

Sunday Service ~ October 5, 2025

Service for Swansea & Charlestown Presbyterian Church

Welcome & Prayer

Come, let us sing for joy to the LORD; let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation. ² Let us come before him with thanksgiving and extol him with music and song. ³ For the LORD is the great God, the great King above all gods. ⁴ In his hand are the depths of the earth & the mountain peaks belong to him. ⁵ The sea is his, for he made it & his hands formed the dry land. ⁶ Come, let us bow down in worship, let us kneel before the LORD our Maker; ⁷ for he is our God and we are the people of his pasture, the flock under his care.

Let's Pray. Sovereign Lord, what a great privilege it is to come into your presence this morning. To be able to sing to the rock of our salvation. To be able to come before you in thanksgiving and to praise you with music and song. To be able to humble ourselves in worship, to pray to our maker & to place ourselves under your sovereign care.

We admit that we don't come to you often enough, and we don't thank you enough, nor are we humble enough, dependent enough, passionate enough. Please forgive us. Forgive us because for everything we have done wrong, whether we have done or said or acted in the wrong way or failed to do, say or act in the right way, that wrongdoing meant that your Son Jesus had to die on the cross to forgive us that sin. So we thank you for Jesus. May he become more and more real to us today as we sing, listen, pray, reflect and commit this time to you now. And we ask this in Jesus name. Amen.

Song – How Great Thou Art

[How Great Thou Art with lyrics performed by chris rice - YouTube](#)

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>1. Oh Lord, my God
When I, in awesome wonder
Consider all the worlds Thy hands have made
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder
Thy power throughout the universe displayed</p> <p>Chorus
Then sings my soul, my Savior God to Thee
How great Thou art, how great Thou art
Then sings my soul, my Savior God to Thee
How great Thou art, how great Thou art</p> | <p>2. And when I think that God, His Son not sparing
Sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in
That on the cross, my burden gladly bearing
He bled and died to take away my sin</p> <p>Chorus</p> <p>3. When Christ shall come, with shout of acclamation
And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart
Then I shall bow, in humble adoration
And then proclaim, my God, how great Thou art</p> <p>Chorus</p> |
|---|---|

Bible Reading – John 19:16-27 (NIV)

So the soldiers took charge of Jesus. ¹⁷ Carrying his own cross, he went out to the place of the Skull (which in Aramaic is called Golgotha). ¹⁸ There they crucified him, and with him two others—one on each side and Jesus in the middle. ¹⁹ Pilate had a notice prepared and fastened to the cross. It read: JESUS OF NAZARETH, THE KING OF THE JEWS. ²⁰ Many of the Jews read this sign, for the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city, and the sign was written in Aramaic, Latin and Greek. ²¹ The chief priests of the Jews protested to Pilate, "Do not write 'The King of the Jews,' but that this man claimed to be king of the Jews." ²² Pilate answered, "What I have written, I have written." ²³ When the soldiers crucified Jesus, they took his clothes, dividing them into four shares, one for each of them, with the undergarment remaining. This garment was seamless, woven in one piece from top to bottom. ²⁴ "Let's not tear it," they said to one another. "Let's decide by lot who will get it." This happened that the scripture might be fulfilled that said, "They divided my clothes among them and cast lots for my garment." So this is what the soldiers did.

²⁵ Near the cross of Jesus stood his mother, his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. ²⁶ When Jesus saw his mother there, and the disciple whom he loved standing nearby, he said to her, "Woman, here is your son," ²⁷ and to the disciple, "Here is your mother." From that time on, this disciple took her into his home.

Announcements

Focus for Month: Godly Households. "Train a child in the way he should go, even when he is old, he will not depart from it" is a biblical admonition from Proverbs 22:6 that emphasizes the importance of early, consistent guidance to shape a child's character and future conduct. This training involves leading by example, teaching positive values like honesty and kindness, and using everyday situations to impart spiritual understanding and practical life skills. Every household should have a plan on how it is training those within it to grow in Christlike character and conduct.

School Holidays. NSW schools are now on a two-week break so that means our normal activities go into recess during this time. That includes our kids church which will not be operating to give our hard-working volunteers a good break. There will be a spot outside to take babies and toddlers as well as activity packs for infants and primary aged kids.

New City Catechism: Question 41. What is the Lord's prayer? Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. **Bible Passage Matthew 6:9-13**

Fitout of new redevelopment. Have your say on what extra work we should do with our new development. We don't have the money to do it all but we want to make the most of our redevelopment to do the things that will make the biggest difference to how we worship, evangelise and encourage one another to grow in the faith. Please respond to the link received in your email. Responses close 12.10s.

Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child finished last Sunday. If you still haven't returned your full boxes, please contact Kathryn O'Callaghan on 0424428722.

Next AM Sermon Series: Romans 1-8 ~ God's Unstoppable Gospel

12.10 **The Gospel that Changes the World** – Romans 1:1–17

19.10 **What's wrong with the world?** – Romans 1:18-2:16

26.10 **Good enough is not good enough** – Romans 2:17-3:20

2.11 **God's great exchange** – Romans 3:21-31

9.11 **The faith that saves** – Romans 4:1-25

Youth and Young Adults Worker As our church continues to grow, so do the pastoral needs of our community. With Luke Wigney moving into full time work, we are prayerfully looking for a male or a female to step into a role serving Youth and Young Adults. You do not need loads of experience, what matters most is being godly and willing. We can train you in the role. If you are interested, consider filling out the application form which will be posted on all Charlestown Presbyterian socials. Applications close 12 October.

Elvanto (if room). Are you getting our regular Sunday morning email with all the goings on at the Church? If not, then it means you are currently not on Elvanto, our Church Management Software system. That is easily fixed by sending a text/email to either Sam Wilson, Audric or Stephen and we will be able to add you on.

Ladies Bauble Making - Save the Date! Baubles may hang on a tree for a season, but the story of Jesus changes lives forever. As we decorate, we'll hear how Jesus has worked in one person's life and why His birth is still worth celebrating. Join us at Charlestown Multipurpose Centre, November 22nd at 2pm. This is for women 12+ and will be structured as an evangelistic event!

Leave. Both Stephen and Audric will be away this week on leave. If you need any pastoral help this coming week please Mal (Swansea), Ross or Jo (Charlestown AM) or Luke (Sunday @ 6).

Pastoral Prayer

Pray for Qatar. (Population 2.7 million, Christians 381,000). Qatari converts face immense pressure and violence from their families. Praise God that expatriate Christians in Qatar can worship relatively freely. Pray that native Qataris will be permitted to convert from Islam without repercussion. Pray for protection over secret believers and help them find other Christians.

Pray for Audric and Elise and their family. We are so thankful that Audric and his family have joined us this year to be our second minister. Pray that he and his family might have a good rest and time of refreshment while away on leave. Pray for wisdom as he leads a team overseeing a growing Sunday @ 6 service. Pray that he might train up more service leaders, bible study leaders and future leaders.

Pray for Hamilton Presbyterian (Marget W to provide)

Pray for our first responders. Sovereign Lord, we thank You for the courage and service of our first responders, who reflect Your care in protecting and helping others. Please guard their lives, give them wisdom in danger, and grant them strength to serve with integrity and compassion. Above all, may they know the true refuge and safety found in Christ alone.

Song – O Breathe of Life [O Breath Of Life \(Acoustic Song Leading Video\) // Emu Music - YouTube](#)

1. O Breath of life, come sweeping through
us,
Revive Your church with life and power.
O Breath of life, come, cleanse, renew us,
And fit Your church to meet this hour.

Chorus: O Breath of love, come breathe
within,
Renewing thought and will and heart;
Come, Love of Christ, afresh to win,
Revive Your church in every part.

2. O Wind of God, come bend us, break us,
Till humbly we confess our need;
Then in Your tenderness remake us,
Revive, restore, for this we plead.
Chorus

3. Revive us, Lord! Is zeal abating
While harvest fields are vast and ripe?
Revive us, Lord, the world is waiting,
Equip Your church to spread the light.
Chorus

Bible Reading – 1 Corinthians 12:1-11

Now about the gifts of the Spirit, brothers and sisters, I do not want you to be uninformed. ² You know that when you were pagans, somehow or other you were influenced and led astray to mute idols. ³ Therefore I want you to know that no one who is speaking by the Spirit of God says, "Jesus be cursed," and no one can say, "Jesus is Lord," except by the Holy Spirit. ⁴ There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit distributes them. ⁵ There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. ⁶ There are different kinds of working, but in all of them and in everyone it is the same God at work. ⁷ Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good. ⁸ To one there is given through the Spirit a message of wisdom, to another a message of knowledge by means of the same Spirit, ⁹ to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by that one Spirit, ¹⁰ to another miraculous powers, to another prophecy, to another distinguishing between spirits, to another speaking in different kinds of tongues, and to still another the interpretation of tongues. ¹¹ All these are the work of one and the same Spirit, and he distributes them to each one, just as he determines.

Sermon – Called by Jesus! (John H)

Sermon link: <https://youtu.be/StFt8UOKqTE>

Slide 1

In 1884, just 8 years after the telephone was invented, a man in America phoned an undertaker to give him the addresses of where he would find a number of bodies of dead men. But when the undertaker arrived at those addresses to collect those bodies he discovered that the men weren't

dead at all; they were all very much alive and well. This is supposedly the first recorded instance of a telephone being used to make a prank call. (<https://www.grunge.com>).

And prank calls have continued to be made ever since, including one where my two older brothers encouraged me, when I was about 11 or 12, to phone a fish shop and ask if they had any flatfish. If they said yes, I told them I would come and buy one if they would please pump it up for me first. Now these prank calls are usually harmless and designed so that the prankster can have a laugh at the expense of someone else.

Unfortunately, these days, the phone is being used for something far worse than prank calls, and that is to make scam calls, and according to the website Scamwatch Australia, 60% of all scams in Australia are perpetrated using the phone. These scammers don't make these calls for a laugh but to harm people and to steal their money, and their victims usually feel embarrassed and violated by the person calling them.

Today I want to point out that Jesus is calling us, he's calling you, but he doesn't use a phone, and his call to us is neither a prank nor a scam. His call to us is for our advantage and benefit; to have a positive impact on our lives; to build us up and to bring us joy. And his calling to us is also designed to benefit those around us as we participate and cooperate with him and others in the building of his kingdom through the church and Christian ministries.

Slide 2

And this has been God's pattern throughout history, starting in the Old and then into the New Testament, for example:

- He called Noah to build an ark (Genesis 6:14)
- He called Abraham to "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you." (Genesis 12:1)
- He called Moses when he said, "Come, I will send you to Pharaoh that you may bring my people, the children of Israel, out of Egypt." (Exodus 3:10)
- He called Esther, through Mordecai, when he said, "And who knows whether you have not come to the kingdom for such time as this?" (Esther 4:14b)
- He called the prophet Isaiah when he said, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" And Isaiah responded, "Here I am! Send me." (Isaiah 6:8)
- Jesus called a group of people when he said, "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men" (Matthew 4:19)
- And then, after his death and resurrection, Jesus called his disciples and he told them to, "Go and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit." (Matthew 28:19)
- And Jesus called Paul on the road to Damascus when he said, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. But rise and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do." (Acts 9:5-6)

In each of these and hundreds more in the Bible and throughout history, God the Father and God the Son, Jesus, called people, not only to repent and be saved, but called them to specific tasks. And in God's kingdom, there is always something that he calls his followers to do, regardless of their age and gender.

Slide 3

And in our passage from John 19 we read that Jesus called his friend, the beloved disciple, John, to a task, and as we'll see, this wasn't the only call Jesus made on John's life.

John 19:16b-19 So they took Jesus, and he went out, bearing his own cross, to the place called The Place of a Skull, which in Aramaic is called Golgotha. There they crucified him, and with him

two others, one on either side, and Jesus between them. Pilate also wrote an inscription and put it on the cross. It read, "Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews."

John 19:25-27 ... standing by the cross of Jesus were his mother [Mary] and his mother's sister, [also called] Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing nearby, he said to his mother, "Woman, behold, your son!" Then he said to the disciple, "Behold, your mother!" And from that hour the disciple took her to his own home.

The call from Jesus to John was for John to look after his mother, Mary. And Jesus asked John to do this because, after his death on the cross and his resurrection, he would return to his Father in heaven and would no longer be around to care for his mother.

Jesus left John with a job to do, he made a calling on John's life. But as I said, it's not the only one Jesus made, and I believe there were five distinct calls that John received from Jesus, three of these were general calls that Jesus makes on every person's life, and two of them were specific calls, just for John.

Slide 4

General Call 1: The first call was a general call Jesus made to everyone who could hear him. In Matthew 4:17 we read "From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."" The first call Jesus made was for people, including John, to repent, a call to turn from living worldly lives to living godly lives, a call to salvation through Jesus, a call to come into his kingdom of faith and forgiveness.

General Call 2: The second call Jesus made on John's life came just after the first call when Jesus called four fishermen, Peter, Andrew, James and John, to follow him so that he could make them into fishers of men (Matthew 4:18-22). They responded to Jesus' call and left their boats and family immediately to follow Jesus. We read in the gospels that John and the others followed Jesus for three years. John listened to Jesus' teachings and witnessed his miracles, and along the way he did exactly what Jesus had called him to do; he followed Jesus and became a fisher of men, a disciple of Jesus. And this invitation or call to follow Jesus and be his disciple, like the first, to repent; is extended to all people, it's a general call for people to accept Jesus as their Lord and Saviour.

General Call 3: In Matthew 28:19-20 we read that Jesus made another call on John's life, which is known as the Great Commission. Just before Jesus ascended into heaven, he said, "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you".

And we know that John obeyed this call and not only ministered with Peter in the early church (Acts 3, 4 & 8), but, later, when he went to Ephesus he published his gospel and letters, and preached and taught, and spread the good news, and served in the church.

This call that Jesus made is a general call to all who answer the first and second calls; it's a call for all his disciples to be involved in the Great Commission, which is the spreading of the gospel to all nations, to all peoples. This is a call for all of Jesus' disciples to be involved in God's work of salvation; a call to participate in the expansion of the Kingdom of God.

Specific Call 1: I believe that another call Jesus placed on John's life came during the Last Supper when he told the disciples that he and his Father would send to them another Helper, the Holy

Spirit, who would teach them all things and bring to their remembrance all that Jesus had said to them (John 14:26).

And this is what John did later on, he remembered what Jesus had said and listened to the Holy Spirit, and he wrote the gospel that bears his name, as well as writing three letters called 1, 2 and 3 John and the letter to the seven churches of Asia called Revelation, which came to him via a vision from Jesus.

We need to note that this call was a specific call for John. This call to write Scripture was only given to nine people in the New Testament. This call was a specific call to a specific person for a specific task and for a specific season of John's life; just like the next one.

Specific Call 2: The second specific call Jesus made on John's life was to look after Jesus' mother, Mary, after Jesus returned to heaven. Jesus only called one person to perform this task. And how do we know if John fulfilled this call given there's no record of it in the Bible other than the statement in John 19:27, "And from that hour the disciple took her to his own home"?

Well, we know from Acts 3, 4 and 8 that John was ministering with Peter in the very early church in the mid 30s of the first century, but then we hear no more about him in Acts. We know that John was not involved in the ministries or missions of Paul; nor, from what we read about the Church Council in Acts 15, was he involved in the senior leadership of the church in Jerusalem. We do know from some of the writings of the early church fathers that he went to Ephesus in about 62AD and, while living there, he was exiled on the nearby island of Patmos for a period of time as punishment for simply doing what Jesus had called him to do (Rev 1:9). (Bryan Litfin "After Acts, Exploring the Lives and Legends of the Apostles", 2015)

So where was John and what was he doing during the 25 or so year gap between ministering with Peter in Acts 3, 4 and 8 in the mid 30s, and then arriving in Ephesus in 62AD?

Well, John was doing what Jesus had called him to do, to look after Jesus' mother, Mary. He stayed in Jerusalem for a period of time and then they may have returned to Galilee where they were both from, and while he looked after Mary he most likely started writing his gospel.

And it's probable that both Matthew and Luke spent time with them, and heard directly from Mary the stories of Jesus' birth that they both included in their gospels, and this is maybe why John didn't include those stories in his gospel, he knew he didn't need to. It was only after Mary passed away that John travelled to Ephesus, where he lived, served in the church and completed and published his gospel. During that 25 years John fulfilled the call that Jesus had made on his life for that season of his life.

In summary, we can see that Jesus made three general calls on John's life — to repent, to follow him and be his disciple, and to be involved in the Great Commission. And then, on top of these, Jesus made two specific calls — to write a gospel and to look after his mother; and as I have said, these two specific calls were for a season in John's life, for a period of time until the task was completed.

In looking at all this, one question that arises is: Does Jesus still make specific calls to specific people to perform specific tasks for specific seasons of their lives today?

Slide 5

In 2008, while living in Singapore, Miranda and I went to a seminar called "Listening to the Voice of Jesus, Living with a Sense of Calling". It was conducted by Dr. Gordon Smith who is a the former

Dean of Regent Theological College in Vancouver, Canada, and the author of a book called “Courage and Calling” (1999).

In it he wrote, “every person [Christian] has a fundamental calling or vocation. God will call us to serve him in the church and the world; however, this calling will always be consistent with who we are ... to how God has made us, how God has crafted our personalities, how God has given us ability and talent and gifts. At each phase of our life, we need to ask the question[s]: Who am I, and what, fundamentally, am I called to be and do? What is my purpose, my reason for being? What are my gifts and abilities? What is my unique personality or temperament? What is the deepest desire of my heart? Where do I personally sense the needs of the world and feel the brokenness in God’s creation?”

Slide 6

He goes on to say that “it is important that we not confuse vocation [that is, our calling from God] with career, job or occupation. In some situations, it makes sense for a calling to be expressed through an occupation [for example, a pastor or a missionary, a doctor or a nurse, a teacher or a counsellor]. But for many people this fundamental call of God, their vocation, is fulfilled outside of or alongside gainful employment ... their occupation is but their means of livelihood [we could say that a person’s occupation is what provides the financial support for them to engage in their vocation]. Many people do not have a formal or clearly defined career, but everyone has a vocation. It comes from God; it reflects my fundamental identity ... our only hope is to live a life that is congruent [or in harmony] with who we are, with whom God has made us to be and how God has gifted us, graced us, and thus called us.”

And this is consistent with what we read in the Bible, which is full of teaching about us being called and gifted as one of Jesus’ followers.

Slide 7

For example, while in prison in Rome Paul wrote to the Christians in the church in Ephesus, “I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called” (Ephesians 4:1).

And in Romans 12 and 1 Corinthians 12 Paul wrote that all Christians receive a spiritual gift or gifts to be used in the service of our Lord, to be used to fulfil their calling. For example, in 1 Corinthians 12:4-7 Paul wrote, “Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of service, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who empowers them all in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit [i.e. a gift or gifts] for the common good.”

In his commentary on the Romans 12 passage about gifts, R. C. Sproul wrote, “Everyone has a task. God has given us gifts, and he has not given them to be wasted or set on a shelf or buried in the ground. God expects us to use them.”

Slide 8

We are called to use these gifts to fulfil the calling that Jesus is making on our lives. We are not to ignore or neglect our gifts or our calling, as Paul wrote to Timothy, “Do not neglect the gift you have” (1 Timothy 4:14) but “fan into flame [or rekindle] the gift of God, which is in you” (2 Timothy 1:6).

And the reason Paul wrote this to Timothy is because Timothy had been given a specific calling, in addition to the three general calls on his life, and Paul wanted to encourage Timothy to use his gifts to fulfil his calling. In 1 Timothy 1:18 Paul wrote, “This charge I entrust to you, Timothy ... in accordance with the prophecies previously made about you, that by them you may wage the good

warfare” or as some Bible versions have it, ‘fight the good fight’.

Paul was reminding Timothy that he has been called and given a gift to serve the Lord and, as one commentator puts it, “these prophecies [made about Timothy] ... refer to a word from the Holy Spirit, through prophets, setting Timothy aside for [his] task. This would mean that Timothy has been called and empowered [or gifted] for the work before him. It is the Lord God himself who has set Timothy apart for his current task.” (Osvaldo Padilla, *The Pastoral Epistles*, 2022, pages 74, 76)

To be honest I find this idea of us being specifically called and gifted by God both exciting and challenging. What if God was calling each of us into something specific, to do something specific for him, to have a kingdom-focused vocation outside of our work or as part of our retirement? Wow, that would be very exciting, that the Creator of the universe had a specific task for you and for me and had specifically gifted us to do it.

On the other hand this would be quite challenging, because we should not ignore this calling, we should not resist the Almighty God. Rather we need to rise to the challenge and cooperate with him and seek to discover what his specific calling on our lives might be, at whatever stage of life we find ourselves in. We need to pray about it. We need to read the Bible to seek the will of God about it. We need to get involved in the church and other Christian ministries more intentionally to discover in what way God might be calling each of us. And we need to find out how God has gifted us to fulfil his calling on our lives.

So how do we go about discovering our calling and our gifting? There are a number of ways you can do this, and because this is so important for all Christians and the church, we have a separate section on it in the *Your Discipleship Journey Bible Study Workbook*, which includes these five suggestions on how to discover your calling and gifting.

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You can pray and ask the Holy Spirit to reveal your calling and gifting to you, and this is the best place to start because the Holy Spirit is the one who gives these gifts. When you do this earnestly, he will answer, and not always in a way that we may expect.

You can ask people you trust to be honest and encouraging with you to affirm what they believe your gifts might be and how you might be able to use them to serve God to fulfil your calling. You can look at the list of spiritual gifts in Romans 12:3-8 & 1 Corinthians 12:1-11 to see if you are drawn to one of them, to see if one seems to fit you and resonate with who you are. Or you might already be using one of them. In using one of these gifts in serving in some way you will either discover if it is truly your spiritual gift, which will then affirm your calling, or not, and if not, don't give up. Sometimes we need to go through a few iterations of this before we discover where God is truly calling and gifting us.

Get involved in something going on in the church or other Christian ministries or missions to find out where you best fit, the place where you help produce spiritual fruit - love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control (Galatians 5:22-23) - because the test of whether you are using your spiritual gift and responding to your calling is that it will always build up the church and the people in it in godly ways.

And fifthly, you may feel convicted to do something, and even despite setbacks, knock-backs and discouragement, you cannot put it aside, you feel compelled to do it? If this is you, God may be pushing you toward your calling.

After-all, what's the alternative? You see it's very easy in our world to go through life and, as John Piper put it in his book "Don't Waste Your Life" (2003), we can waste it; we can focus on things that don't really matter, to engage exclusively in activities that have no eternal consequence. But as Christians, we are called to something different, we are called to a life of significance rather than one of mediocrity.

Jesus didn't die on the cross and rise again just so that those who believe in him could sit or stand on the sidelines. He died and rose again, yes so that we can be forgiven from our sins, but also so that we would join with him in his activities and mission to save the lost and expand the kingdom of God; and we do that best by answering when he calls, and responding to the call he places on each of our lives by using the gifts he has endowed and empowered us with.

Slide 10

Jesus is calling you, just as he called John all those centuries ago.

He is calling you:

1. to repentance,
2. to discipleship,
3. the mission of the church,
4. to respond to his specific calling on your life, and
5. to use the spiritual gift he has given you to fulfil that calling.

Let's pray: Lord, help us understand your Word today, help us to be willing to discover the calling you have placed on our lives and how you have gifted us to fulfil your calling. Help us be like John at the foot of Jesus' cross, answering the call to do your will. Amen

Song – Facing a Task Unfinished

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zOpt_bulJxY

- | | |
|---|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Facing a task unfinished
That drives us to our knees
A need that undiminished
Rebukes our slothful ease
We, who rejoice to know Thee
Renew before Thy throne
The solemn pledge we owe Thee
To go and make Thee known | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. We bear the torch that flaming
Fell from the hands of those
Who gave their lives proclaiming
That Jesus died and rose
Ours is the same commission
The same glad message ours
Fired by the same ambition
To Thee we yield our powers |
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Where other Lords beside Thee
Hold their unhindered sway
Where forces that defied Thee
Defy Thee still today
With none to heed their crying
For life and love and light
Unnumbered souls are dying
And pass into the night | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. O Father who sustained them
O Spirit who inspired
Saviour, whose love constrained them
To toil with zeal untired
From cowardice defend us
From lethargy awake!
Forth on Thine errands send us
To labour for Thy sake |

Benediction. ⁴“There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit distributes them. ⁵There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. ⁶There are different kinds of working, but in all of them and in everyone it is the same God at work.” (1 Corinthians 11:4-6)