



**Trinity Methodist Circuit
(Retford & Worksop)
Sheffield District 25/19**

Welcome Service

for

Deacon Emily Hoe-Crook



7:00 p.m.

Wednesday 1st September 2021

 **the crossing**  **church**

Welcome and introduction - Mr Keith Abel, Trinity Circuit Steward

Opening hymn 'Take my life and let it be'

Take my life, and let it be
consecrated, Lord, to thee;
take my moments and my days,
let them flow in ceaseless praise.

Take my hands, and let them move
at the impulse of thy love;
take my feet, and let them be
swift and beautiful for thee.

Take my voice, and let me sing
always, only, for my King;
take my lips, and let them be
filled with messages from thee.

Take my silver and my gold,
not a mite would I withhold;
take my intellect, and use
every power as thou shalt choose.

Take my will, and make it thine;
it shall be no longer mine;
take my heart — it is thine own;
it shall be thy royal throne.

Take my love; my Lord, I pour
at thy feet its treasure-store;
take myself, and I will be
ever, only, all for thee.

Frances Ridley Havergal (1836–1879)

Prayers - led by Deacon Ruth Richey, Deputy Warden of the Diaconal Order.

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

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.

Gracious God, the source of every perfect gift:
in Jesus Christ you have given us
your life to redeem us,
your word for our wisdom,
your grace for our guide.
Enter and possess our hearts,
to dwell with us always,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Bible reading Romans 12.1-13 - Mrs Hilary Bennett, Trinity Circuit Steward

Sermon - Rev'd Gill Newton, Chair of the Sheffield Methodist District

Hymn 'Have you heard God's voice'

Have you heard God's voice; has your heart been stirred?

Are you still prepared to follow?

Have you made a choice to remain and serve,
though the way be rough and narrow?

*Will you walk the path that will cost you much
and embrace the pain and sorrow?*

*Will you trust in One who entrusts to you
the disciples of tomorrow?*

Will you use your voice; will you not sit down
when the multitudes are silent?

Will you make a choice to stand your ground
when the crowds are turning violent? *Will you walk ...*

In your city streets will you be God's heart?

Will you listen to the voiceless?

Will you stop and eat, and when friendships start,
will you share your faith with the faithless? *Will you walk...*

Will you watch the news with the eyes of faith
and believe it could be different?

Will you share your views using words of grace?

Will you leave a thoughtful imprint?

*We will walk the path that will cost us much
and embrace the pain and sorrow.*

*We will trust in One who entrusts to us
the disciples of tomorrow.*

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The presentation - Rev'd Julie Coates, Superintendent of Trinity Circuit

Sisters and brothers, I present to you Emily, whom the Conference has appointed to serve in this Circuit.

Welcome from The United Reformed Church - Rev'd Geoffrey Clarke,
The Moderator of the East Midlands Synod of the URC

The promises – Rev'd Julie Coates

Emily, will you hold before us the story of God's love and mercy, above all, the Gospel of our Saviour Jesus Christ, and will you be among us as one who makes known the Good News, by deeds of loving service?

Answer: I will. I ask God to help me, and I invite you all to join with me in proclaiming the Gospel of life and hope.

Through Christ, we have Good News to share.

Will you hold before us God's call to serve the needs of others and be among us as one who ministers Christ's love and compassion?

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

May we reveal Christ's way through our words and example.

Will you hold before us God's commitment to human community, to our neighbourhoods and all who live within them, and to the world that God has made?

Answer: I will. I ask God to help me, and I invite you all to join with me in sharing God's all-embracing love.

May we respond to Christ in all we meet.

Recognising that you are appointed to serve both the Methodist Church and the United Reformed Church, will you faithfully serve both churches, will you uphold their traditions, and will you honour a spirit of unity of worship and service through your ministry?

Answer: I will. I ask God to help me, and I invite you to join with me in seeking to be one in Christ. **May we live our unity in Christ.**

Response - Mr Spencer Welchman, Trinity Circuit Steward says to the people:

Sisters and brothers, will you welcome Emily and will you offer her your friendship, support and prayers as we join together in the work to which God has called us? **With God's help, we will.**

Prayer of blessing - Rev'd Geoffrey Clarke

A word of welcome will now be given by circuit and ecumenical representatives, civic leaders, guests from the local community and church members who will be supporting Emily during her ministerial probation.

Deacon Emily Hoe-Crook to reply

Prayers of intercession - Rev'd Bob Heathcote, member of The Crossing

Bidding: The Lord hears our prayer.

Response: **Thanks be to God.**

The Lord's Prayer

The peace – Rev'd Julie Coates

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.**

Dedication of the offering – for the 'All We Can' appeal for Haiti

Prayer of thanksgiving – Mrs Kath Jordan, member of The Crossing

Concluding with the words:

We thank you for your Holy Spirit,
who leads your people into all truth;
for the service and witness of your Church;
and for the proclamation of the word
and the celebration of the sacraments,
through which you renew and strengthen us.

**All honour and glory be yours,
in the Church and in the world,
in time and in eternity;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Hymn 'To God be the glory'

To God be the glory, great things he has done!
So loved he the world that he gave us his Son,
who yielded his life in atonement for sin,
and opened the life-gate that all may go in:

Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!

Let the earth hear his voice!

Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!

Let the people rejoice!

O come to the Father, through Jesus the Son;

and give him the glory — great things he has done!

O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood,
to every believer the promise of God!
And every offender who truly believes,
that moment from Jesus a pardon receives:

Great things he has taught us, great things he has done,
and great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son;
but purer, and higher, and greater will be
our wonder, our rapture, when Jesus we see:

Frances Jane van Alstyne, (Fanny Crosby) (1820–1915)

Blessing Rev'd Julie Coates

Postlude Vaughan Williams: 'The Old Hundredth Psalm Tune' ('All people that on earth do dwell') played by Mr David Jordan, organist at The Crossing

Please join us for refreshments after the service

Liturgy based on the words in the Methodist Worship Book© 1999 Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes

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Statement of the Nature, Faith and Order of The URC

With the whole Christian Church the United Reformed Church believes in one God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

The living God, the only God, ever to be praised.

The life of faith to which we are called is the Spirit's gift continually received through the Word, the Sacraments and our Christian life together.

We acknowledge the gift and answer the call, giving thanks for the means of grace.

The highest authority for what we believe and do is God's Word in the Bible alive for his people today through the help of the Spirit. **We respond to this Word, whose servants we are with all God's people through the years.**

We accept with thanksgiving to God the witness to the catholic faith in the Apostles' and Nicene Creeds. We acknowledge the declarations made in our own tradition by Congregationalists, Presbyterians and Churches of Christ in which they stated the faith and sought to make its implications clear.

Faith alive and active: gift of an eternal source, renewed for every generation.

We conduct our life together according to the Basis of Union in which we give expression to our faith in forms which we believe contain the essential elements of the Church's life, both catholic and reformed; but we affirm our right and readiness, if the need arises, to change the Basis of Union and to make new statements of faith in ever new obedience to the Living Christ.

Our crucified and risen Lord, who leads us in our faith and brings it to perfection.

Held together in the Body of Christ through the freedom of the Spirit, we rejoice in the diversity of the Spirit's gifts and uphold the rights of personal conviction. For the sake of faith and fellowship it shall be for the church to decide where differences of conviction hurt our unity and peace. **We commit ourselves to speak the truth in love and grow together in the peace of Christ.**

We believe that Christ gives his Church a government distinct from the government of the state. In things that affect obedience to God the Church is not subordinate to the state, but must serve the Lord Jesus Christ, its only Ruler and Head. Civil authorities are called to serve God's will of justice and peace for all humankind, and to respect the rights of conscience and belief.

While we ourselves are servants in the world as citizens of God's eternal kingdom.

We affirm our intention to go on praying and working, with all our fellow Christians, for the visible unity of the Church in the way Christ chooses so that people and nations may be led to love and serve God and praise him more and more for ever.

Source, Guide, and Goal of all that is: to God be eternal glory. Amen.