

But even could I see him die,
I could but see a little part
Of that great love, which, like a fire,
Is always burning in his heart.

It is most wonderful to know
His love for me so free and sure,
But 'tis more wonderful to see
My love for him so faint and poor.

And yet I want to love thee, Lord:
O light the flame within my heart,
And I will love thee more and more,
Until I see thee as thou art.

William Walsham How (1823-1897)

Tune: Herongate (Traditional)

Arr Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

*Performed by Wells Cathedral Choir,
with Rupert Gough (Organ)*

Please feel free to leave when you feel
ready – or stay to the end.

Please take this sheet home with you.

*If you would like to be part of the
Reflections team – please let one of us
know.*

Our next Reflections will be at 6pm on
Sunday 4 August, with 'Rest in the Lord'
as the theme.

REFLECTIONS

7 July 2024, 6pm

*A quiet contemplative service
lasting about 40 minutes*

Thankfulness

*The Parish Church of
St Andrew
and St Cuthman,
Steypning*

THANKFULNESS

MUSIC ON ENTRANCE *Rejoice in the Lord, always*

Rejoice in the Lord always, and again I say, rejoice.

Let your softness be known unto all men:

the Lord is at hand.

Be careful for nothing:

but in all prayer and supplication, let your petitions be manifest unto

God with giving of thanks.

And the peace of God,

which passeth all understanding,

shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesu.

Amen

Anon, 16th century

*Performed by the Choir of Westminster Abbey,
conducted by Martin Neary*

WELCOME and INTRODUCTION

BIBLE READING *Colossians 4:12-17*

As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive.

Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body.

Psalm 107:1 - O give thanks to the Lord for he is good, for his mercy endures for ever.

1 Thessalonians 5:18 - In everything give thanks for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

1 Thessalonians 1:2 - We give thanks to God always for your all, making mention of you in our prayers.

Philippians 4:6 - Do not be anxious about anything but in every situation by prayer and petition with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.

2 Corinthians 9:12 - The service that you perform is not only supplying the needs of the Lord's people but is also overflowing in many expressions of thanks to God.

Colossians 4:2 - Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful.

CLOSING PRAYER AND BLESSING

CLOSING MUSIC (Hymn) *It is a thing most wonderful*

It is a thing most wonderful,
Almost too wonderful to be,
That God's own Son should come from
heaven,
And die to save a child like me.

And yet I know that it is true:
He chose a poor and humble lot,
And wept, and toiled, and mourned,
and died
For love of those who loved him not.

PRAYER
***I thank you, God, that I
have lived (Poetic prayer)***

I thank you, God, that I have lived
In this great world and known its many
joys;
The song of birds, the strong sweet
scent of hay
And cooling breezes in the secret dusk,
The flaming sunsets at the close of day,
Hills, and the lonely, heather-covered
moors,
Music at night, and moonlight on the
sea,
The beat of waves upon the rocky
shore
And wild, white spray, flung high in
ecstasy;
The faithful eyes of dogs, and treasured
books,
The love of kin and fellowship of
friends,
And all that makes life dear and
beautiful.
Because of these and other blessings
poured
Unasked upon my wondering head,
Because I know that there is yet to
come
An even richer and more glorious life,
And most of all, because your only son
Once sacrificed life's loveliness for me
I thank you, God, that I have lived.

*Elizabeth Baroness Craven
(née Berkeley, 1750-1828)*

MEDITATION
on thanksgiving

Psalms 100:4 - Enter his gates with
thanksgiving and his courts with praise.
Give thanks to Him and bless His
name.

And be thankful. Let the word of
Christ dwell in you richly, teach and
admonish one another in all wisdom;
and with gratitude in your hearts sing
psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to
God. And whatever you do, in word or
deed, do everything in the name of the
Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the
Father through him.

PRAYER
of thanks for the Bible

O God, we thank you for the sacred
scriptures; for the comfort the Bible
has brought to the sorrow, for
guidance offered to the bewildered, for
its gracious promises to the uncertain,
for its strength given to the weak, and
for its progressive revelation of You.

We thank you for the men of God who
speak to us from its pages and for
those whose learning has made those
pages live.

We thank you, most of all, that it
reveals to us your Son, the Word made
flesh. Help us to ponder this record of
your ways that your Word may be a
light to our path. Through Jesus Christ,
Our Lord,
Amen.

PRAYER
of thanksgiving for the past

O God, we give thanks for all the
happiness we have known in the years
that have gone; for every moment of
loveliness and joy and beauty; for every
experience when we have been sure of
You, and know that only in Your will
could our souls ever find rest. We
thank you for tasks we have been
allowed to do, friendships that have
made us glad and service in which we
have forgotten ourselves.

Grant that no present depression, or grief, or weakness may allow us to forget the gladness we have known. Keep our memories bright with praise and love, and may the memory of those moments of insight, certainty and dedication send us forth now with new purpose and rekindled desire to know and do Your will. Through Jesus Christ, Our Lord,
Amen.

MUSIC INTO SILENCE

In the Lord I'll be ever thankful

In the Lord I'll be ever thankful,
In the Lord I will rejoice.
Look to God, do not be afraid,
Lift up your voices, the Lord is near;
Lift up your voices the Lord is near.

You are my salvation.
I trust in you.
I shall not be afraid,
You are my strength,
You are my song.

The Lord is my rock
The Lord is my fortress.
My God, you are my refuge and my shield

My God, You are at my right hand,
He is worthy of praise.
The Lord shall save me.
My soul shall sing to you,
Your act and wonderful things O God.
Let me speak more,
Let me speak more of your act O Lord.

Jacques Berthier (1923-1994)
Performed by the Taizé Community
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PERIOD OF SILENT REFLECTION

12-15 minutes

Please feel free to move to different areas within the church.

MUSIC OUT OF SILENCE

Ubi Caritas et Amor

Sung in Latin

Ubi caritas et amor
Deus ibi est
Congregavit nos in unum
Christi amor

Exultemus, et in ipso jucundemur
Timeamus, et amemus
Deum vivum

Exultemus, et in ipso jucundemur
Timeamus, et amemus
Deum vivum

Et ex corde diligamus nos sincero
Et ex corde diligamus
Nos sincero

Text: Anon, Music by Ola Gjeilo (b1978)
Performed by Voces8

English Translation

Where charity and love are, God is there.
Christ's love has gathered us into one.
Let us rejoice and be pleased in him.
Let us fear and let us love the living God.