



# A Living Hope

Welcome to our worship for this week. This week we look at Jesus, "Our Living Hope".

Where ever you are, whenever you are reading this and who ever you are we hope it will be a blessing for you in the week ahead.

Find somewhere comfortable, on your own or with others, click the link on the next page and be inspired by our living hope!

# Something to still yourself

Living hope – by Phil Wickham

<https://youtu.be/u-1fwZtKJSM>



## A Prayer

Lord, sometimes we are just so impatient, wanting to get on with our lives, wanting everything better. But we know, our ways are not your ways. We come to you rejoicing in the knowledge that you can transform our lives and the lives of those around us – starting exactly where we are. Thank you, Lord. Amen.

## A Story A Tortoise in Lockdown!

By John

Terry and Tracey were no ordinary tortoises, and they knew it! They had been chosen to go on board Captain Noah's big boat. When they were told they were chosen they only had a few minutes to gather up their things and get on board. We all know what it is like having to pack in a hurry, you never know what you might forget to pack! And so it was with Terry and Tracey, but they got going as quickly as they could (they were tortoises after all!).

As they made their way slowly up the gangplank, they were met by lots of other grumpy creatures trying to get on board. 'Will you two speed up, you are causing a holdup, the rain is coming', screeched Polly Parrot, but the tortoises were going as fast as they could! It was no better when they got on board they were pushed about and trampled on. They were told to go to the front of the ship and find a little corner. They found a space just next to Geoffrey and Gemma Giraffe and to the right of Arnie and Annie Aardvark. They made themselves comfortable and settled in for the ride.

A short while later, a voice came booming over the loudspeaker, 'Hello there, Captain Noah here. Settle in for the ride. It may be quite a rough ride, but God willing, it will not be for too long and we can be back on dry land. Over and Out'.





Tracey got quite excited and said, 'We are indeed fortunate to be here, are we not Terry'. Terry agreed, but in truth he was beginning to feel a little hungry now. 'Where did you put the lettuce sandwiches?' he asked. Tracey look at him and stared in a way that only tortoises can do, 'What do you mean, where did I put them? I asked you to sort out food!'. Terry dropped his head in shame, 'oh dear, oh dear oh deary me' he mumbled, 'It means we have no food to keep us going, but we mustn't give up hope'. 'You're right dear', said Tracey with a look of resignation, 'we must never give up hope'. So there they were stuck in a corner and hungry too, but they both held on to hope!

They tried to talk to Geoffrey and Gemma Giraffe to see if they could share a leaf with them, but they were too tall to hear them and the Aardvark family only ate ants, so that was no good. So they hunkered down and waited.

Day after day Captain Noah spoke to them over the loudspeaker with the same message, 'the weather forecast today is rain, rain, rain and rain Over and Out'. Everyday Terry and Tracey got hungrier and hungrier and had almost given up hope, until forty days later the announcement came, 'I am pleased to announce that it has final stopped raining and Doris Dove has been has just returned with a branch from a tree'. There was a loud cheer onboard and everyone was very excited, but none more than Terry and Tracey Tortoise, who were busy tucking into the leaves from the olive branch that landed right in front of them.

Hope had kept them going!

## Something to think about?

What gives you hope?



## To God be the Glory

Singing the Faith #94  
Chosen by Rebecca

<https://youtu.be/-15v9iworAU>

*"My family and I are really thankful to our saviour for his protection guidance and the Lord's abundant love."*

To God be the glory, great things he has done!  
So loved he the world that he gave us his Son,  
who yielded his life in atonement for sin,  
and opened the life-gate 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 has done!*

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:

*Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!  
Let the earth hear his voice!  
Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!  
Let the people rejoice!*

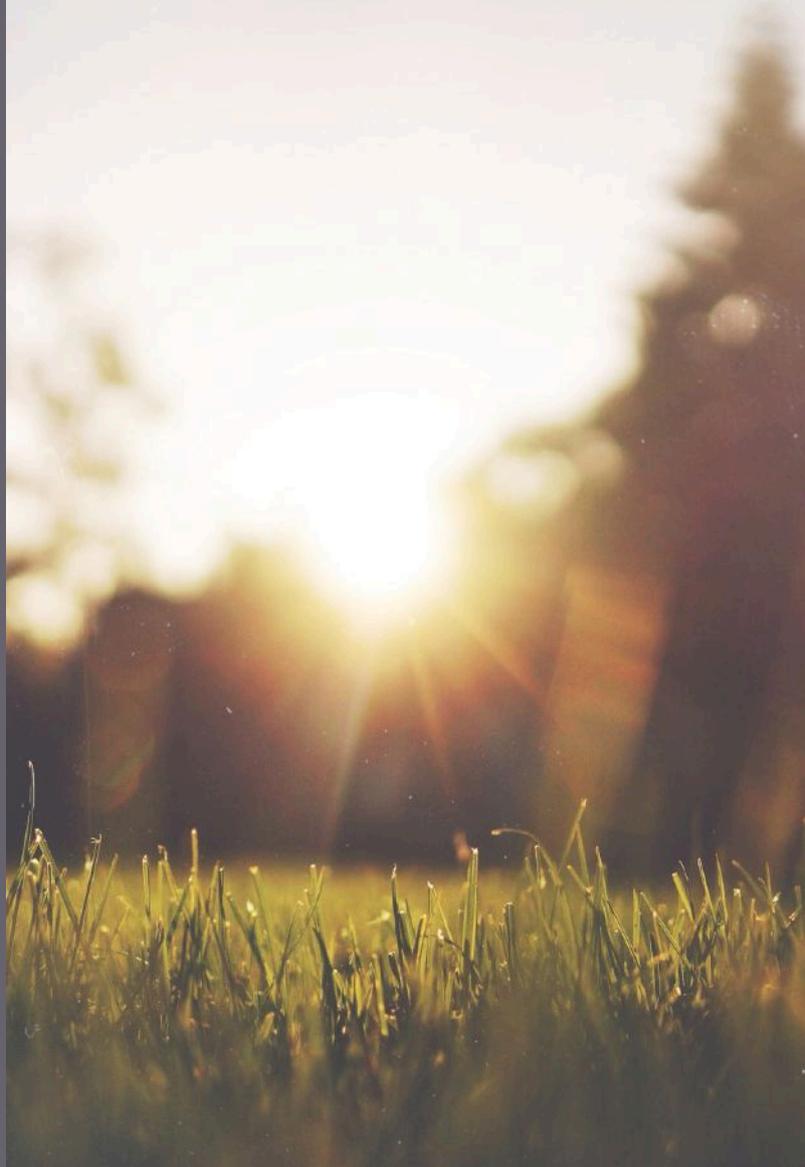
*O come to the Father, through Jesus the Son;  
and give him the glory — great things he has done!*

Great things he has taught us, great things he has  
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:

*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 has done!*

*Frances Jane van Alstyne (Fanny Crosby) (1820–1915)*



## 1 Kings 19:1-10 (NRSV)

Ahab told Jezebel all that Elijah had done, and how he had killed all the prophets with the sword. Then Jezebel sent a messenger to Elijah, saying, 'So may the gods do to me, and more also, if I do not make your life like the life of one of them by this time tomorrow.' Then he was afraid; he got up and fled for his life, and came to Beer-sheba, which belongs to Judah; he left his servant there.

But he himself went a day's journey into the wilderness, and came and sat down under a solitary broom tree. He asked that he might die: 'It is enough; now, O Lord, take away my life, for I am no better than my ancestors.' Then he lay down under the broom tree and fell asleep. Suddenly an angel touched him and said to him, 'Get up and eat.' He looked, and there at his head was a cake baked on hot stones, and a jar of water. He ate and drank, and lay down again. The angel of the Lord came a second time, touched him, and said, 'Get up and eat, otherwise the journey will be too much for you.' He got up, and ate and drank; then he went in the strength of that food for forty days and forty nights to Horeb the mount of God. At that place he came to a cave, and spent the night there.

Then the word of the Lord came to him, saying, 'What are you doing here, Elijah?' He answered, 'I have been very zealous for the Lord, the God of hosts; for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away.'



## Lord of All Hopefulness

Singing the Faith #526

<https://youtu.be/b8mti7VL3gg>



## A Living Hope

Sermon from Rev. Adam

This weeks sermon is available in both video(we recommend the video for the best experience) and text form here:

<https://www.hounslowmethodist.org.uk/a-living-hope>



## Prayers

The prayers this week are from RootsOnTheWeb and are led by the Agyei-Kyem Family. A text version is also available.

<https://www.hounslowmethodist.org.uk/a-living-hope>



# What a friend we have in Jesus

Singing the Faith #531

Chosen by Urmi

<https://youtu.be/v9oRay5YBHg>

*"The Lord has heard and is still hearing all our prayers, kept us safe, we still have food on the table he has protected every part of our life. Can't find any best friend who can replace Jesus! I live today because of Jesus his mercy and grace."*

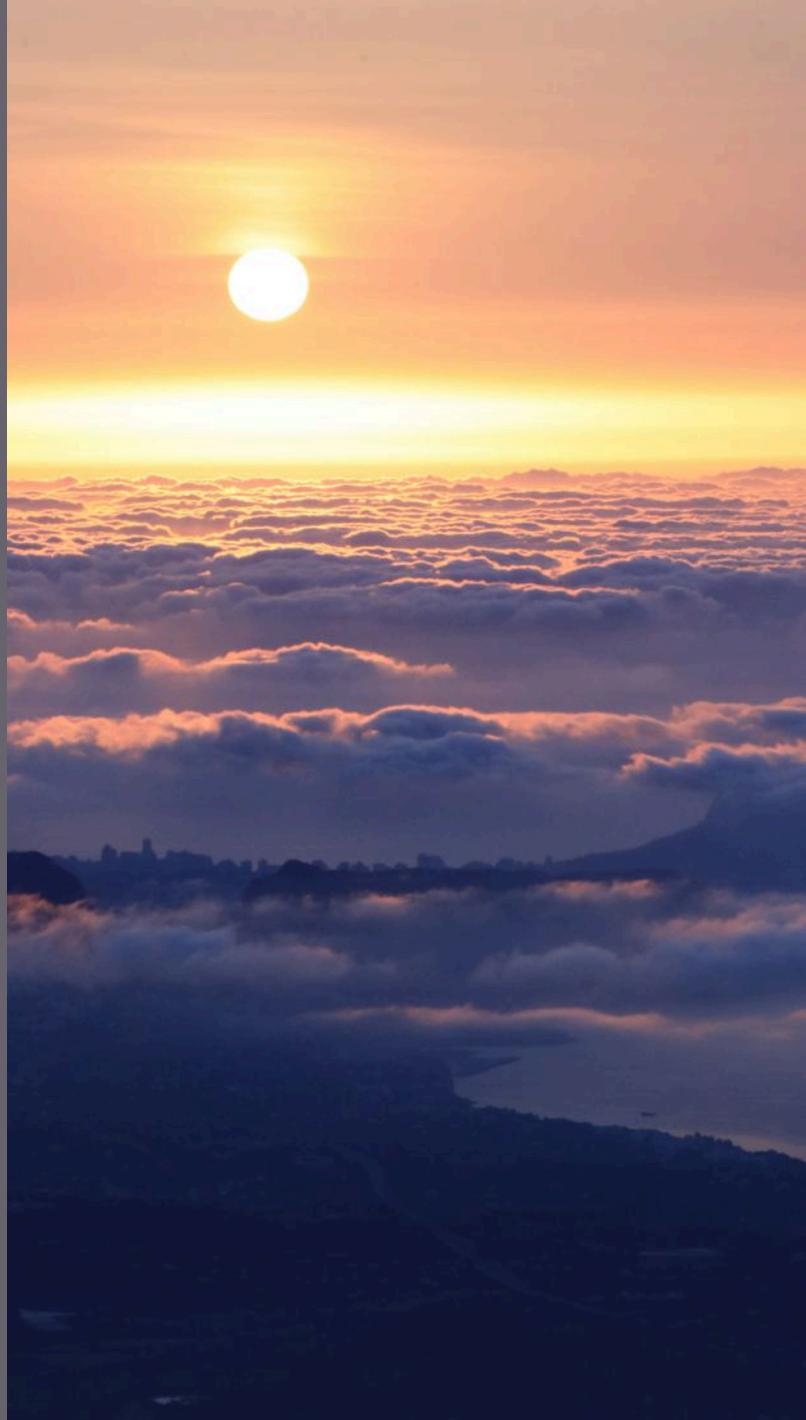
What a friend we have in Jesus,  
all our sins and griefs to bear!

What a privilege to carry  
everything to God in prayer!  
O what peace we often forfeit,  
O what needless pain we bear,  
all because we do not carry  
everything to God in prayer!

Have we trials and temptations,  
is there trouble anywhere?  
We should never be discouraged:  
take it to the Lord in prayer.  
Can we find a friend so faithful  
who will all our sorrows share?  
Jesus knows our every weakness:  
take it to the Lord in prayer.

Are we weak and heavy-laden,  
cumbered with a load of care?  
Precious Saviour, still our refuge —  
take it to the Lord in prayer!  
Do your friends despise, forsake you?  
Take it to the Lord in prayer;  
in his arms he'll take and shield you,  
you will find a solace there.

*Joseph Medlicott Scriven (1819-1886)*



## Collection

If you have enjoyed this service please consider giving a small amount to support the work of the church.

<https://www.hounslowmethodist.org.uk/donate>

We are also holding a special collection over a few weeks for Action for Children. If you prefer, you can give to the collection here:

<https://www.hounslowmethodist.org.uk/action-for-children-collection/>

## Blessing

This week our blessing comes from Zimbabwe in honour of our preacher this morning!

<https://youtu.be/OA1tVs7VNcY>



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