

## SERVICE OUTLINE

Song lyrics appear on the screen. Paper copies are available.

### WELCOME & INTRODUCTION

Ed Pennington

### SONGS

Give thanks to the Lord  
O praise the name

### CHILDREN'S SLOT

Jonny Evans

### SONG

When I was lost

5-11s leave for children's church in the scout hut (they will be brought back to the hall after the service). There are also separate crèches / groups for 0-4s in the hall.

### IN CONVERSATION ABOUT PRAYER

### CONFESSION & PRAYERS

**Almighty God, our heavenly Father, we have sinned against you and against our neighbour, in thought and word and deed, through negligence, through weakness, through our own deliberate fault. We are truly sorry and repent of all our sins. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, who died for us, forgive us all that is past; and grant that we may serve you in newness of life to the glory of your name. Amen.**

### BIBLE READING

Liz Shepherd

Psalm 40:1-3 p.566 (*Chinese Bibles p.444*)

### SERMON

Rob Bridgewater

Extended sermon notes in simple English are available on the welcome desk for anyone who would find them helpful.

### SONG

Faithful one

### BOOK REVIEWS

### SONGS

My soul finds rest in God alone

### CLOSING PRAYER

Please join us for refreshments in the church hall, including a meal for the kids.

## PSALM 40:1-3

### SERMON NOTES

Diagnosing a troubled prayer life?

When we call out, God listens (v1)

When we pray, God responds (v2)

When we ask, God exceeds (v3)

## GROWTH GROUPS & FAMILY TABLETALK

Growth groups meet during the week. Part of what we do is to help each other think through more deeply what we learn on Sundays—and then be ready to change as a result.

1. What struck, challenged or encouraged you in the teaching from God's word on Sunday?
2. V1. Why are we tempted to think that God doesn't listen to us? Where in our lives *has* he answered?
3. V1. Why might we not be patient with God? Can you think of Biblical examples of how we wait for God to answer our prayers? What is God really like when we come to him in prayer?
4. V2. Are we tempted to think that God can't or doesn't act in response to prayer? Why do we think like this? What is God really like?

5. God doesn't always respond in the way we might hope. Why would this be? What is God's plan and desire for each of us? How might this change what we ask for ourselves?

And here is a question for parents and children to discuss over a meal time one day...

What do you think God does when we speak to him and ask him things when we pray?