



Sunday Service
Sunday 7th March 2021
The Third Sunday of Lent

Enduring Hope (8)
Trust Always – Us
Romans 8 : 18 - 39

Opening Prayer

Heavenly Father, your Son Jesus firstly walked the road of pain and suffering before entering into glory: mercifully help us on our walk in this world to find your peace and life so that, through our praise and prayerful living, we may declare your saving, self-giving love. In the Name of Jesus, we pray. Amen.

Bible reading

¹⁸ I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us. ¹⁹ For the creation waits in eager expectation for the children of God to be revealed. ²⁰ For the creation was subjected to frustration, not by its own choice, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope ²¹ that the creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the freedom and glory of the children of God.

²² We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time. ²³ Not only so, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our adoption to sonship, the redemption of our bodies. ²⁴ For in this hope we were saved. But hope that is seen is no hope at all. Who hopes for what they already have? ²⁵ But if we hope for what we do not yet have, we wait for it patiently.

²⁶ In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us through wordless groans. ²⁷ And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for God's people in accordance with the will of God.

²⁸ And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. ²⁹ For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters. ³⁰ And those he predestined, he also called; those he called, he also justified; those he justified, he also glorified.

³¹ What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? ³² He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all – how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things? ³³ Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies. ³⁴ Who then is the one who condemns? No one. Christ Jesus who died – more than that, who was raised to life – is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us. ³⁵ Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? ³⁶ As it is written:

‘For your sake we face death all day long;
we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered.’

³⁷ No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸ For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, ³⁹ neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Romans 8 : 18 - 39

Talk : Enduring Hope (8) : Trust always – Us

- Can we always trust God? Romans 8 : 18 - 39
- Don't let suffering put you off (v 18, 19)
- Keep your eyes on God's promises, but be real (v 20 – 27)
- Trust in God's plan (v 28 – 30)
- Our response and our reassurance (v 31 – 39)

For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.
Romans 8 : 38 - 39

A prayer for the season of Lent

Holy God, our lives are laid open before you: rescue us from the chaos of doubt and sin and, through trust in your Son, Jesus, bring us healing, hope and restoration for your Name's sake. Amen.

Final Prayer

Eternal God, give us wisdom to know what is your will for us, endurance to give up what harms us and, through your Holy Spirit, hope as we live for Jesus our Lord and Saviour. In whose Name we pray. Amen.

Blessing

May Christ the Son of God strengthen our faith, and lift our hearts to endure with hope until His return.

And may the blessing of God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit be with us now and for ever more. Amen.