

09:30 Zoom Service	10:30 Service
Welcome	Welcome
Call to worship	Call to worship
Song – Take, O take me as I am https://youtu.be/jJP-2Y7K3M0	Song – Take, O take me as I am https://youtu.be/jJP-2Y7K3M0
Bible verse [ESV] Acts 8:9-25	Bible Verse [ESV] Acts 8:9-25
Prayer and Lord’s Prayer	Prayer and Lord’s Prayer
--	Song – I will offer up my life https://youtu.be/5tYEo0DXcIE
Reflection	Reflection
--	Offering – Lord I give you my heart https://youtu.be/JsAKeRyK-xw
Prayer for others	Prayer for offering & for others
Song – Do not be afraid https://youtu.be/v2rOOLhSWJ0	Song – CH4 191 - Do not be afraid
Benediction	Benediction
Grace	Grace
Close	Close

Theme: Do you know who you’re following?

Service

Welcome

Call to worship

Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts.

Colossians 3:16 [NIV]

Song - Take, O take me as I am (sung x3)

Bible verse (on screen)

Acts 8: 9-25

Simon the Magician Believes

⁹ But there was a man named Simon, who had previously practiced magic in the city and amazed the people of Samaria, saying that he himself was somebody great. ¹⁰ They all paid attention to him, from the least to the greatest, saying, "This man is the power of God that is called Great." ¹¹ And they paid attention to him because for a long time he had amazed them with his magic. ¹² But when they believed Philip as he preached good news about the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women. ¹³ Even Simon himself believed, and after being baptized he continued with Philip. And seeing signs and great miracles^a performed, he was amazed.

¹⁴ Now when the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent to them Peter and John, ¹⁵ who came down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit, ¹⁶ for he had not yet fallen on any of them, but they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. ¹⁷ Then they laid their hands on them and they received the Holy Spirit. ¹⁸ Now when Simon saw that the Spirit was given through the laying on of the apostles' hands, he offered them money, ¹⁹ saying, "Give me this power also, so that anyone on whom I lay my hands may receive the Holy Spirit." ²⁰ But Peter said to him, "May your silver perish with you, because you thought you could obtain the gift of God with money! ²¹ You have neither part nor lot in this matter, for your heart is not right before God. ²² Repent, therefore, of this wickedness of yours, and pray to the Lord that, if possible, the intent of your heart may be forgiven you. ²³ For I see that you are in the gall^b of bitterness and in the bond of iniquity." ²⁴ And Simon answered, "Pray for me to the Lord, that nothing of what you have said may come upon me."

²⁵ Now when they had testified and spoken the word of the Lord, they returned to Jerusalem, preaching the gospel to many villages of the Samaritans.

Prayer & Lord's prayer

Living and loving Lord Jesus,
with joy and happiness, we thank You for the blessings of life seen in our community,
in our homes and within the people who mean the most to us.
We are grateful for the moments that encourage and bring us hope and peace in our hearts.

We are thankful for the countless volunteers and staff
who make a difference to people living in poverty
by running foodbanks, clothing banks and other projects,
and we appreciate the time given to challenging why this is necessary
in a country like ours in the 21st century.

We know that this work is needed
because people are being treated unfairly and without respect,
and so it fills our hearts with thankfulness when we see and hear the effect
of a listening ear, an encouraging word, and the practical help
that makes all the difference to someone who has little or nothing.

We give You thanks
for those who give, even when they have little themselves,
for every gift makes someone's day, meeting needs in communities that are struggling.

We praise and thank You
for the work of the Church that changes lives,
that challenges why people are living in poverty,
and leads to new policies or extra funding that turns lives around.

With grateful hearts we offer our prayers to You.
Amen

Our Father, which art in heaven,
Hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come;
Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors
Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil:
For thine is the Kingdom, the Power and the Glory,
For ever. Amen

Song (not zoom) – I will offer up my life

Reflection – Theme: Do you know who you're following?

Offering (not zoom) – Lord I give you my heart

Prayers for others

God of the poor, friend of the weak,
hear us as we remember in this Challenge Poverty Week
all those who bear the scars of poverty, and live with its effects on a daily basis.
We think of the young people in our communities
who may not have decent shoes, or a coat, or even school uniform to wear,
may there be an equality for all.

Lord hear our prayer

We pray for the people who have no idea where today's food will come from,
how a power card will be paid for,
or whether they have shelter and a bed for tonight.
We ask that no one will go to bed hungry today.

Lord hear our prayer

We lift before You those who are living without the essentials of life,
a bed to sleep in, towels to wash with, and a chair to sit on.
Humbly we pray that there will be a fair way of living for all.

Lord hear our prayer

We give thanks for the groups and organisations
that make a difference to people living in poverty,
especially those who provide practical help, advice and support.
May their work grow and extend, despite the challenges of the cost of living today.

Lord hear our prayer

We pray for the people who are in power at local, national and international levels,
asking that they would act with integrity, generosity and humility,
ensuring that there is fairness and justice for all, regardless of age, creed or colour.

Lord hear our prayer

Lord God, surround with Your love
the countless individuals and families who are treated unfairly because of poverty,
who are not given the chances others are given,
and who are held back or rejected because of their situation.

Lord hear our prayer

Generous God,
we pray that there would be an end to the scandal of poverty in this country,
for You understand the effect this has on people living in our community.
May there be a turning point that sees renewal and investment in our poorest communities, providing a
better future for people of all ages.

Lord hear all our prayers in Jesus' name.

Amen

Song – Do not be afraid

Benediction

As our service of worship ends, our service to God begins.
May we make the difference, challenge the preconceptions,
and show God's love in action, now and always,
Amen

Grace