our Lord. For your glory and renown we pray. Amen.*