

**Sunday 21 September**  
**Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

## **All are welcome**

### **CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: Pause here and pay attention: this is holy ground!

All: How can we know if God is present here?

One: Pause here and listen: God is giving a blessing!

All: How can we know if the blessing is true?

One: Pause here...let down your guard and open your heart:

The God of all creation is here.

All: Surely the Lord is in this place — this is none other than the house of God!

### **HYMN CH4 153**

#### **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 has been Thou for ever will 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 seed-time 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 O Chisholm/ William M Runyan*  
©1951 Hope Publishing ccli licence 20979

### **PRAYER & LORD'S PRAYER**

## HYMN

### **You've got to learn, learn to give**

to give your love away.

You've got to learn, learn to give

to give your love away.

For if you learn to give your love away

it'll come back ten times more each day.

You've got to learn, learn to give

your love away.

You've got to learn, learn to give

to give God's love away.

You've got to learn, learn to give

to give God's love away.

For if you learn to give God's love away

it'll come back ten times more each day.

You've got to learn, learn to give

God's love away.

*Anonymous ccli licence 20979*

## ALL AGE TIME

## HYMN

### **Lord, I come to You,**

let my heart be changed, renewed,  
flowing from the grace that I found in  
You.

And, Lord, I've come to know  
the weaknesses I see in me  
will be stripped away by the power of  
Your love.

*Hold me close, let Your love surround me.  
Bring me near, draw me to Your side;  
and as I wait, I'll rise up like the eagle,  
and I will soar with You;  
Your Spirit leads me on in the power of  
Your love.*

Lord, unveil my eyes,  
let me see You face to face,  
the knowledge of Your love, as You live in me.  
Lord, renew my mind  
as Your will unfolds in my life,  
in living every day in the power of Your love.

*Hold me close, let Your love surround me.  
Bring me near, draw me to Your side;  
and as I wait, I'll rise up like the eagle,  
and I will soar with You;  
Your Spirit leads me on in the power of Your love.  
(Repeat)*

*Geoff Bullock ©1992 Word Music/Maranatha! Music, admin  
by CopyCare CCLI #20979*

## **SCRIPTURE Genesis 27:1-4, 15-23 & 28:10-17**

**W**hen Isaac was old and his eyes were so weak that he could no longer see, he called for his elder son Esau and said to him, ‘My son.’ ‘Here I am,’ he answered. Isaac said, ‘I am now an old man and don’t know the day of my death. Now then, get your equipment – your quiver and bow – and go out to the open country to hunt some wild game for me. Prepare me the kind of tasty food I like and bring it to me to eat, so that I may give you my blessing before I die.’

**27:15-23** Then Rebekah took the best clothes of her elder son Esau, which she had in the house, and put them on her younger son Jacob. She also covered his hands and the smooth part of his neck with the goatskins. Then she handed to her son Jacob the tasty food and the bread she had made. He went to his father and said, ‘My father.’ ‘Yes, my son,’ he answered. ‘Who is it?’ Jacob said to his father, ‘I am Esau your firstborn. I have done as you told me. Please sit up and eat some of my game, so that you may give me your blessing.’ Isaac asked his son, ‘How did you find it so quickly, my son?’ ‘The LORD your God gave me success,’ he replied. Then Isaac said to Jacob, ‘Come near so I can touch you, my son, to know whether you really are my son Esau or not.’ Jacob went close to his father Isaac, who touched him and said, ‘The voice is the voice of Jacob, but the hands are the hands of Esau.’ He did not recognise him, for his hands were hairy like those of his brother Esau; so he proceeded to bless him.

**28:10-17** Jacob left Beersheba and set out for Harran. When he reached a certain place, he stopped for the night because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones there, he put it under his head and lay down to sleep. He had a dream in which he saw a stairway resting on the earth, with its top reaching to heaven, and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it. There above it stood the LORD, and he said: ‘I am the LORD, the God of your father Abraham and the God of Isaac. I will give you and your descendants the land on which you are lying. Your descendants will be like the dust of the earth, and you will spread out to the west and to the east, to the north and to the south. All peoples on earth will be blessed through you and your offspring. I am with you and will watch over you wherever you go, and I will bring you back to this land. I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you.’ When Jacob awoke from his sleep, he thought, ‘Surely the LORD is in this place, and I was not aware of it.’ He was afraid and said, ‘How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God; this is the gate of heaven.’

**John 1:50-51** Jesus said, ‘You believe because I told you I saw you under the fig-tree. You will see greater things than that.’ He then added, ‘Very truly I tell you, you will see “heaven open, and the angels of God ascending and descending on” the Son of Man.’

## HYMN CH4 96

### You are before me,

God, You are behind,  
and over me  
You have spread out Your hand;  
such knowledge is too wonderful for me,  
too high to grasp,  
too great to understand.

Then from Your Spirit  
where, God, shall I go,  
and from Your presence where, God, shall I fly?  
If I ascend to heaven You are there,  
and still are with me, if in hell I lie.

If I should take my flight into the dawn,  
if I should dwell  
on ocean's farthest shore,  
Your mighty hand  
will rest upon me still,  
and Your right hand  
will guard me evermore.

If I should say, 'Let darkness cover me,  
and I shall hide  
within the veil of night',  
surely the darkness is not dark to You,  
the night is as the day, the darkness light.

Search me, O God, search me and know my  
heart,  
try me, O God, my mind and spirit try;  
keep me from any path that gives You pain,  
and lead me in the everlasting way.

*From Psalm 139 Ian Robertson Pitt-Watson ©The Estate of Ian  
Pitt-Watson cclfi licence 20979*

## PRAYER OF INTERCESSION

### HYMN

### One more step along the world I go,

one more step along the world I go;  
from the old things to the new  
keep me travelling along with You:

*And it's from the old I travel to the new;  
keep me travelling along with You.*

Round the corner of the world I turn,  
more and more about the world I learn;  
all the new things that I see  
You'll be looking at along with me:

Give me courage when the world is rough,  
keep me loving though the world is tough;  
leap and sing in all I do,  
keep me travelling along with You:

You are older than the world can be,  
You are younger than the life in me;  
ever old and ever new,  
keep me travelling along with You:

*Sydney Bertram Carter © Words: 1971 Stainer & Bell Ltd Music:  
Stainer & Bell Ltd CCLI #20979*

## BENEDICTION