

Church Together

A Church Has To Proclaim God's Message

7th February 2026



Welcome

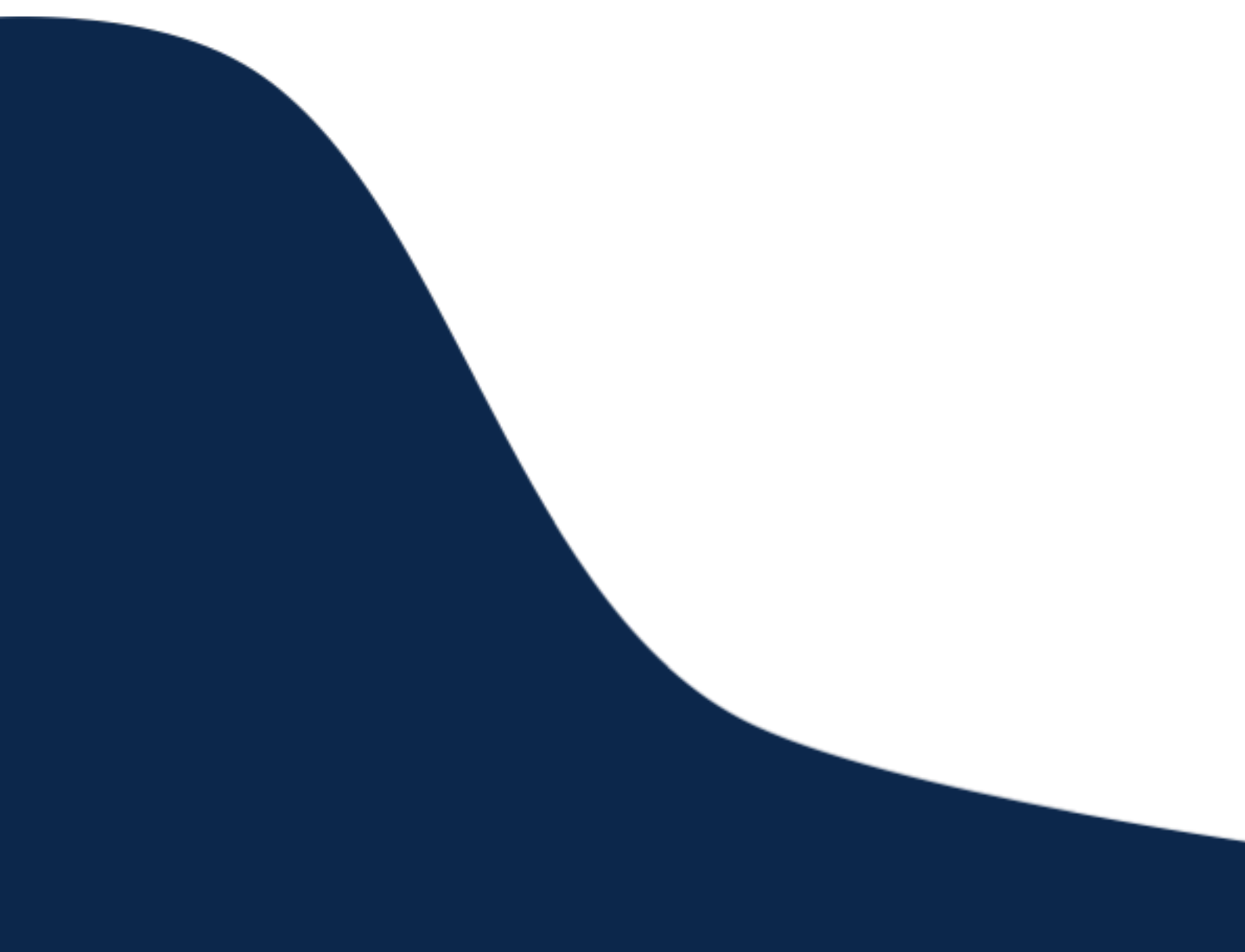
In today's Service we will be looking at: **2**

Thessalonians 3 v. 1 - 5

The theme for our service today is: **A Church Has To Proclaim God's Message**

Today our service also includes: **Communion**

We hope that you will be able to engage with everything that has been produced for today's service and that you would be able to **Know That You Can Have Total Confidence In God's Message!**



Call To Worship

Psalm 111 v. 1 – 10 NLT

Praise the Lord!

I will thank the Lord with all my heart as I meet with his godly people.

How amazing are the deeds of the Lord!

All who delight in him should ponder them.

Everything he does reveals his glory and majesty.

His righteousness never fails.

Who can forget the wonders he performs?

How gracious and merciful is our Lord!

He gives food to those who trust him;

He always remembers his covenant.

He has shown his great power to his people by giving them the land of other nations.

All he does is just and good, and all his commandments are trustworthy.

They are forever true, to be obeyed faithfully and with integrity.

He has paid a full ransom for his people.

He has guaranteed his covenant with them forever.

What a holy, awe - inspiring name he has!

Reverence for the Lord is the foundation of true wisdom.

The rewards of wisdom comes to all who obey him.

Praise his name forever!

Opening Prayer

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth. Lord God, we worship you, we give you thanks, and we praise you for your glory today.

Lord Jesus Christ, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us we pray for you are seated at the right hand of the Father therefore receive our prayers and praise this day we pray.

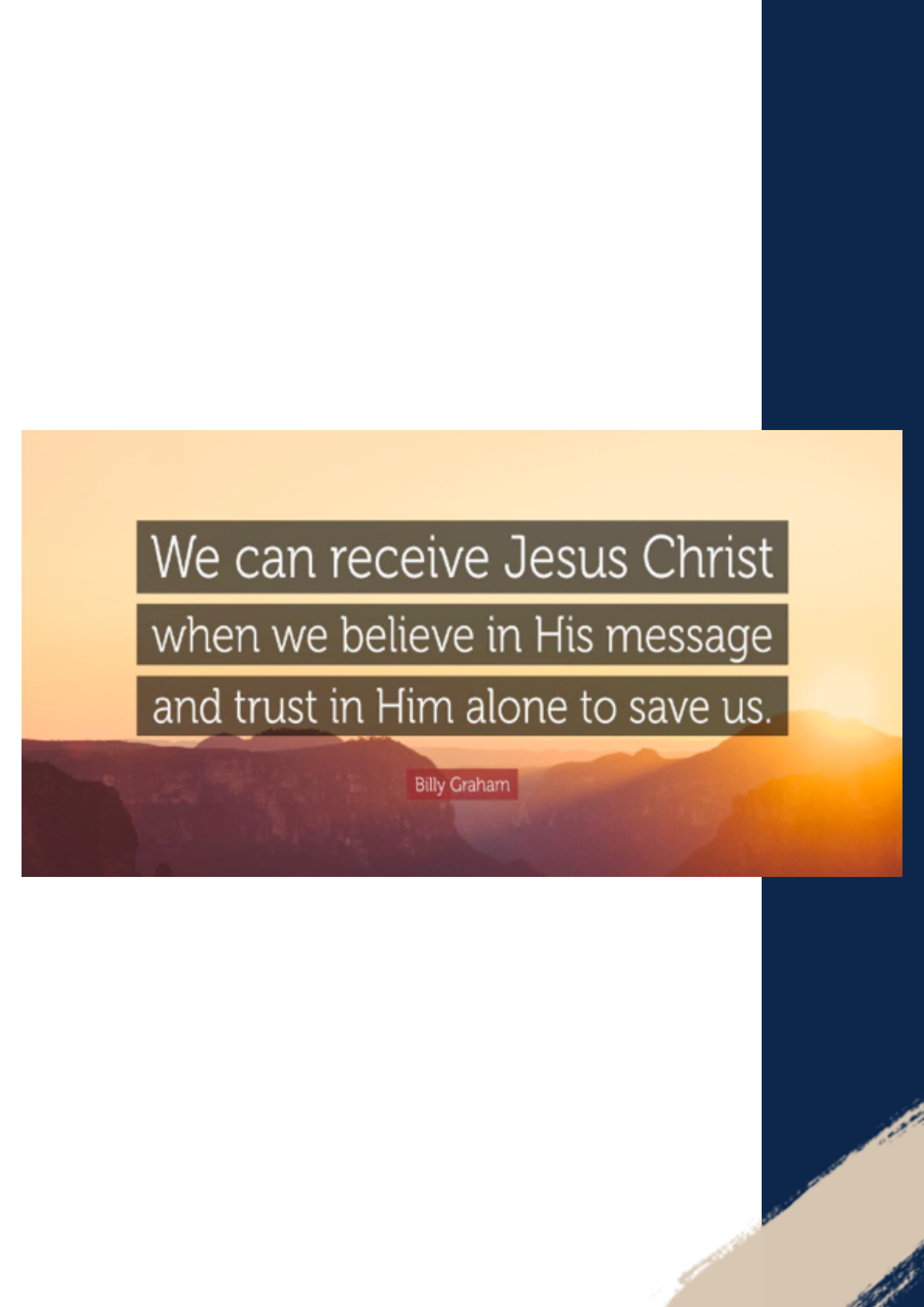
For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father.

Living God: in this building here at Salendine Nook that has been used to the sound of singing, where there have been baptisms and funerals, where people have come to be married, or to celebrate the birth of a child; this church, where some have wept, and some have been filled with joy, where people have struggled with the deep things of life, a place where some have prayed urgently, been stirred and changed; in this place where you have so often been with your people, be with us now today we pray.

You are a generous and bountiful God, all good things come from you and we want to say thank you for all that you have done, are doing, and will do in this place. May we be obedient to your will in order to serve you all the days of our lives.

We ask these things in the precious name of Jesus.

Amen

The image features a scenic view of mountains at sunset. The sky is a gradient of orange and yellow, with the sun low on the horizon. The mountains are silhouetted against the bright light. The quote is centered in three dark rectangular boxes. The name 'Billy Graham' is in a small red box below the quote.

We can receive Jesus Christ
when we believe in His message
and trust in Him alone to save us.

Billy Graham

Song Suggestion

Amazing Grace, How Sweet The
Sound



Bible Reading

2 Thessalonians 3 v. 1 – 5 NIV

Request for Prayer

3 As for other matters, brothers and sisters, pray for us that the message of the Lord may spread rapidly and be honoured, just as it was with you. 2 And pray that we may be delivered from wicked and evil people, for not everyone has faith. 3 But the Lord is faithful, and he will strengthen you and protect you from the evil one. 4 We have confidence in the Lord that you are doing and will continue to do the things we command. 5 May the Lord direct your hearts into God's love and Christ's perseverance.

Song Suggestion

Take My Life And Let It Be



Tithes, Gifts & Offerings

If you feel that you are able to, then please keep on giving to the work of the church here at Salendine Nook, with a generous and cheerful heart, praising God for all that he has given to you and share in the finances of the church.



The purpose of the Bible is simply to proclaim God's plan to save His children. It asserts that man is lost and needs to be saved. And it communicates the message that Jesus is the God in the flesh sent to save His children.

Max Lucado

Church Together

Thought

What do you do if you have an exciting piece of news or information? When you are just bursting with it, it's no secret and anyone can know – well, you can hardly wait to tell everyone!

In the early church, all new believers were like this – whoever they were and wherever they went, they were full of the good news about Jesus. They talked and talked about him to everyone they met. The result? More people became believers, and they in turn told their friends, and so on.

The gospel, the good news about Jesus, spread rapidly around the eastern end of the Mediterranean. It was helped by the fact that the Jews in Judea, headed by Saul of Tarsus, had persecuted the early believers, hounding them out of their homes and lands.

But the refugees from this persecution bore no resemblance to the sad lines of people we see today on the TV as they flee from war zones. These believers were full of joy and made the most of their opportunities wherever they settled, telling everyone about Jesus. So, the persecution, which was designed to put an end to this dangerous new movement, helped it to reach across the world.

People were excited about the news of Jesus, but they were also amazed at the power of God, which was demonstrated by both Paul and his companions, as well

as the new Christians. The people were healed, and many who were lame were made whole again. No wonder the news got round so fast!

Paul knew that spreading the gospel depended on those who listened to him telling others, Paul made many journeys around Asia Minor and Eastern Europe, going to various towns where no one heard his message. But when he moved on, having taught and instructed a new group of believers and founded a small church, he expected those in that church to carry on telling others about the gospel of Jesus.

Paul knew too that evangelism wasn't going to be easy. There were going to be people who heard the message and did not believe it, as we see in **2 Thessalonians 3 v. 2**. They would oppose, frustrate and persecute those who became believers. This opposition is Satan's work, but those who tell the good news will know the security of God's protection and faithfulness as portrayed in **2 Thessalonians 3 v. 3**.

This is just as true today and we can take heart from the experiences of the early church, as well as heed Paul's insight into the hearts of men. Not everyone we speak to will become a Christian. There will be opposition. But that does not stop us from speaking out about Jesus. God's faithfulness and protection is with us.

As we think about this passage for us here at Salendine Nook Baptist Church; we can ask the question: What is so good about the good news? Our references to this question are found in **2 Thessalonians 3 v. 1 – 5**.

FIRSTLY, WE NEED TO LOOK AT THE CONTENT OF THE MESSAGE (v. 1)

It is the good news of:

Truth (Galatians 2 v. 4, 5). With the coming of Jesus, guesses about God had ended and the time of certainty had begun.

Hope (Colossians 1 v. 23). In contrast to the news that comes from a world characterized by despair.

Peace (Ephesians 6 v. 15). God is the God of peace (shalom means a sense of well-being – mentally, emotionally and spiritually).

Promise (Ephesians 3 v. 6). The characteristic of the pagan gods was that they were gods of threats, not so our God!

Immortality (2 Timothy 1 v. 10). Death, however final, comprehensive and complete it looks, is never final.

The Risen Christ (1 Corinthians 15). We do not worship a dead hero or a figure in a book. We live with a living presence. We are left with a constant companion for our way.

Salvation (Ephesians 1 v. 13). It is the good news of that power which wins us forgiveness for past sin, liberation from present sin, and strength to conquer sin in the future.

SECONDLY, WE CAN SEE THE CONFRONTATION WITH OPPOSITION (v. 2)

The gospel will always have a dual response: those who reject it and those who respond to it.

THIRDLY, WE ENCOUNTER CONFLICT WITH THE EVIL ONE (v. 3)

Most Western Christians think they are living in peaceful times. We are not! There is a sense in which we are living in a war! Most worshipping Christians think they are civilians. They are not! There is a sense in which they are soldiers!

ILLUSTRATION

David Watson in his book 'God's Freedom Fighters' says: 'I find that many Christians are sadly ignorant, or perhaps forgetful, about this warfare. In pastoral work I am at times almost overwhelmed by what I call Christian casualties. One often meets fine Christians who are very depressed, or oppressed by some dark powers, or suddenly filled with doubts or resentment and are aware that they need deliverance. A missionary leader in Thailand told me some years ago that about fifty per cent of the missionaries in that land had recently been invalidated out through breakdowns and illnesses, and he said, 'I believe it is because we are largely ignorant of this spiritual warfare.'"

FINALLY, WE NEED TO HAVE CONFIDENCE IN THE MESSENGERS (v. 4, 5)

Their submission to the truth; their surrender to God's love; their single-mindedness to fulfil the purposes of Christ. The good news about the 'good news' can be summed up in the following illustration:

ILLUSTRATION

What is this gospel, this 'good news' in which Christians believe, which made sense of the lives of the believers in Thessalonica and of countless millions since? I would summarise it like this: God exists! He caused the world to come into being and created human life. This human life was given the freedom to follow God's laws or reject them. Humankind went its own way and has chosen to do so ever since. God, because he is loving, wants to give his creatures another chance, so he came to earth as a human — Jesus. He took on himself the punishment for our rebellion. Then he offered a second chance to

everyone who would accept it as a free gift. The gift, when it is received, brings with it a guarantee of eternal happiness with God after death, forgiveness, peace, and purpose on earth. The gift does not guarantee an easy life, free from trouble — sometimes precisely the opposite! Receivers of the gift expect opposition from natural and supernatural enemies. They also enjoy a new strength and, experiencing God dwelling within them in Spirit form, enter a dimension of living which would otherwise be unknown.

Song Suggestion

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah





The Lord is faithful,

AND HE WILL STRENGTHEN

YOU AND PROTECT YOU

FROM THE EVIL ONE.

2 THESSALONIANS 3:3

Communion

Jesus said: 'I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty'. **Romans 5 v. 8** also tells us: 'God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us'.

An Invitation to the Table:

Come to this table, not because you must but because you may, not because you are strong, but because you are weak. Come, not because any goodness of your own gives you a right to come, but because you need mercy and help. Come, because you love the Lord a little and would like to love him more. Come, because he loved you and gave himself for you. Come and meet the risen Christ, for we are his Body, his People.

A prayer of Approach:

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secret is hidden; cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name; through Christ our Lord, we pray. Amen.

As we prepare to receive the bread and the cup, we hear the words of The Institution:

The Apostle Paul tells us of the institution of the Lord's Supper, when he says: 'For I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night that he was betrayed took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said: 'This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me'. In the

same way he took the cup also, after supper, saying: 'This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me'. For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes. 1 Corinthians 11 v. 23 - 26

A Prayer of Thanksgiving before we eat the bread and drink the cup:

Loving God, we praise and thank you for your love shown to us in Jesus Christ. We thank you for his life and ministry, announcing the good news of your kingdom and demonstrating its power in the lifting of the downtrodden, and the healing of the sick, and the loving of the loveless. We thank you for his sacrificial death upon the cross, for the redemption of the world, and for your raising him to life again, as a foretaste of the glory we shall share. We give you thanks for this bread and wine, symbols of our world and signs of your transforming love. Send your Holy Spirit, we pray, that we might be renewed into the likeness of Jesus Christ and formed into his body. This we pray in his name and for his sake. Amen.

WE NOW SHARE AND EAT OF THE BREAD AND SHARE AND DRINK OF THE CUP

A Final Prayer of Acclamation:

Your death, O Lord, we commemorate. Your resurrection we confess. Your final coming we await. Glory be to you, O Christ.

Amen.

Prayers Of Intercession

Lord, as you hear our worship today and rejoice in our friendship and fellowship with you, so hear our prayer we pray.

Today we pray for:

All those who are facing tough choices at work or in personal life, for leaders of the nations.

All who feel vulnerable, abused or at risk, for the community of Salendine Nook and for all those near to us.

Those who live today in real hunger because their crops have failed or their land is bad or because they have no reward for their labour or because no one wants their labour or they are too unfit to work.

Those who have a hunger for meaning and purpose, for those asking themselves today: God where are you?

Jesus who are you?

Those facing death or serious illness, for those anxiously awaiting tests or surgery, for those who care for them and watch with them.

Amen

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in Heaven
Hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done,
On earth as it is in Heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread
And forgive us our trespasses,
As we forgive those who trespass against us.
Lead us not into temptation
But deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, the power
And the glory, forever and ever.

Amen

Song Suggestion

All Over The World, The Spirit Is
Moving



Blessing

Go forth into the world in peace: be of good courage; hold fast to that which is good; render to no one evil for evil; strengthen the faint - hearted; support the weak; help the afflicted; honour all people; love and serve the Lord rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Amen