

l6th February 2025 Third Sunday before Lent

Љ Hymn (365) Љ

Let us build a house where love can dwell

and all can safely live,

a place where saints and children tell how hearts learn to forgive.

Built of hopes and dreams and visions, rock of faith and vault of grace; here the love of Christ shall end divisions:

Refrain:

All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

Let us build a house where prophets speak,

and words are strong and true. Where all God's children dare to seek to dream God's reign anew.

Here the cross shall stand as witness and as symbol of God's grace;

here as one we claim the faith of Jesus;

Refrain

Let us build a house where love is found

in water, wine and wheat; a banquet hall on holy ground, where peace and justice meet. Here the love of God, through Jesus, is revealed in time and space, as we share in Christ the feast that frees us; Let us build a house where hands will reach

beyond the wood and stone, to heal and strengthen, serve and teach, and live the Word they've known. Here the outcast and the stranger bears the image of God's face; let us bring and end to fear and danger:

Refrain

Let us build a house where all are named,

their songs and visions heard and loved and treasured, taught and claimed

as words within the Word.

Built of tears and cries and laughter, prayers of faith and songs of grace. Let this house proclaim from floor to rafter:

Refrain

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♫ Hymn (721) ♫

Love divine, all loves excelling, joy of heaven, to earth come down, fix in us Thy humble dwelling, all Thy faithful mercies crown. Jesu, Thou art all compassion, pure unbounded love Thou art; visit us with Thy salvation, enter every trembling heart.

Breathe, O breathe Thy loving Spirit into every troubled breast; let us all in Thee inherit, let us find Thy promised rest. Take away the love of sinning, Alpha and Omega be; end of faith, as its beginning, set our hearts at liberty.

Refrain

Come, almighty to deliver, let us all Thy grace receive; suddenly return, and never, never more Thy temples leave. Thee we would be always blessing, serve Thee as Thy hosts above; pray, and praise Thee, without ceasing, glory in Thy perfect love.

Finish then Thy new creation: pure and spotless let us be; let us see Thy great salvation perfectly restored in Thee. Changed from glory into glory, till in heaven we take our place, till we cast our crowns before Thee, lost in wonder, love, and praise.

Charles Wesley (1707-1788)

∬ Hymn (569) ∬

The kingdom of God is justice and joy, for Jesus restores what sin would destroy; God's power and glory in Jesus we know, and here and hereafter the kingdom shall grow.

The kingdom of God is mercy and grace, the captives are freed, the sinners find place, the outcast are welcomed God's banquet to share, and hope is awakened instead of despair.

The kingdom of God is challenge and choice, believe the good news, repent and rejoice! His love for us sinners brought Christ to His cross, our crisis of judgement for gain or for loss. God's kingdom is come, the gift and the goal, in Jesus begun, in heaven made whole; the heirs of the kingdom shall answer His call, and all things cry 'Glory!' to God all in all.

Bryn A. Rees (1911-1983) © Mr Alexander Scott

∫ Chant (600) **∫**

Bless the Lord, my soul, And bless God's holy name. Bless the Lord, my soul, Who leads me into life.

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∬ Hymn (602) ∬

Blest are the pure in heart, for they shall see our God; the secret of the Lord is theirs, their soul is Christ's abode.

The Lord, who left the heavens our life and peace to bring, to dwell in lowliness with men, their Pattern and their King;

Still to the lowly soul He doth Himself impart and for His dwelling and His throne chooseth the pure in heart.

Lord, we Thy presence seek; may ours this blessing be; give us a pure and lowly heart, a temple meet for Thee.

John Keble (1792-1866) and others

∬ Hymn (678)

In Christ alone my hope is found, He is my light, my strength, my song; this Cornerstone, this solid Ground, firm through the fiercest drought and storm. What heights of love, what depths of peace, when fears are stilled, when strivings cease! My Comforter, my All in All, here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone! — who took on flesh, fullness of God in helpless babe! This gift of love and righteousness, scorned by the ones He came to save: till on that cross as Jesus died, the love of God was magnified for every sin on Him was laid; here in the death of Christ I live.

There in the ground His body lay, light of the world by darkness slain: then bursting forth in glorious day up from the grave He rose again! And as He stands in victory sin's curse has lost its grip on me, for I am His and He is mine bought with the precious blood of Christ.

No guilt in life, no fear in death, this is the power of Christ in me; from life's first cry to final breath, Jesus commands my destiny. No power of hell, no scheme of man, can ever pluck me from His hand; till He returns or calls me home, here in the power of Christ I'll stand!

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