

Order of Service 13th September

Peter Glover is leading, Di Oliver preaching

Welcome

The Bungee Jumper by Jeff Lucas

What did it feel like Jesus, the day that you peered over the parapet of heaven and prepared to take your own dive?
Did you stare and recoil at the swirling madness below?

Did the stench of hollow religion drift up and wrinkle your nostrils?

You were to dive from that lofty, ordered, Father's house, down and down and down and still further down, into the murky morass of blood and pain so far below.

You were to plummet from that calm and that place of song, into our sweaty, writhing chaos; from the world of rapture to our thunder dome of rape and rebellion, from immortality to the grime and tedium of time.

Did you look around you at the sea of stunned angel faces, bowed and paled at the sight of this holiest sacrifice?

Was there any moment of farewell as you stepped, in a millisecond, from being the richest to being the poorest?

Our minds implode as we try to grasp the enormity of it all.....

And there was no cord wrapped around your ankle to spring you back to eternity's breast again: no way out, no emergency exit, just a cross, with its agony, and its ultimate reward. You came, Jesus, and pitched your tent among us. Bold prophets and angelic messengers couldn't do what you did. Who has it all, and then throws it all away? Where are the rich who have decided to walk the path of downward mobility?

But there is a truth that is a billion times more difficult to grasp than this incarnation of yours, which is hard enough to comprehend. My mind begins its own rebellion at the very idea of a throne to womb journey. But then, the reason for your voluntary dive is the news that really staggers.

You stood on the handrail of heaven, and free fell....for us.

You looked over, looked down, saw us...and jumped.

Opening Prayer:-

Heavenly father, we thank you for Jesus.

As Jesus came to serve, may we be your hands and feet

As Jesus showed humility, may we humble our hearts and put others interests before our own

As Jesus came to help, may we be good neighbours to those in need

As Jesus loved the world, may we love like Jesus.

Lord reveal Jesus to us today. Help us to empty ourselves of us. Make us more obedient to God and His will in our lives and may God be Glorified through everything that we do.

In Jesus' name

Amen

Sing

Is anyone thirsty Anyone

Is anyone thirsty Anyone

Is anyone thirsty Anyone

Is anyone thirsty

Jesus said, "Let them come to me and drink

Let them come to me"

Let the living water flow

Let the living water flow

Let the river of your Spirit flow through me (repeat)

Let the living water flow Let the living water flow

Let the living water flow Let the living water flow

Sing

I will offer up my life in spirit and truth

Pouring out the oil of love, as my worship to you

In surrender I must give my every part

Lord, receive this sacrifice of a broken heart

Jesus, what can I give, what can I bring

To so faithful a Friend, to so loving a King?

Saviour, what can be said, what can be sung

As a praise of Your name for the things You have done?

Oh, my words could not tell, not even in part

Of the debt of love that is owed by this thankful heart

You deserve my every breath, for You've paid the great cost

Giving up your life to death, even death on the cross

You took all my shame away, there defeated my sin

Open up the gates of heaven and have beckoned me in

Sermon

Reading

Phil 2:1-13

Sermon continues

Affirmation of faith

Though he was divine, he did not cling to equality with God,
but made himself nothing.

Taking the form of a slave, he was born in human likeness.

He humbled himself, and was obedient to death – even the death of the cross.

Therefore God has raised him on high,

and given him the name above every name:

that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow,

and every voice proclaim that Jesus Christ is Lord,

to the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Sing

Be still, for the presence of the Lord,

The holy One, is here;

Come bow before him now

With reverence and fear

In him no sin is found

We stand on holy ground.

Be still, for the presence of the Lord,

The holy One, is here.

Be still, for the glory of the Lord

Is shining all around;

He burns with holy fire,

With splendour he is crowned:

How awesome is the sight

Our radiant king of light!

Be still, for the glory of the Lord

Is shining all around.

Be still, for the power of the Lord

Is moving in this place:

He comes to cleanse and heal,

To minister his grace -

No work too hard for him.

In faith receive from him.

Be still, for the power of the Lord

Is moving in this place.

Intercessions

Our Father in heaven,

hallowed be your name,

your kingdom come, your will be done,

on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins

as we forgive those who sin against us.

Lead us not into temptation

but deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,

and the glory are yours

now and for ever. Amen

Notices

Sing

Woke up this morning
And life as you know it
Looks nothing like the kind of life you knew before
All of a sudden
Fear stole the headlines
And it don't feel safe to even step outside your door

*In this world you will have trouble
But He has overcome the world*

*So take heart
Take a breath
Let Him lift that heavy weight up off your chest
Take His hand
I know it's looking dark
When the world falls all around you*

*He won't let you fall apart
Take heart
Take heart*

Do you remember singing
Back when you were younger
He's got the whole world in His hands
Well, that's still true
He holds your family, all your friends, and all your
loved ones
And even when you're barely holding on
He's holding you

Blessing