

Guided by a cloud 23 (Exodus 13:21-22)

There has been a lot of talk about algorithms in the last couple of weeks. In maths and computer science, an algorithm is defined as, “a finite sequence of well-defined, computer-implementable instructions used to solve a class of problems or to perform a computation”. I’m very grateful there isn’t a complicated set of instructions that we have to go through to get to God. In Matthew 11:28-30 Jesus says, come to me all who are weary and burdened and I will give you rest. I think a lot of people may describe themselves as weary and burdened at the moment or confused at what’s going on. Things change from one day to the next often with little warning. Through Matthew, Jesus also tells us to learn from Him for He is gentle and humble and we will find rest for our souls. As we come before God this morning we have an opportunity to find rest for our souls and to give our burdens to Him. Jesus is God’s algorithm, he doesn’t change from one day to the next but brings love to those who seek it.



Worship time

[What a friend we have in Jesus](#)

[You unravel me \(no longer slaves\)](#)

[He lavishes grace \(lean hard\)](#)

Psalm 46 *God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into*

the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with their surging. There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy place where the Most High dwells. God is within her, she will not fall; God will help her at break of day. Nations are in uproar, kingdoms fall; he lifts his voice, the earth melts. The Lord Almighty is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress. Come and see what the Lord has done, the desolations he has brought on the earth. He makes wars cease to the ends of the earth. He breaks the bow and shatters the spear; he burns the shields with fire. He says, ‘Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth.’ The Lord Almighty is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.

The people of Israel had God as their king but that didn’t satisfy them. They wanted a king they could see – a military king. God promised to send them one but the plan was not what they expected. Jesus came to earth to be our saviour, he reigned in a new way, in humility. His message was the good news of peace, he came to serve not be served. His reign is the result of his humble service, gentleness and self-sacrifice.

The psalmist reminds us that God is our refuge our strength and through Jesus he is Immanuel – God with us. When we put our trust in Him we can experience first-hand the comfort of His strength, His power, His protection and His counsel. Jesus lives in the heart of all of us, He is with us at all times.

This week is communion, however, I know a number of you will be at church, but we can all reflect on what Jesus brings us. We can lay our burdens at his feet and be renewed by his love for us. A love that took him to the cross so we could have life to the full.

Lord God, We find peace and rest in your arms. We believe in your name, and trust in your love. We thank you for your sacrifice, and receive all you have for us and pray and ask for restoration. We need your touch. We wait on you. You are our Saviour, our friend, and our hope. Amen

“Cast all your anxiety on Him because he cares for you” 1Peter 5:7