



**Welcome to Blackburn Baptist Church, on Sunday, July 17th 2022 at 10:45, meeting at Bethesda Chapel.**

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

**Alec is leading our service today, continuing our theme on Prayer, and Trevor is playing the piano for us. We listen to "Hail to the Lords anointed" as Alec prepares to lead our worship.**

**Alec welcomes everyone:** and begins by retelling a recent experience - as he was walking up Dukes Brow school children shouted at him to rescue their football - which was stuck under a car. He returned it to the grateful children - who gave him three cheers, but he likened this to Jesus rescuing us as God leads us back, through his word, giving us back our new life. Jesus, the creator, the King of Kings, who came to seek and find the lost, who guides us throughout our lives. So we come and worship him in song:

**Hymn: Guide me, O Thou great Jehovah, which Trevor plays for us, and Esther leads us singing:**

Guide me, O Thou great Jehovah,  
pilgrim through this barren land;  
I am weak, but Thou art mighty,  
hold me with Thy powerful hand.  
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven,  
feed me now and evermore;  
feed me now and evermore.

Open now the crystal fountain,  
whence the healing stream doth flow;  
let the fire and cloudy pillar  
lead me all my journey through.  
Strong Deliv'rer, strong Deliv'rer,  
be Thou still my Strength and Shield;  
be Thou still my Strength and Shield.

When I tread the verge of Jordan,  
bid my anxious fears subside;  
death of death and hell's Destruction,  
land me safe on Canaan's side.  
Songs of praises, songs of praises,  
I will ever give to Thee;  
I will ever give to Thee.

**Alec then shares our weekly Notices: which include a Church members meeting on Tuesday evening, but in light of the expected very high temperatures, it was suggested this be postponed for a week.**

**We lift our voices in song again, as we join together to sing: O for a thousand tongues to sing my great Redeemers praise.**

Oh for a thousand tongues to sing  
my great Redeemer's praise, my great Redeemer's praise,  
the glories of my God and King,  
the triumphs of His grace. (The triumphs of his grace x3.)

Jesus! the name that charms our fears  
that bids our sorrows cease, that bids our sorrows cease;  
'tis music in the sinner's ears  
'tis life and health and peace...

He breaks the power of cancelled sin,  
he sets the prisoner free, he sets the prisoner free,  
his blood can make the foulest clean  
his blood availed for me.....

He speaks, and listening to his voice  
new life the dead receive, new life the dead receive.  
The mournful, broken hearts rejoice,  
the humble poor believe....

Hear him, ye deaf; his praise, ye dumb  
your loosened tongues employ, your loosened tongues employ;  
ye blind, behold your Saviour come,  
and leap, ye lame, for joy....

My gracious Master and my God  
assist me to proclaim, assist me to proclaim;  
to spread through all the earth abroad  
the honours of Thy name.....

Words by Charles Wesley (1739), music T Jarman.  
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### **Debbie leads our Prayers of Intercession**

“Dear Lord,

We thank you that you are an amazing God – may we take a moment now to individually in silence reflect on God’s character and praise the One to whom we pray, to remind ourselves of God’s greatness (moment of silent reflection)

We thank you for the encouragement of our series on prayer, especially hearing the boldness with which people in the Bible prayed and the fact that You always answered so powerfully. May we be inspired to pray boldly in all aspects of our personal and church life, to invite you into every corner of our lives and every decision we make, to truly seek your will and to determine to follow it daily. May we take to heart Paul's injunction to 'pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests.' And 'to be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people.' And, in the words of 1 Chronicles, may we 'Look to the LORD and his strength; (and) seek his face always.'

With this in mind, we continue to bring the country of Ukraine before you and ask that you would show mercy to this country. We are saddened by the almost daily accounts of loss of life, especially amongst civilians and children. Would you incline the hearts of the Russian leaders to peace. No matter how difficult this might seem to us, we still ask this in Your Name, knowing you are the God of the impossible. We pray for a breakthrough, that this war may come to a speedy end and that a country may be rebuilt. Give wisdom to the Ukrainian government and military and may you protect her people. May they turn to You in their hour of need and draw comfort and hope from you.

We pray too about the current heatwave and the dangers that this poses. We pray for those fighting wildfires in Southern Europe – may they manage to contain the flames and save as many homes as possible. Protect those seeking to control the fires, who often put themselves in considerable danger. We pray for people in this country to heed the advice for Monday and Tuesday and to be sensible, that harm and loss of life might be avoided. May wisdom be given to employers and schools to make the right decisions to keep people safe.

We also want to pray about the Tory leadership contest – that the best person to lead the country at this present moment would be chosen. We pray that the new Prime Minister would be committed to integrity and to maintaining high standards in their personal as well as public life. We pray for a renewal of commitment to genuine public service amongst all MPs, business and civic leaders, that they would seek office to give people the best lives possible and to distribute help and facilities fairly rather than seek to accrue power and benefits just for themselves. We pray that our leaders would be strong and would be able to resist temptations that seek to corrupt them.

We are aware we live in times when prices are rising, almost daily in some cases, and where many people are finding it hard to make ends meet. We pray that the government support for those most vulnerable would be well used and that the work of food banks, community groups and churches would be able to continue, with enough people donating, goods, time and money. Show us, Lord, as a church and as individuals, if there are people we can help and share with, as a practical demonstration of love. May you also help people to be thrifty and make the most of what they have, to be able to discern between needs and wants, and to make good decisions about how to use their money and resources.

As well as the wider world, we pray for our church family. We pray that you would unite us and bind us together in love, that we might forgive where forgiveness is needed and seek to follow your will rather than our own. May we focus on building each other up and working to share the good news of forgiveness and joy and new life with those around us. We pray for our neighbours, that you would bless them, that you would meet their needs and open their eyes, so they might become aware of your presence in Galligreaves. We pray for those in our church family who are hurting and grieving; may they be comforted. We pray for those who are ill or awaiting tests or appointments; may they place their hope in you and know your peace. For

those struggling with life, we pray for your wisdom and your support. For any who are lonely, may you make them aware of your presence and help us to befriend and talk to them.

We pray to for your blessing on the Russian church who meet in our building and our good friends at St Luke's – may they know your presence and your leading, may you bless the work they do.

I will now leave a moment or two for you to bring before God in your hearts, the names of those known to you who need God's help and guidance right now (moment's silence)

So, Lord, we thank you for hearing our prayers this morning, both those spoken aloud and those whispered in our hearts. These are things we can do nothing about ourselves, but we leave them in your hands, knowing you are all powerful, all loving and all wise and will answer each request perfectly.

We thank you and praise you,

In Jesus' name we pray,

AMEN.

**Alec thanks Debbie, and reminds the church that either he or any member of the leadership team, are willing and able to pray with or for you, and to listen to whatever questions or thoughts you may have. He then introduces our Offering song: Yet not I but through Christ in me, which is shown on the screen.**

What gift of grace is Jesus my redeemer;  
there is no more for heaven now to give;  
He is my joy, my righteousness, and freedom,  
my steadfast love, my deep and boundless peace.

To this I hold, my hope is only Jesus,  
for my life is wholly bound to His;  
Oh how strange and divine, I can sing: all is mine,  
yet not I, but through Christ in me.

The night is dark but I am not forsaken,  
for by my side, the Saviour He will stay;  
I labour on in weakness and rejoicing,  
for in my need, His power is displayed.

To this I hold, my Shepherd will defend me,  
through the deepest valley He will lead;  
oh the night has been won, and I shall overcome,  
yet not I, but through Christ in me.

No fate I dread, I know I am forgiven,  
the future sure, the price it has been paid,  
for Jesus bled and suffered for my pardon,  
and He was raised to overthrow the grave.

To this I hold, my sin has been defeated,  
Jesus now and ever is my plea;  
oh the chains are released, I can sing: I am free,  
yet not I, but through Christ in me.

With every breath I long to follow Jesus  
for He has said that He will bring me home,  
and day by day I know He will renew me  
until I stand with joy before the throne.

To this I hold, my hope is only Jesus,  
all the glory evermore to Him;  
when the race is complete, still my lips shall repeat  
yet not I, but through Christ in me.

Words Jonny Robinson, Rich Thompson, Michael Warren  
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<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hwc2d1Xt8gM>

### **Becky then shares our Reading: Acts 12, 1-19**

It was about this time that King Herod arrested some who belonged to the church, intending to persecute them. He had James, the brother of John, put to death with the sword. When he saw that this met with approval among the Jews, he proceeded to seize Peter also. This happened during the Festival of Unleavened Bread. After arresting him, he put him in prison, handing him over to be guarded by four squads of four soldiers each. Herod intended to bring him out for public trial after the Passover.

So Peter was kept in prison, but the church was earnestly praying to God for him.

The night before Herod was to bring him to trial, Peter was sleeping between two soldiers, bound with two chains, and sentries stood guard at the entrance. Suddenly an angel of the Lord appeared and a light shone in the cell. He struck Peter on the side and woke him up. 'Quick, get up!' he said, and the chains fell off Peter's wrists.

Then the angel said to him, 'Put on your clothes and sandals.' And Peter did so. 'Wrap your cloak round you and follow me,' the angel told him. Peter followed him out of the prison, but he had no idea that what the angel was doing was really happening; he thought he was seeing a vision. They passed the first and second guards and came to the iron gate leading to the city. It opened for them by itself, and they went through it. When they had walked the length of one street, suddenly the angel left him.

Then Peter came to himself and said, 'Now I know without a doubt that the Lord has sent his angel and rescued me from Herod's clutches and from everything the Jewish people were hoping would happen.'

When this had dawned on him, he went to the house of Mary the mother of John, also called Mark, where many people had gathered and were praying. Peter knocked at the outer entrance, and a servant named Rhoda came to answer the door. When she

recognised Peter's voice, she was so overjoyed she ran back without opening it and exclaimed, 'Peter is at the door!'

'You're out of your mind,' they told her. When she kept insisting that it was so, they said, 'It must be his angel.'

But Peter kept on knocking, and when they opened the door and saw him, they were astonished. Peter motioned with his hand for them to be quiet and described how the Lord had brought him out of prison. 'Tell James and the other brothers and sisters about this,' he said, and then he left for another place.

In the morning, there was no small commotion among the soldiers as to what had become of Peter. After Herod had a thorough search made for him and did not find him, he cross-examined the guards and ordered that they be executed.

**Alec receives our gifts from Colin, and leads us in a prayer of thanksgiving, before announcing our Message song: Battle belongs, which again is shown on the screen:**

When all I see is the battle, You see my victory.  
When all I see is the mountain, You see a mountain moved.  
And as I walk through the shadow, Your love surrounds me,  
there's nothing to fear now for I am safe with You,  
So when I fight, I'll fight on my knees with my hands lifted high.  
Oh God, the battle belongs to You and every fear I lay at Your feet,  
I'll sing through the night.  
Oh God, the battle belongs to You and if You are for me,  
who can be against me? for Jesus, there's nothing impossible for You

When all I see are the ashes, You see the beauty, thank You God.  
When all I see is a cross, God, You see the empty tomb.  
So when I fight, I'll fight on my knees with my hands lifted high.  
Oh God, the battle belongs to You and every fear I lay at Your feet  
I'll sing through the night.  
Oh God, the battle belongs to You

Almighty fortress, You go before us,  
nothing can stand against the power of our God.  
You shine in the shadow, You win every battle,  
nothing can stand against the power of our God,  
So when I fight, I'll fight on my knees with my hands lifted high  
Oh God, the battle belongs to You, and every fear I lay at Your feet,  
I'll sing through the night,  
Oh God, the battle belongs to You  
Oh God, the battle belongs to You

Authors: Brian Johnson, Phil Wickham, Lefait Matt CCLI SONG # 7148126  
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CCL No 5664 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=johgSkNj3-A>

## **Alec shares his Message: "But the church was earnestly praying"**

"When Jesus spoke one day to his followers he said, "Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives; he who seeks finds; and to him who knocks the door will be opened."

You know I really hope that we are all followers of Jesus this morning, that we have all made a 180 degree turn away from the cul-de-sac of our own ways, sought and received his forgiveness and are living together with him and with one another being obedient to what He says in His Word.

But you know what? Sometimes we forget to read or act on what He says. Sometimes we don't ask for what we think others need or indeed for what we think we need.

Shortly before his death and resurrection Jesus said to his followers, "Until now you have not asked for anything in my name. Ask and you will receive, and your joy will be complete."

He is saying don't doubt, don't be uncertain, don't despair, don't give up hope. Ask and you will receive. Yes I will be put to death but God will raise me from the dead. I am alive for evermore.

But then we don't ask. We might think well God is not really interested in the ordinary things of my everyday life; God's too far away to be concerned about me and my world; and even if He may be interested He is not able to help. We might find 101 reasons why we feel He might not be able to help us in the emergencies of our everyday lives, to intervene in difficult situations, to send angels to help us if need be.

Let me make it clear what God is not saying. He is not saying whatever you want just say my name and press the button and there it is sorted. It may be sorted then and there but it may take time; or it may be that God has a different idea about what we really think other people or we ourselves need. God's different ideas for us and others are always the best ones.

When Jesus says, "Ask and you will receive and your joy will be complete" he is not saying that we will always have a great joyous feeling and be really cool about what is going on. The joy God gives is something we can experience, which we can know as a reality, when we are in the middle of all kinds of difficulties. It is joy unspeakable and full of glory; that is to say full of the presence of God, knowing He is in this with us, that He is in control; that He is working in this situation for our good and for the sake of His Name and of His kingdom. A joy that nothing and nobody can take away, that nobody can quench, and that no-one can remove from our hearts.

This biblical way of thinking is more than a trillion gig parsecs away from what prosperity theology teaches and claims. Prosperity theology is that far away from my personal understanding of what God is saying to us in His Word that I am going to say no more about it in this message.

You may remember our first talk in this series on prayer which centred on Nehemiah. He was a great man of prayer. He was concerned for the Name and for the Glory of God. When it was reported to him by his brothers that the people of God were in great trouble and disgrace he prayed and prayed and prayed to the God of heaven, the great and awesome God; then one day in his work as wine bearer to the King, God gave him a great chance. In Nehemiah 2:3 we read, "The King said to me, "What is it you want?"

If we are concerned about the great trouble and disgrace in which God's people find themselves what do we want? We long for the Name of God to be praised, worshipped and adored; for the glory of God to be revealed in this town. We are not asking for our own wishes to be fulfilled, for our personal individual preferences to be prioritised, for our particular way of thinking to dominate our decision-making.

At the leadership team meeting last Monday evening we read from Matthew 20; we read now from verses 20-23.

Then the mother of Zebedee's sons came to Jesus with her sons and, kneeling down, asked a favour of him. "What is it you want?" he asked.

She said, "Grant that one of these two sons of mine may sit at your right and the other at your left in your kingdom."

"You don't know what you are asking," Jesus said to them. "Can you drink the cup I am going to drink?" "We can," they answered.

Jesus said to them, "You will indeed drink from my cup, but to sit at my right or left is not for me to grant. These places belong to those for whom they have been prepared by my Father."

Whether they are on Amazon.co.uk or wherever we all have our own wish lists. As parents we have our wish lists for our children and we are often not averse to making them public; at least in accordance with her own wish list the mother of Zebedee's sons James and John had no hesitation in asking a favour of Jesus. In response our Lord kindly asks, "What is it you want?"

Well she has great ambitions for her children and she is open about it with Jesus which is good. But the answer she and her sons were given was probably not what they might have expected.

God always hears and answers our prayers according to his grace and mercy; but not always, indeed very often not, as we would expect. Let us ask according to the will of God.

James and John together with Peter formed a kind of leading group of three amongst the disciples of Jesus, a kind of "inner circle." James, John, and Peter are frequently mentioned together as the only apostles to witness some of Jesus' miracles: the raising of a young girl from the dead for example. Jesus took James and John along with Peter up a mountain, where they saw Jesus' transfiguration and watched Him talk with Moses and Elijah.

James and John asked Jesus to let them sit on either side of Him in His kingdom, and Jesus told them that He could not decide on that. Then He prophesied about their future, saying that James and John would suffer persecution just as He Himself would.

This brings us to what Becky so kindly read for us earlier in Acts 12. As Jesus had predicted, James experienced persecution soon after the church began. King Herod decided to arrest some believers, and he had James killed. James was the first apostle to be martyred.



Let's look at this passage carefully, (read 1-3).

Maybe you would find it helpful to do a character study of this King Herod. This is Herod Agrippa the first. He enters the book of Acts in Chapter 12, and he leaves the book of Acts in Chapter 12. He was most concerned with one person-himself. He was a people-pleaser; but God struck him dead because he failed to give God the glory.

He was the grandson of Herod the Great who was the king of the Jews at the time of Jesus' birth, the one responsible for killing all the male children in Bethlehem and in that entire region who were two years old or under at the news of the birth of Jesus by the wise men who had seen His star and he is the nephew of Herod Antipas who was the tetrarch of Galilee during the reign of Tiberius Caesar at the time of Jesus' ministry. It was that Herod Antipas who did many evil things like locking up John the Baptist in prison and having him beheaded.

So here is King Herod Agrippa, joining his family in continuing their tradition in the work of persecuting those associated with Jesus, the King of the Jews. Herod Agrippa was very popular with the people. He supported the Pharisees and attended the temple often. He grew up in Rome and was friends to two men, Gaius and Claudius, who would both become emperors. He was trusted by the Romans and he had his own army. Unlike times before and after him, King Herod had the ability to order capital punishment. So he has James executed.

Luke does not tell us specifically why Herod chose to have James killed, or why he laid hands on some particular people who belonged to the church to harm them. But in verse 3 we read:

"When he saw that this execution met with approval among the Jews, he proceeded to seize Peter also. This happened during the Festival of Unleavened Bread."

Because he saw that it pleased the Jews. Seeing his increased popularity when he killed James, Herod sought to improve his Facebook and other social media ratings even more when he seized and imprisoned Peter.

Herod was intending to bring him before the people after Passover. He had decided to deal with Peter at a politically opportune time, fearing an unpredictable mob reaction when Passover pilgrims filled Jerusalem. He delayed bringing him to public trial and executing him in order to show how scrupulously he observed the Passover; he wanted to wait until the pilgrim crowds went home, fearing a riot; he wanted to wait until he had the full attention of the Jewish population. He wanted to show how religious he was; but his main motivation was his own power and his own popularity.

Knowing Peter (with the other apostles) had mysteriously escaped from prison before (Acts 5:17-21), he delivered him to four squads of soldiers. Peter was to be guarded under the highest security constraints. Normally it was considered enough for a prisoner to be handcuffed to one soldier, but as a special extraordinary precaution Peter was chained to two soldiers instead of one as usual. The other two soldiers kept watch outside the cell.

Herod attacks the followers of Jesus thinking he is fighting against humans. What he does not realise is that he is ultimately fighting against God. And so while he lays violent hands on some in the church, while Peter is locked up in prison, the church recognizes that this battle is not "against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places." (Ephesians 6:12).

Are we truly aware of the nature of the battle in which we are involved? I say once again it is not a battle against flesh and blood.

The church had lost James, it was in danger of losing Peter and one day it would lose John.

We read: Peter was kept in prison to be brought to public trial after the Passover BUT the church was earnestly praying to God for him.

There follows an awesome account, an amazing description of what God did in answer to the prayers of the church.

What does it mean for a church to pray earnestly?

It means first of all we have to have a unity of mind, a unity of purpose and agree on our direction and prayer goals as a church. We don't need to agree on things like whether we should drink tea or coffee and how many cups of which after the Sunday service or whether I should wear a blue-coloured tie, a yellow-coloured tie or no tie at all.

We need to be crystal clear on really important and central matters relating to our faith and our understanding of the Bible not on how many modern and traditional songs we need to sing in a service to keep everybody happy. Nor is it of overriding significance whether this room we are gathering in here is called room 1, room 2 or room 3 or whatever it should be called though we can of course talk seriously about that. These matters are on completely different levels of understanding and of relative insignificance or importance, in comparison with the overriding critically important goals of living according to the Word and in the Spirit and of following the Lord together, letting Him reach into and transform our hearts and reaching out to those around us with the message of forgiveness and new life through God in Jesus Christ.

We need to live as one body with all the parts functioning and all the gifts being used for the building up of the body of Christ in this place.

Peter was kept in prison, but constant prayer was offered to God for him by the church. In this contest, Herod had his soldiers and his prisons; but the church had the power of prayer. The outcome would soon be seen and easily decided.

Peter was in prison, but the church was free to pray. When every other gate is shut and locked, the gate to heaven is wide open. We take advantage of that open gate through prayer.

The church offered constant prayer to God for Peter. This word constant also has as I have said the idea of earnest; literally, the word pictures someone stretching out all they can for something. "The verb *ektenos* is related to *ektenes*, a medical term describing the stretching of a muscle to its limits." Luke uses this same word *ektenos* for the agonizing prayer of Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane.

I am of the opinion that much of our prayer is powerless because it lacks earnestness. Too often we almost pray with the attitude of wanting God to care about things we really don't care too much about ourselves.

Earnest prayer has power not because it in itself persuades a reluctant God at last to do something which we want and ask for. Instead, it demonstrates that our heart cares passionately about the things God cares about, fulfilling Jesus' promise, "If you remain in me

and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you." Constant prayer was offered to God.

So earnest prayer is persevering prayer; we don't give up with it, we keep going. It's the kind of prayer that doesn't give up on praying for Peter when the church might have been tempted to give up praying for him after seeing what had happened to James.

God says, "Before you call, I will answer; while they are still speaking I will hear."

Even before they finish praying to me, I will answer their prayers.

That is exactly what happened in this passage in Acts 12:6-17.

Even before the church had finished praying, God had answered their prayers. But they didn't believe it! The servant girl Rhoda said, Peter is at the door; so they told her she was out of her mind. But there he was. He was free. God had set him free.

It must have been very hard for Peter to know that God had sent an angel to help him and had opened the doors of the prison miraculously but that the church people wouldn't open their door to him because of their lack of faith. Think about it!

Charles Wesley wrote:

"Long my imprisoned spirit lay fast bound in sin and nature's night; your eye diffused a quickening ray; I woke; the dungeon flamed with light; my chains fell off, my heart was free; I rose, went out and I followed you."

Did you come into this gathering this morning all tied up? Maybe bound by sin, bound by unforgiveness, unable to understand the way you've come or see the way ahead; and now you can see the light through God who is speaking so clearly to you? Then give your life back to God now before you leave this place; re-dedicate your life to Him.

I have just one small example to share with you before I close. It is found in the New Testament book of James chapter 5: 13-20. Part of what is written here is based on what we find in an Old Testament book called 1 Kings in chapters 17 and 18.

James 5:16b reads, "The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective."

That is a wonderful truth; and James gives us the precious example of Elijah, a man just like us, who prayed earnestly that it would not rain on the land for three and a half years so it didn't. Again he prayed, and the heavens gave rain and the earth produced its crops.

But we should not forget the context in aiming to make use of this wonderful story and marvellous principle of God hearing and answering prayer.

Read James 5:13-16 and 19-20.

**13** Is anyone among you in trouble? Let them pray. Is anyone happy? Let them sing songs of praise. **14** Is anyone among you sick? Let them call the elders of the church to pray over them and anoint them with oil in the name of the Lord. **15** And the prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well; the Lord will raise them up. If they have sinned, they will be forgiven. **16** Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective.

**19** My brothers and sisters, if one of you should wander from the truth and someone should bring that person back, **20** remember this: Whoever turns a sinner from the error of their way will save them from death and cover over a multitude of sins.

Amen.”

**Alec brings our service to a close as we sing together: All the way my Saviour leads me, which Trevor plays, and Esther sings:**

All the way my Saviour leads me- what have I to ask beside?  
Can I doubt His tender mercy, who through life has been my guide?  
Heav'nly peace, divinest comfort, here by faith in Him to dwell!  
For I know, whate'er befall me, Jesus doeth all things well;  
for I know, whate'er befall me, Jesus doeth all things well.

All the way my Saviour leads me- cheers each winding path I tread,  
gives me grace for ev'ry trial, feeds me with the living bread.  
Though my weary steps may falter and my soul athirst may be,  
gushing from the rock before me, lo! A spring of joy I see;  
gushing from the rock before me, lo! A spring of joy I see.

All the way my Saviour leads me- Oh, the fullness of His love!  
Perfect rest to me is promised in my Father's house above.  
When my spirit, clothed immortal, wings its flight to realms of day,  
this my song through endless ages: Jesus led me all the way;  
this my song through endless ages: Jesus led me all the way.

Author: Fanny Jane Crosby CCLI SONG # 2741682 Public domain CCL No 5664

**And finally we say 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.**