

Opening Song 1 – Your Love Awakens Me (Phil Wickham)

<https://youtu.be/VIMh6IS6VjE> Click on the link or copy and paste to your browser in order to hear and follow the song on YouTube.

*There were walls between us and by the cross you came
and broke them down (You broke them down)
And there were chains around us, by Your grace
we are no longer bound (No longer bound)*

***You called me out of the grave, you called me into the light
You called my name and then my heart came alive
Your love is greater, Your love is stronger
Your love awakens, awakens, awakens me***

*Feel the darkness shaking, all the dead are coming
Back to life, back to life
Hear the song awaken, all creation singing
We're alive, 'Cause You're alive*

*And what a love we found, death can't hold us down
We shout it out we're alive, 'cause you're alive
Your love is greater, Your love is stronger
Your love awakens, awakens, awakens me*

Welcome and Introduction by Andrea Moises

Welcome everyone to the Buckminster Road Baptist Church Sunday worship service. We're so glad you've joined us! Today is Valentine's Day and the theme of this commemorative date is love. Often in this occasion people like to write cards, give flowers and gifts to their loved ones. It's also a great opportunity to show love and appreciation to others rather than only to your romantic love or your valentine. When I worked as teacher in Iraq Kurdistan, my students would shower me with flowers, cards and small heart-felt gifts expressing their love for me in this special day. I've kept many of those cards as memories of my beloved students. It is also a great opportunity to take your spouse/friend on a date and eat a nice meal at a restaurant of your choice and celebrate your love for one another. However, for us here in the UK, this year we will need to be creative in order to show appreciation and to honour our loved ones as we're still in lockdown and the restaurants are closed. Taking the opportunity that today is Valentines, I would like to invite you all to stop for a moment to meditate about God's love for us and how we ought to love one another. All the songs, scripture readings and preaching will be based on this theme today. The apostle Paul was concerned about the unity of the diverse and gifted body of Christ so he wrote a letter to the church in Corinth about the spiritual gifts in chapter 12 and he finished that chapter by saying... **"Now eagerly desire the greater gifts. And yet I will show you the most excellent way." I Corinthians 12:31** Then the apostle Paul shows us that the most excellent way is the way of love and he describes what love really is rather than the abstract ideas of what love is: **I Corinthians 13:1-13 - "1 If I speak in the tongues of men or of angels, but do not have love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal. 2 If I have**

the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. 3 If I give all I possess to the poor and give over my body to hardship that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing. 4 Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. 5 It does not dishonour others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. 6 Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. 7 It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. 8 Love never fails. But where there are prophecies, they will cease; where there are tongues, they will be stilled; where there is knowledge, it will pass away. 9 For we know in part and we prophesy in part, 10 but when completeness comes, what is in part disappears. 11 When I was a child, I talked like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I put the ways of childhood behind me. 12 For now we see only a reflection as in a mirror; then we shall see face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I am fully known. 13 And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.” May our love for one other abound more and more.

Let's Pray...

Dear Father,

We confess our inability to love as you have loved us and we confess and repent of our sins. Would you please continue drawing us closer and closer to you so we can love freely, without prejudice and boundaries. Give us your compassionate and loving heart. Amen.

Song 2 – How He Loves (David Crowder)

<https://youtu.be/aCBOF21Xx44> Click on the link or copy and paste to your browser in order to hear and follow the song on YouTube.

*He is jealous for me
Love's like a hurricane, I am a tree
Bending beneath the weight of His wind and mercy
When all of a sudden
I am unaware of these afflictions eclipsed by glory
And I realize just how beautiful You are
And how great Your affections are for me*

***And oh, how He loves us, oh
Oh how He loves us
How He loves us all***

*And we are His portion and He is our prize
Drawn to redemption by the grace in His eyes
If His grace is an ocean, we're all sinking
And heaven meets earth like an unforeseen kiss
And my heart turns violently inside of my chest
I don't have time to maintain these regrets
When I think about, the way...*

Song 3 – Saviour of the World (Ben Cantelon)

https://youtu.be/KXFWYlwx_9c Click on the link or copy and paste to your browser in order to hear and follow the song on YouTube.

*God so loved, that He gave his Son
To lay down his life, for the sake of us
He bore the weight, of our sin and shame, with a cry he said it is finished.*

*Christ the Lord, overcame the darkness!
He's alive, death has been defeated
**For He made us a way, by which we have been saved.
He's the saviour of the world!
So we lift up a shout, for His reign and renown.
Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!
Jesus saviour of the world!***

*We must spread the word. Of His soon return.
To reclaim the world, for his glory!
Let the Church now sing. Of it's coming King.
Crowned with majesty. Our redeemer!*

*And he reigns. Ruler of the heavens!
And His name, is Jesus the Messiah!*

*Christ the Lord. Overcame the darkness!
And he reigns. Ruler of the heavens!
And his name, is Jesus the Messiah!*

Intercessory Prayer - By Andrea Moises

Oh God almighty,

We know that you and only you are able to do all things and that nothing is impossible for you. You reign over all, and power and might are in your hands. I praise you today and always, and I thank you for being who you are, our everlasting Father. I ask for your unfailing love to be revealed to those who need comfort, joy and peace. Would you also bring healing to those who are battling against the corona virus in a hospital bed right now. You're the breath of life so only you can restore their health, bringing healing for all sorts of diseases. I pray for the vaccination to be given to all, as fast as possible so the spread of the corona virus can be eradicated. Oh God I ask you to give us all the strength and perseverance we need to engage in our daily responsibilities, with a new hope for tomorrow. Let us never forget you're God Emmanuel, God with us. Help us to keep our eyes on you and give us the ability to spread your love, being the carriers of hope, grace and joy to the ones who are near as well as the ones who are afar. In Jesus' holy name, amen.

Preaching and Teaching by Pr. Claudio Moises

God's Heart for People - Genesis 6:5-6

A climax of joy is expressed in the opening chapters of the Bible when the Lord looks down upon His creation and shows His heart's delights on all that he had created and

says that it was good. And now we find a tremendous turning point taking place. Mankind, those who were created in the image of God have turned against the creator and there is an imaginable amount of evil that has come into the earth. This was only a handful of people compared to the billions of people living today. **Genesis 6:5-8** records the Lord's response to the evil that he saw. I cannot imagine a sadder passage in the Bible. **Genesis 6:5-8** *"Then the Lord saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually. And the Lord was sorry that He had made man on the earth, and He was grieved in His heart. So the Lord said, "I will destroy man whom I have created from the face of the earth, both man and beast, creeping thing and birds of the air, for I am sorry that I have made them." But Noah found grace in the eyes of the Lord."*

I – God's Heart was Grieved

"And the Lord was sorry that He had made man on the earth, and He was grieved in His heart." Genesis 6:6

Theologians say that we really don't understand what this verse means. Some would say that this is anthropomorphism. A human way of trying to express what God is like. Well I wonder where they got the right to say that this doesn't mean what it says. I truly believe that this was just what God felt. It says here that he felt pain and that He was grieved in His heart. I cannot imagine how that would feel. God an infinite creator felt an infinite level of pain and grief. Think with me for a moment. I don't know about you but I wrestle with the problem of evil and suffering in the world. I have struggled with the whole question of why creation still suffers under a good God. It strikes us especially when somebody close goes through a hard time. I've just lost a cousin with cancer who was only 54 years old, a father of three beautiful daughters, a good, honest and hard working man who loved his family. I don't understand why God allows good people to suffer and die, but I trust Him. If we struggle with pain and suffering and if we sometimes have to say God, I trust you, even though I don't understand...Can you imagine how much more God feels with the pain of evil and suffering in our world? Can we lay aside our feelings of disappointment and suffering for a moment? Can we lay aside our frustration when God doesn't answer our prayers? Just try to imagine what goes on in the heart of an infinite God who is absolutely just and who is perfect in all of His ways as the bible says. What goes on in His heart when he looks down and sees the suffering of every human on the face of this earth? When He sees all the evil and the wicked thoughts of each person simultaneously? When He sees every abuse of children, when He experiences the desperation of every mother whose child has not enough food to eat? Let us stop to think about ourselves and what we go through and think about what God experiences. I think it is time for us to stop concerning ourselves about how we feel about God and start to think about what God feels about us. I believe there is a lot of selfishness even in the best of us when it comes to being concerned about others. There is no selfishness in God, there is no evil and there is no injustice. He has never thought an evil thought and he has never done anything wrong. You must trust that fact even if you struggle with it. Even if you have a hard time believing. That is what these verses declare, that an absolutely perfect, good and just God experiences an infinite level of pain in His heart and unimaginable disappointment when he sees the all the evil here on earth. I believe there is a certain amount of hypocrisy in the hearts of human beings when they point fingers in rage at God and don't acknowledge their own selfishness. Our God has a broken heart. You know the sorrows of disappointment that you experience when someone hurts you. You know the pain you feel when you feel let

down by someone you love. How much more painful is it in an infinite level? In the heart of God who is blameless. I hope this will bring revelation to our hearts today about the immense selfishness most of us live with because our primary concern in life is how we feel and what we can get. We are motivated primarily with concerns of our own well being and spend so little time concerning about God's well being. How does He feel? Can we ask God these questions: Lord would you please give me a revelation of what our sins do to you? How it hurts you? How my sins have grieved you Lord? This is a teaching of Floyd McClung, who started a ministry in the red lights of Amsterdam many years ago and wrote a book about the Father Heart of God, which helped so many people. Floyd believes that we cannot come to a full maturity in our Christian walk until we have a full revelation of what our sins do to God. Have you ever dared to ask God to show you what your sins do to Him? If it moved God so much that he destroyed the whole earth with the flood. Think about how much it means to Him today? I believe God wants to draw us close to a loving relationship with Him. A kind of closeness and intimacy where we can share some of His grieve. Is there anything we can do in order to bring some joy and relief to His heart? My prayer is that He will help me live a life that will bring joy to His heart and not disappointment. In all this, it is amazing how God responds. ***“But Noah found favour in the eyes of the Lord.” Genesis 6:8***

II – God’s Covenant of Love

“Then God blessed Noah and his sons, saying to them, “Be fruitful and increase in number and fill the earth.”

God’s response to mankind after creating them was to put them in a beautiful garden. To put them in the midst of all He had created and to bless them with a covenant of love. He said to Noah the same thing that He said to Adam and Eve. God has a covenant of love with mankind. ***“So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. 28 Then God blessed them, and God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth.” Genesis 1:27-28*** However, men turned their back on God saying I don’t trust you, I don’t want you, I don’t need you and I don’t care what you feel or think. Get out of my life! What does He do? God responds with unimaginable love to our cruelty and selfishness, which culminates at the cross. God became man and stepped into His creation and He allowed us to crucify Him. We expressed our hatred to Him by killing His son and God used this very act to be the source of our forgiveness. We rejected Him but He keeps on loving us and the Apostle Paul puts it in this way. ***“But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Romans 5:8***

III – God Calls Abraham

Time has gone by after the flood and the event of the Tower of Babel takes place. Men still building towers, putting their trust in idols and turning their backs on God and His response is to keep loving and reaching out to men. He keeps on saying I love you! One of the greatest expressions of God’s love to people is when God calls Abraham. Let’s read ***Genesis 12:1-3*** ***“The Lord had said to Abram, ‘Go from your country, your people and your father’s household to the land I will show you. ‘I will make you into a great nation, and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you.’” Genesis 12:1-2***

This follows chapter 11 that tells the story of The Tower of Babel. Men gathered together and they were going to build a tower. They wanted to exalt themselves and prove their greatness. In the middle of that expression of rebellion and independence. What does God do? He calls a man and says to him: 'I want to bless all these people who have been turning against me.' How unimaginable is His love for us! We have been listening to this today after committing all the sins and God is saying. I want to bless you. I love you. We don't understand Him because we are not like Him. We can only grasp a little of how great His love is. God wants to raise a people in order to bless everyone else on the face of the earth. God longs to bless and there is no end to His capacity to bless. He has the amazing ability to absolve all of the cruelty, vileness and anger that we dish out to Him and He takes all this into His great being and turns around and He pours out blessings. 'Abram I want to bless you so that through you I can bless others'. What does it mean to be called by God? What does it mean to step out in faith and follow God? Being called by God means that I want to lay down my life so that I can love and bless other people. Are you willing to bless other people with your life? The Lord is looking for availability. Jesus called His disciples and they were ordinary people with their own weaknesses and fragility. He called us so that we might bless others. To step out in faith and to follow Him. We can bring joy to God's heart when we make ourselves available and respond to His call. Even though Abram didn't know where He was going he obeyed. ***"So Abram departed as the Lord had spoken to him, and Lot went with him." Genesis 12:4*** God called my wife and I to go and we went to Egypt, from there to Israel and then to the North of Iraq. God blessed us with two children and despite our weaknesses and inadequacy God used us to bless many people. He is still calling us today to bless people and we are still going. God keeps calling us out of our comfort zone. It is necessary for us to keep living by faith and in a constant desire to obey Him. ***"And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him." Hebrews 11:6***

Conclusion

God's love for us never ends. He keeps loving people despite their rejection of Him, their sins, failures and weaknesses. God feels the pain and rejection when we turn our backs on Him and keep sinning. We can bring joy or grief into God's heart. May we desire to bring joy to His heart, share some of His pain and suffering by making ourselves available for Him. He has a covenant of love with us and He is faithful. He wants to bless us so we can be a blessing to others. His love reaches out to all and goes beyond our understanding.

Let's pray...

Dear Heavenly father,

We are sorry for bringing pain into your heart when we sin against you. Thank you for showing us today that our sins hurt you deeply. We don't want to keep on sinning. Instead of bringing pain and sorrow to your heart, help us to bring you joy. Please forgive us and help us to rest in your unfailing love and provision to us when you sent Jesus to die on the cross in our place. Thank you for your covenant of love that blesses us so we can be a blessing to others. Help us to lay down our lives to you, trusting that you will guide us.

In Jesus' name, amen.

Song 4 – This is my Desire - Hillsong (Featuring Holly Dawson)

<https://youtu.be/mZGzu6ol9b4> Click on the link or copy and paste to your browser in order to hear and follow the song on YouTube.

*This is my desire, to honour You
Lord with all my heart I worship You
All I have within me
I give You praise
All that I adore is in You*

***Lord I give You my heart
I give You my soul
I live for You alone
Every breath that I take
Every moment I'm awake
Lord have Your way in me***

Final Words and Announcements

There's a zoom prayer meeting for the adults and there is also a youth life group on zoom every Wednesday at 7:30pm. The links will be on the email, which I send with the written service and we will send a reminder on Whatsapp on the day. Gifts and tithes can be sent directly to the church's bank account. Details are on the screen at the end of this video Gifts and tithes can be sent directly to the church's bank account. Details are as follow: A D L Memorial Buckminster – Account Number: 13749406 Sort Code: 09-01-51 - You can send your feedback and your prayer request to my email: moises@galacticomm.org text me or call me: 07592997764

Let us finish this service by praying together the Lord's praying

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.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.

See you all Next Sunday!