



Welcome to Blackburn Baptist Church, on April 14th 2024 at 10:45, meeting at Bethesda Chapel.

Whilst some are able to meet in person, others we know are still at home. We hope and pray that you will find this outline of our service helpful, as we seek to worship God as a Church family, wherever we are.

The chairs were arranged differently today, in a semi-circle rather than straight rows, and the 5 children were invited to sit on the front row. The percussion instruments - shakers and jingly bells were also available for those who wished to make a joyful noise to the Lord. Our All-age service today was led by Alec, dressed informally - he couldn't decide whether to wear a red or green t-shirt, and so plumped for orange instead! He welcomed everyone to this time together and invited us to join in our opening songs: 🎵

He's got the whole world in His hands.  
He's got the whole wide world in His hands.  
He's got the whole world in His hands.  
He's got the whole world in His hands.

He's got the tiny little baby in His hands.  
He's got the tiny little baby in His hands.  
He's got the tiny little baby in His hands.  
He's got the whole world in His hands.

He's got you and me brother in His hands.  
He's got you and me sister in His hands.  
He's got you and me brother in His hands.  
He's got the whole world in His hands.

He's got everybody here in His hands.  
He's got everybody here in His hands.  
He's got everybody here in His hands.  
He's got the whole world in His hands.

Words: Geoffrey Love CCLI SONG # 33681 Copyrights words and music Public domain.CCL No 5664

My God is so big and so strong and so mighty, there's nothing my God cannot do,  
My God is so big and so strong and so mighty, there's nothing my God cannot do.  
The mountains are his, the rivers are his, the stars are his handiwork too.  
My God is so big and so strong and so mighty, there's nothing my God cannot do.

My God is so big and so strong and so mighty, there's nothing my God cannot do,  
My God is so big and so strong and so mighty, there's nothing my God cannot do.  
He calls you to live for him every day in all that you say and you do.  
My God is so big and so strong and so mighty, there's nothing my God cannot do.

Author: Ruth Harms Calkin CCLI Song # 2501437 Copyrights @1959, 2002 Nuggets of Truth Music (Admin. by Integrity Music Ltd) CCL No 5664

**Notices were shared by Tony:** Ladies Bible Study on Tuesday, Christian Institute meeting here at 7.30pm, Wednesday morning Tiddlywinks, and Day of Fasting, and Prayer from 7.30pm - 8.30pm. Usual meetings of New Life International Church on Friday and Saturday. Attention was drawn to the Special Church Members Meeting to be held in 2 weeks time on Sunday April 28th, following the service, to vote on future ministry.

**Our Prayers were then led by Jean:**

Let's turn our thoughts to God in prayer:

Heavenly Father you are a faithful and mighty God. We thank you for your promises to us – to give us hope and a future. Thank you for the assurance of the Holy Spirit telling us that you have come to us in Jesus Christ with the gifts of forgiveness and life.

Lord forgive us for our failings and weaknesses, for our pessimism, wrong thoughts and deeds especially when we know all you have done and continue to do in our lives. You have said 'I will guide you along the best pathways for your life, I will advise you and watch over you'. Lord help us to trust and obey your Word – to seek your way forward for our lives and your church.

We pray for our families and friends and especially for young people that they may grow up knowing love and hope, valuing life and respecting others. We thank you Lord for the presence of new friends who are joining our fellowship for those who have come from other countries may they soon feel at home in Blackburn and help them to know we are all willing to help where we can.

We pray for your wonderful world and are sorry for how we have treated it. Lord you have a special love for the powerless – please give your strength to those who are weak. Let those in war torn countries know they have not been abandoned by you, even if their leaders seem to have forgotten them. Give the people courage to deal with the dreadful hardships they are experiencing and we thank you for the churches in these countries that are working to do their best giving aid to those in need.

We also ask that you give your encouragement to those Christians around the world who are not free to worship you openly but must be secretive.

Father please be with the government and leaders of our country. Give them wisdom, integrity, and compassion when they make the decisions that will affect so many lives. For those who don't know you as their Lord and saviour it must be so much harder, for as a believer we know we can put all our worries on You knowing you love us.

Please be with the leaders of our town. May they make careful decisions on the way the budget is spent taking care of the weak and vulnerable.

Heavenly Father we bring to you our concerns for our church family. Help those who will be under medical care this week & those facing isolation or surgery. Grant them peace and protection. Grant skill to the hands of those who heal and patience too as older minds and bodies sometimes take longer to process information and react. You know the names of those who need your extra care and love you know their needs. Please give them your Grace to cope with the daily worries and problems that they face.

We pray for the Worldwide Church and for the Churches here in Blackburn, asking for your help to grow in faith. Help us to be respectful of each others differences and beliefs and to celebrate what we have in common. Guide us as we live each day determined to spread the Good News of your son Jesus Christ.

Heavenly Father we have decisions to make for our church here at Bethesda, help us to prayerfully consider what it is you want for our church with regards to our future.

Faithful God we pray for ourselves; as we go from our worship today to start the week ahead, we ask that in all we do, may we walk more closely with you at our side safe in the knowledge that your Fatherly love and care knows no bounds.

Father we ask that you accept these prayers in the name of your precious son Jesus Christ .....Amen.

**Time for more songs:** 

I love you, Lord and I lift my voice to worship you - oh my soul rejoice.

Take joy, my king in what you hear, may it be a sweet sweet sound in your ear

Author: Laurie Klein CCLI Song # 25266 Copyrights@1978, 1980 House Of Mercy Music (Admin. by Brentwood-Benson Music Publishing, Inc.) CCL NO 5664

Our God is a great big God, our God is a great big God,  
our God is a great big God and He holds us in His hands.

He's higher than a skyscraper and He's deeper than a submarine;

He's wider than the universe and beyond my wildest dreams.

He's known me and He's loved me since before the world began,

how wonderful to be a part of God's amazing plan.

Our God is a great big God, our God is a great big God,  
our God is a great big God and He holds us in His hands.

Authors: Jo Hemming, Nigel Hemming CCLI Song # 3373437 Copyrights @ 2001 Vineyard Songs (UK/Eire) (Admin. by Integrity Music Ltd) CCL No 5664

### **Our Bible reading Luke 10:25-37 was read by Jane: The Parable of the Good Samaritan**

A teacher of the Law came up and tried to trap Jesus. "Teacher," he asked, "what must I do to receive eternal life?"

Jesus answered him, "What do the Scriptures say? How do you interpret them?"

The man answered, "Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength, and with all your mind"; and 'Love your neighbor as you love yourself.'"

"You are right," Jesus replied; "do this and you will live."

But the teacher of the Law wanted to justify himself, so he asked Jesus, "Who is my neighbour?"


Jesus answered, "There was once a man who was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho when robbers attacked him, stripped him, and beat him up, leaving him half dead. It so happened that a priest was going down that road; but when he saw the man, he walked on by on the other side. In the same way a Levite also came there, went over and looked at the man, and then walked on by on the other side. But a Samaritan who was traveling that way came upon the man, and when he saw him, his heart was filled with pity. He went over to him, poured oil and wine on his wounds and bandaged them; then he put the man on his own animal and took him to an inn, where he took care of him. The next day he took out two silver coins and gave them to the innkeeper. 'Take care of him,' he told the innkeeper, 'and when I come back this way, I will pay you whatever else you spend on him.'"

And Jesus concluded, "In your opinion, which one of these three acted like a neighbour toward the man attacked by the robbers?"

The teacher of the Law answered, "The one who was kind to him."  
Jesus replied, "You go, then, and do the same."

**We were then invited to spend some Activity time in groups around tables - about 20 minutes. We were given the choice of painting our memory verse, preparing a collage of the bible story, using play-doh to make a model of it, or doing quizzes - word searches and the like, whilst a small group prepared a short drama of the bible story, which they then presented.**

Each table was also given some questions to chat about whilst busy with their chosen activity, which Alec reinforced afterwards, when the tables displayed their handiwork. The memory verse was "Love the Lord your God with all your heart, mind, soul and strength, and love your neighbour as yourself".

**We closed by singing our Closing song, shown on the screen, complete with actions and instruments!** 

Every move I make, I make in you, You make me move, (Jesus)  
Every breath I take I breathe in you  
Every step I take, I take in you, You are my way (Jesus)  
Every breath I take I breathe in you.

Na, Na Na Na Na Na Na  
Na Na Na, Na Na Na Na Na Na.

Every move I make, I make in you...

Waves of mercy, waves of grace, everywhere I look I see your face;  
Your love has captured me, Oh my God, this love, how can it be?

Na, Na Na Na Na Na Na  
Na Na Na, Na Na Na Na Na Na

Author: David Ruis CCLI Song # 1595726 Copyrights©1996 Mercy / Vineyard Publishing (Admin. by Integrity Music Ltd) Vineyard Songs Canada (Admin. by Integrity Music Ltd)CCL No 5664

**Our short Closing prayer by Alec included a prayer of thanks for lunch, to be served immediately following the service, after we said the grace together:**

**May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all, evermore, Amen.**