

### WELCOME and PRAYER

May the Lord be with you.

Father, it is in you we trust. Grant us the strength to be truly obedient to your call on us. This world does not value Trust, and Obedience is a forgotten notion, unless it is to the call of money, or can be found in social media, or the telephone. So Lord, join us in the face of a troubled world, draw near to us, just as your Son did on the Emmaus road.

It is in His name we pray.

Bless our worship time, oh Lord. Amen

### Scripture:

Trust in the Lord with all your heart and do not lean on your own understanding; In all your ways submit to him and he will make your paths straight (PROVERBS 3:5—6)

And God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus.  
(Philippians 4:19)

### HYMN *by Henry Burton 1840—1930*

1. There's a light upon the mountains, and the day is at the spring  
When our eyes shall see the beauty and the glory of the King:  
Weary was our heart with waiting, and the night watch seemed so long,  
But his triumph day is breaking, and we hail it with a song.
2. There's a hush of expectation and a quiet in the air,  
And the breath of God is moving in the fervent breath of prayer;  
For the suffering, dying Jesus is the Christ upon the throne,  
And the travail of our spirit is the travail of his own.
3. He is breaking down the barriers, he is casting up the way,  
He is calling for his angels to build up the gates of day:  
But his angels here are human, not the shining hosts above:  
But the drum beats of his army are the heart beats of our love.
4. Hark, we hear a distant music, and it comes with fuller swell,  
'Tis the triumph song of Jesus, of our King, Emmanuel  
Zion, go you forth to meet him; and my soul, be swift to bring  
All your finest and your dearest for the triumph of our King!

### MESSAGE Part 1: Trust and Obey

I've been asking myself that question: What does it mean to Trust and Obey? How does the idea sit with people in today's world. And for that matter where does it sit with me!? I look at my grand kids(9)-- yep I love 'em all but still battle with their culture. Unfortunately they are not Christians (probably not anti Christ, but not with Him in the

biblical sense). But we pray for them constantly. I do know that the idea of “Trust and Obey” would be a struggle for them. It’s clear to me that the deepest revelation of who Jesus is comes to those who truly love him and obey him. (John 14 :23) “Anyone who loves me will obey my teaching.” Paul puts it this way to the Church in Philippi: “And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus.” So in this life where can we put our trust? In my experience the army requires obedience and invokes trust through (hopefully) competent leadership and good equipment. But can the military be trusted? It depends on the values of the country it serves. The book “Beyond” is the story behind the first person to travel in space, Yuri Gagarin, a Soviet fighter pilot who made it to the 60’s Russian space program. After years of training Yuri put his life in the hands of (early) Soviet rocket technology, total trust,-- and in 1961 very risky-- he was the first person to travel in space and became a world hero, and a Soviet icon at age 27. His one safety back up was a large yellow button in the capsule, a safety device, which was to be activated if the rocket should go awry on take off he could eject the capsule and land safely (somewhere). Gladly that was not necessary — all went to plan. Sadly he died in a plane crash at age 34. Later it was revealed that the infamous Russian spy agency the KGB had insisted that the yellow button be changed to a self destruct button. The KGB (the same people who insisted on hiding the extent of Chernobyl disaster in 1986) could not allow the possibility of the capsule being “rescued” by a foreign power. So who could you trust in (atheist) Russia, where the real government belongs to faceless men driving black Volgas — (including the Russian Mafia) . Evidently Yuri was a pleasant man with a young family LOYAL AND OBEDIENT TO HIS COUNTRY WHICH HE TRUSTED IMPLICITLY. Where do we put our trust?

### BIBLE READING

Immediately Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead of him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowd. After he had dismissed them, he went up on the mountainside by himself to pray. Later that night he was there alone, and the boat was already a distance from land, buffeted by the waves because the wind was against it.

Shortly before dawn Jesus went out to them, walking on the lake. When the disciples saw him walking on the lake they were terrified. It’s a ghost they said, and cried out in fear.

But Jesus immediately said to them: “Take courage. It is I. Don’t be afraid”. “Lord if it’s you”, Peter replied, “tell me to come to you on the water.” “Come” he said. Then Peter got down out of the boat, walked on the water and came toward Jesus. But when he saw the wind he was afraid and, beginning to sink, cried out, “Lord save me!” Immediately Jesus reached out his hand and caught him. “You of little faith”, he said, “why did you doubt?”

### Message Part 2:

Peter (again) shows the greatest initiative, (E.G. Matthew 16:16 “You are the Christ”) and the most human of responses (Luke 22:57 “I don’t know him”)... “Turn your eyes upon Jesus, look full in his wonderful face, and the things of earth will grow strangely dim in the light of his glory and grace.” So goes the song, and the truth Peter again relates to our struggle:

## Trust And Obey

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- The invitation – Command me to come (if it's you Lord )
- The storm (world ) closed in
- Peter was overwhelmed by the forces surrounding him
- His attention to Jesus lapsed
- When we fear or doubt, like Peter, we sink
- No matter how deep the water (issues of life) Jesus reaches us

Paul's message to the Church at Philippi (the first in Europe) reflects God's total presence with his people through his Son. It's a Trust and Obey message. Elsewhere, the Galatian churches are reminded that ritual (Judaised Christianity) has no place in the new order brought by Jesus—Trust and Obey. Galatians 2:4

### SONG "Turn your eyes upon Jesus:"

1. O soul, are you weary and troubled?

No light in the darkness you see?

There's light for a look at the Saviour,

And life more abundant and free.

*Turn your eyes upon Jesus,  
look full in His wonderful face,  
And the things of earth will grow strangely dim  
in the light of His glory and grace.*

2. Through death into life everlasting

He passed and we follow Him there:

O'er sin no more hath dominion

For more than conquerors we are!

3. His Word shall not fail you, He promised;

Believe Him and all will be well;

Then go to a world that is dying,

His perfect salvation to tell! Refrain

### PRAYERS FOR THE WORLD (Myanmar);

Dear Father,

Our thoughts and prayers are for the faithful in Myanmar where the Christian minority struggle with military rule and Buddhist persecution. Lord, recently 315 Christian school teachers were encouraged in their faith, to bring some of their understanding into the classroom. There are 6000 students in church based schools in rural Myanmar, and Father we ask for your blessing on their work, and courage in their ongoing walk in life. May your Son our Lord Jesus walk along with them.

In His name we pray, Amen

## HYMN: Fanny Crosby 1820--1915

1. To God be the glory, great things he hath done!  
So loved he the world that he gave us his Son  
Who yielded his life an atonement for sin  
And opened the life gates 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 hath done.*

2. 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.
3. Great things he hath taught us, great things he hath 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.

## BLESSING:

May you experience the joy and peace coming from complete trust in a caring and compassionate Lord, and obedience to the risen Christ.

Amen

*This service was prepared for HopeNet SA by Grant Jewell (0403 412 480)*