

WELCOME SERVICE

of the

CHANNEL ISLANDS' DISTRICT CHAIR

Superintendent of Jersey Methodist Circuit and the
Minister for Georgetown Methodist Church

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## Revd Dawn Saunders

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29th August 2020 13:30 Georgetown Methodist Church



L to R: Nick, Revd Dawn, Robyn, Ellie & Jenni Saunders



THE GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD

1. Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

2. Singing the Faith 25 *'God is here, as we his people.'*

1 **God is here! As we his people**
Meet to offer praise and prayer,
May we find in fuller measure
What it is in Christ we share.
Here, as in the world around us,
All our varied skills and arts
Wait the coming of his Spirit
Into open minds and hearts.

2 Here are symbols to remind us
Of our lifelong need of grace;
Here are table, font and pulpit;
Here the cross has central place.
Here in honesty of preaching,
Here in silence, as in speech,
Here, in newness and renewal,
God the Spirit comes to each.

3 Here our children find a welcome
In the Shepherd's flock and fold,
Here as bread and wine are taken,
Christ sustains us as of old,
Here the servants of the Servant
Seek in worship to explore
What it means in daily living
To believe and to adore.

4 Lord of all, of Church and Kingdom,
In an age of change and doubt,
Keep us faithful to the gospel,
Help us work your purpose out.
Here, in this day's dedication,
All we have to give, receive:
We, who cannot live without you,
We adore you! we believe!

Fred Pratt Green (1903-2000)

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3. Let us pray.

God of truth, you are worthy of higher praise than we can offer,
and of purer worship than we can imagine.

By your Holy Spirit, assist us in our prayers and draw us to
yourself, so that what is lacking in our thoughts and actions
and in our words and music, may be supplied by your
overflowing love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Silence

4. Gracious God,
when we do not listen for your word in the words of others,
forgive and renew us.

When we do not use the gifts you have bestowed on us,
forgive and renew us.

When we do not love one another as sisters and brothers in
Christ,
forgive and renew us.

When we do not serve our neighbours in their need,
forgive and renew us.

When we do not share the Good News with those around us,
forgive and renew us.

Silence

God calls us to serve, forgives us in Christ,
and renews us by the Spirit.
Amen. Thanks be to God.

5. God of all grace,
you call your Church to be a holy people
to the praise of your name.
In the power of your Spirit,
fill our hearts with your love
and our lives with your glory;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

6. Singing the Faith 65 *'Sing of the Lord's Goodness.'*

**Sing of the Lord's goodness, Father of all wisdom,
come to him and bless his name.**

Mercy he has shown us, his love is for ever,
faithful to the end of days.

*Come, then, all you nations, sing of your Lord's goodness,
melodies of praise and thanks to God.*

*Ring out the Lord's glory, praise him with your music,
worship him and bless his name.*

Power he has wielded, honour is his garment,
risen from the snares of death.
His word he has spoken, one bread he has broken,
new life he now gives to all.

Courage in our darkness, comfort in our sorrow,
Spirit of our God most high;
solace for the weary, pardon for the sinner,
splendour of the living God.

Praise him with your singing, praise him with the trumpet,
praise God with the lute and harp;
praise him with the cymbals, praise him with your dancing
praise God till the end of days.

Ernest Sands (born 1949) © 1981 Ernest Sands, published by OCP Publications,
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THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

7. The Old Testament reading for the day, **Isaiah 61:1-3**

10. Singing the Faith 728 **'O God, you search me'**

O God, you search me and you know me.

All my thoughts lie open to your gaze.
When I walk or lie down you are before me:
ever the maker and keeper of my days.

You know my resting and my rising.
You discern my purpose from afar.
And with love everlasting you besiege me:
in ev'ry moment of life and death, you are.

Before a word is on my tongue, Lord,
you have known its meaning through and through.
You are with me, beyond my understanding:
God of my present, my past and future, too.

Although your Spirit is upon me,
still I search for shelter from your light.
There is nowhere on earth I can escape you:
even the darkness is radiant in your sight.

For you created me and shaped me,
gave me life within my mother's womb.
For the wonder of who I am, I praise you:
safe in your hands, all creation is made new.

*Bernadette Farrell (born 1957) from Psalm 138 © 1992 Bernadette Farrell.
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11. **A reading from the Gospel according to John**
Glory to Christ our Saviour.

12. *The Gospel of the day is read, **John 13:12-20,***

This is the Gospel of Christ.
Praise to Christ our Lord.

13. Sermon **Revd Julian M. Pursehouse**
Chair, East Anglia District

14. Singing the Faith 266 ***'All the room was hushed and still'***

**All the room was hushed and still,
and when the bowl was filled
he stooped to wash their feet.
And when it was complete, he said,
'This is what I'm asking you to do,
this is why I'm kneeling here beside you,
this is what I want my church to be,
this is what I want the world to see,
who it is you follow.'**

*'Love each other, one another,
love each other in the way that I have loved you.
Walk together, and whatever comes
love each other in the way that I have loved you'.*

Let the room be hushed and still,
let us go to where he kneels
and join him as he serves,
and learn his ways of love.
He said, 'This is what I'm asking you to do,
this is why I'm kneeling here beside you,
this is what I want my church to be,
this is what I want the world to see,
who it is you follow.'

Refrain

*Graham Kendrick (born 1950) © 2009 Make Way Music
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THE PRESENTATION, PROMISES AND WELCOME

All stand. (if able)

15. The Secretary of the Conference says to the people:

Sisters and brothers, I present to you the *Revd Dawn Saunders*, whom the Conference has appointed, to serve as Chair of the Channel Islands District of the Methodist Church.

The prime duty of a Chair of District is to further the work of God in the District. To this end he or she will use all the gifts and graces they have received, being especially diligent to be a pastor to the ministers and probationers and to lead the people of the District in the work of preaching and worship, evangelism, pastoral care, teaching and administration.

With the members of the District Synod, a District Chair is to uphold Methodist order and discipline within the District and to oversee the character and fidelity of the presbyters and presbyteral probationers in the District.

16. The Secretary of the Conference says to the newly-appointed Chair of District:

Revd Dawn Saunders the Conference, the Synod and the District trust that you have weighed and pondered these responsibilities and that you are fully determined to devote yourself to this ministry to which God has called you.

Will you hold before us the image of Christ, the Good Shepherd and be a faithful pastor to the ministers and probationers within the District?

Answer: I will. I ask God to help me, and I invite you all to join with me in care for the flock of Christ.

We will watch over one another in love.

Will you be among us as one who preaches the word of God, teaches the faith of the Scriptures, leads the District in worship and encourages the call to evangelism?

Answer: I will. I ask God to help me and I invite you all to join with me in celebrating the Good News of the gospel.

We will proclaim the Gospel in word and deed.

Will you promote peace and reconciliation in the Church and in the world, speak out in the face of injustice and work towards the visible unity of Christ's Church?

Answer: I will. I ask God to help me and I invite you all to join with me in being signs of peace and reconciliation.

We will be instruments of God's peace.

Dawn, to you is committed the good administration of the District. With members of the Synod you are to uphold Methodist order and discipline and on behalf of the Conference you are to oversee the character and fidelity of the presbyters and presbyteral probationers in the District. Will you be faithful in this ministry?

Answer: I will. I ask God to help me.

17. The Secretary of the Synod says to the people:

Sisters and brothers, will you welcome *DAWN* and will you offer *her/him* your friendship, support and prayers as we join together in the work to which God has called us?

With God's help, we will.

All seated.

18. Welcomes may then be given by District and ecumenical representatives, civic leaders, and other appropriate persons.

The newly-appointed Chair of District may reply briefly in *her/his own words and/or as follows:*

I thank you for your welcome.
I will work with you and pray for you.

19. Singing the Faith 341 *'All for Jesus, all for Jesus.'*

All for Jesus - all for Jesus,
this our song shall ever be:
for we have no hope, nor Saviour,
if we have not hope in thee.

All for Jesus - thou wilt give us
strength to serve thee, hour by hour;
none can move us from thy presence,
while we trust thy love and power.

All for Jesus - thou hast loved us,
all for Jesus - thou hast died;
all for Jesus - thou art with us;
all for Jesus crucified.

All for Jesus - all for Jesus -
this the Church's song must be;
till, at last, we all are gathered
one in love and one in thee.

*W.J. Sparrow Simpson (1859-1952) © 1887 , 1915 Novello & Co. Limited
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20. These or other prayers of intercession:

Let us pray.

In faith we pray to God,
who is more ready to hear than we are to ask.

Let us pray for the whole Church of God,
that, rejoicing in our richness and variety,
we may seek peace and unity
and be constantly renewed for mission and service.

Silence

The Lord hears our prayer. **Thanks be to God.**

Let us pray for Dawn, her family and friends,
for the circuits and churches of our District
and for other churches in this area,
that, rejoicing together in the Body of Christ,
we may strengthen each other and be built up in love.

Silence

The Lord hears our prayer. **Thanks be to God.**

Let us pray for the life of the world,
that, rejoicing in our common humanity,
we may reject the ways of war and conflict
and work together for justice and peace.

Silence

The Lord hears our prayer. **Thanks be to God.**

Let us rejoice in the communion of saints,
that, strengthened by their faithful example,
we may follow the way of Christ
and live to God's praise and glory.

Silence

The Lord hears our prayer. **Thanks be to God.**

Give us wisdom, Lord, to know your will,
and courage to do it.
May our words declare your love
and may our compassion give substance to our words;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

21. **The Lord's Prayer**

As our Saviour taught his disciples, we pray:

**Our Father, who 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 trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom,
the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

22. **The Peace**

All stand. (if able)

We are the Body of Christ.

**In the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body.
Let us therefore keep the unity of the Spirit
in the bond of peace.**

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

23. **PRAYERS AND DISMISSAL**

Silence

Let us pray.

God of power, may the boldness of your Spirit transform us,
may the gentleness of your Spirit lead us,
and may the gifts of your Spirit equip us
to serve and worship you now and always. **Amen.**

24. Singing the Faith 487 *'You shall go out with joy'*

You shall go out with joy and be led forth with peace,
and the mountains and the hills shall break forth before you.
There'll be shouts of joy and the trees of the field
shall clap, shall clap their hands,

*and the trees of the field shall clap their hands,
and the trees of the field shall clap their hands,
and the trees of the field shall clap their hands,
and you'll go out with joy.*

Stuart Dauermann (born 1944)

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25. The presiding minister says:

The Spirit of truth lead you into all truth,
give *you/us* grace to confess that Jesus Christ is Lord,
and to proclaim the word and works of God;
and the blessing of Almighty God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
remain with you always. **Amen.**

26. The presiding minister says:

We go into the world in the power of the Spirit
to fulfil our high calling as servants of Christ.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

**Additional music before and after the service
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