

# Yateley Baptist Church, Sunday 17 January 2021

## Opening Prayer

### Hymn: Praise! 281

All hail the power of Jesus' name!

Before him angels fall,

before him angels fall.

Bring forth the royal diadem

and crown him, crown him,

crown him, crown him,

and crown him Lord of all.

2 Crown him, you martyrs of our God,

who for his justice call,

who for his justice call;

exalt the one whose path you trod,

and crown him, crown him,

crown him, crown him,

and crown him Lord of all.

3 Descendants of his chosen race,

redeemed from Adam's fall,

redeemed from Adam's fall,

hail him who saves you by his grace,

and crown him, crown him,

crown him, crown him,

and crown him Lord of all.

4 Sinners, whose love cannot forget

the bitterness and gall,

the bitterness and gall,

go, spread your offerings at his feet

and crown him, crown him,

crown him, crown him,

and crown him Lord of all.

5 Let every people, nation, tribe,

on this terrestrial ball,

on this terrestrial ball,

to him all majesty ascribe

and crown him, crown him,

crown him, crown him,

and crown him Lord of all.

6 O that in heaven, with this great throng,

we at his feet may fall,

we at his feet may fall,

join in the everlasting song

and crown him, crown him,

crown him, crown him,

and crown him Lord of all.

*Edward Perronet & John Rippon*

## **Reading: Acts 20:17-38, ESV**

<sup>17</sup> Now from Miletus he sent to Ephesus and called the elders of the church to come to him. <sup>18</sup> And when they came to him, he said to them:

“You yourselves know how I lived among you the whole time from the first day that I set foot in Asia, <sup>19</sup> serving the Lord with all humility and with tears and with trials that happened to me through the plots of the Jews; <sup>20</sup> how I did not shrink from declaring to you anything that was profitable, and teaching you in public and from house to house, <sup>21</sup> testifying both to Jews and to Greeks of repentance towards God and of faith in our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>22</sup> And now, behold, I am going to Jerusalem, constrained by the Spirit, not knowing what will happen to me there, <sup>23</sup> except that the Holy Spirit testifies to me in every city that imprisonment and afflictions await me. <sup>24</sup> But I do not account my life of any value nor as precious to myself, if only I may finish my course and the ministry that I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the gospel of the grace of God. <sup>25</sup> And now, behold, I know that none of you among whom I have gone about proclaiming the kingdom will see my face again. <sup>26</sup> Therefore I testify to you this day that I am innocent of the blood of all of you, <sup>27</sup> for I did not shrink from declaring to you the whole counsel of God. <sup>28</sup> Pay careful attention to yourselves and to all the flock, of which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church of God, which he obtained with his own blood. <sup>29</sup> I know that after my departure fierce wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock; <sup>30</sup> and from among your own selves will arise men speaking twisted things, to draw away the disciples after them. <sup>31</sup> Therefore be alert, remembering that for three years I did not cease night or day to admonish everyone with tears. <sup>32</sup> And now I commend you to God and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all those who are sanctified. <sup>33</sup> I coveted no one's silver or gold or apparel. <sup>34</sup> You yourselves know that these hands ministered to my necessities and to those who were with me. <sup>35</sup> In all things I have shown you that by working hard in this way we must help the weak and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he himself said, ‘It is more blessed to give than to receive.’”

<sup>36</sup> And when he had said these things, he knelt down and prayed with them all. <sup>37</sup> And there was much weeping on the part of all; they embraced Paul and kissed him, <sup>38</sup> being sorrowful most of all because of the word he had spoken, that they would not see his face again. And they accompanied him to the ship.

## **Hymn: Praise! 190**

O Lord my God! When I in awesome wonder  
consider all the works thy hand hath made,  
I see the stars, I hear the mighty thunder,  
thy power throughout the universe displayed:

*Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to thee,  
how great thou art! How great thou art!*

*Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to thee,  
how great thou art! How great thou art!*

2 When through the woods and forest glades I  
wander  
and hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees;  
when I look down from lofty mountain grandeur  
and hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze:

*Russian; trans. Stuart K Hine (1899-1989)*

## **Prayer**

### **Hymn: Praise! 340**

Who can cheer the heart like Jesus,  
by his presence all divine?  
True and tender, pure and precious,  
O how blest to call him mine!

*All that thrills my soul is Jesus;  
he is more than life to me;  
and the fairest of ten thousand  
in my risen Lord I see.*

3 And when I think that God — his Son not  
sparing —  
sent him to die, I scarce can take it in;  
that on the cross, my burden gladly bearing,  
he bled and died to take away my sin:

4 When Christ shall come with shout of  
acclamation  
and take me home — what joy shall fill my  
heart!

Then I shall bow in humble adoration  
and there proclaim, my God, how great thou  
art!

2 Love of Christ so freely given,  
grace of God beyond degree,  
mercy higher than the heaven,  
deeper than the deepest sea.

3 What a wonderful redemption!  
Never can a mortal know  
how my sin, though red like crimson,  
can be whiter than the snow.

*Continues on next page →*

4 Every need his hand supplying,  
every good in him I see;  
on his strength divine relying,  
he is all in all to me.

5 By the crystal-flowing river  
with the ransomed I will sing,  
and for ever and for ever  
praise and glorify the King.

*Thoro Harris (1874-1955)*

## **Sermon: Acts 20:17-38 – A Word to Those Who Shepherd**

*“Pay careful attention to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church of God, which he obtained with his blood” (28)*

### **1. Paul’s Example to the Elders**

### **2. Paul’s Charge to Elders**

## **Hymn: Praise! 258**

‘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 hast been, thou for ever wilt 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!*

*Thomas O Chisholm (1866-1960)*

2 Summer and winter, and springtime and  
harvest,  
sun, moon and stars in their courses above,  
join with all nature in manifold witness  
to thy great faithfulness, mercy and love.

3 Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,  
thy own dear presence to cheer and to guide;  
strength for today and bright hope for  
tomorrow,  
blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!

## **Closing Prayer**