**Freedom Sunday:
– International Justice Mission**

^*We welcome Ben McMechan from IJM as our speaker today. Ben has news of both successes and challenges facing the vulnerable in their places of work around the world. He will explain how IJM works around the world with many other local agencies to assist in asserting people’s rights to fair and just treatment in their work. It is not just about decent pay, it is about the freedom from indentured slavery. Welcome to Freedom Sunday!*

**Greeting**

Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all
**and also with you.**

**Hymn 689
– Come, sing praises to the Lord above**

Come, sing praises to the Lord above,
rock of our salvation, Lord of love;
with delight into God’s presence move,
for the Lord our God is king!

*God is king above the mountains high,
the ocean deep, the land and sky;
mighty continents and islands lie
within the hollow of God’s hand.*

Come to worship him and bow the knee,
praise our shepherd with humility;
humble creatures in his hand are we -
sing the praise of God the king!

*God is king above the mountains high,
the ocean deep, the land and sky;
mighty continents and islands lie
within the hollow of God’s hand.*

Hear the story of God’s people now,
you with stubborn hearts who will not bow;
learn what happened long ago and how
God can show you who is king!

*God is king above the mountains high,
the ocean deep, the land and sky;
mighty continents and islands lie
within the hollow of God’s hand.*

Forty years God kept the prize away,
made them wander till they would obey,
exiled all of them until the day
they would honour God as king!

*God is king above the mountains high,
the ocean deep, the land and sky;
mighty continents and islands lie
within the hollow of God’s hand.*

**Introducing worship**

^We have come together in Jesus’ name
to offer God our praise and thanks and prayers.
We will confess our share in the lack of justice the world
and we will admit our own personal sins.
We will seek to learn from God’s word
as we read it, we study it and apply it.
We will ask God to help all agencies of government and industry, and all who labour and direct those who labour,
to become champions of justice to help people.
And we will seek God’s Spirit to lead us into all truth.

^Let us pray
Heavenly Father,
Come by your Spirit upon your people gathered here
that we may honour you not only with our lips but in our lives.
Move us, in our hearts, to respond with love for those
whose needs we discover today.
And make our worship bring you delight.
For Jesus Christ’s sake. **Amen.**

**Bible Reading
– Leviticus 19:6–15**

^‘ “When you reap the harvest of your land, do not reap to the very edges of your field or gather the gleanings of your harvest. Do not go over your vineyard a second time or pick up the grapes that have fallen. Leave them for the poor and the foreigner. I am the Lord your God.
‘ “Do not steal.
‘ “Do not lie.
‘ “Do not deceive one another.
‘ “Do not swear falsely by my name and so profane the name of your God. I am the Lord.
‘ “Do not defraud or rob your neighbour.
‘ “Do not hold back the wages of a hired worker overnight.

^‘ “Do not curse the deaf or put a stumbling-block in front of the blind, but fear your God. I am the Lord.
‘ “Do not pervert justice; do not show partiality to the poor or favouritism to the great, but judge your neighbour fairly.

This is the word of the Lord
**Thanks be to God**

**Children’s Talk
– with Ben**

**Sunday Club begins**

**Thanks & Praise 146
– The Kingdom of God is justice and peace**

The kingdom of God is justice and joy,
for Jesus restores what sin would destroy;
God’s power and glory in Jesus we know,
and here and hereafter the kingdom shall grow.

The kingdom of God is mercy and grace,
the lepers are cleansed, the sinners find place,
the outcast are welcomed God’s banquet to share,
and hope is awakened in place of despair.

The kingdom of God is challenge and choice,
believe the good news, repent and rejoice!
His love for us sinners brought Christ to his cross,
our crisis of judgement for gain or for loss.

God’s kingdom is come, the gift and the goal,
in Jesus begun, in heaven made whole;
the heirs of the kingdom shall answer his call,
and all things cry ‘Glory!’ to God all in all.

*Bryn Rees*

**Freedom Sunday
– Ben McMechan IJM**

**Hymn 499
– When I needed a neighbour, were you there?**

When I needed a neighbour, were you there,
were you there?
When I needed a neighbour were you there?

*And the creed and the colour
and the name won’t matter,
were you there?*

I was hungry and thirsty, were you there,
were you there?
I was hungry and thirsty, were you there?

*And the creed and the colour
and the name won’t matter,
were you there?*

I was cold, I was naked, were you there,
were you there?
I was cold, I was naked, were you there?

*And the creed and the colour
and the name won’t matter,
were you there?*

When I needed a shelter were you there,
were you there?
When I needed a shelter were you there?

*And the creed and the colour
and the name won’t matter,
were you there?*

When I needed a healer were you there,
were you there?
When I needed a healer were you there?

*And the creed and the colour
and the name won’t matter,
were you there?*

Wherever you travel I’ll be there,
I’ll be there,
Wherever you travel I’ll be there.

**And the creed and the colour
and the name won’t matter,
I’ll be there.**

**Confession
– Sins are forgiven at the Cross**

^Let us pray
We have allowed our lives to improve while others in the world have suffered
Lord, remind us: **Lord, forgive us.**
We have tried to buy at the cheapest price, while others in the world have been made to work for nothing.
Lord, remind us: **Lord, forgive us.**
We have expected to be well paid for our goods and services, yet have expected others to sell their farm products for next to no profit
Lord, remind us: **Lord, forgive us.**
We have demanded all our rights, sometimes at the expense of the rights of others for fair wages, decent contracts and their freedom

Lord, remind us:
**Lord, forgive us.**

^We say together

**Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
we have sinned in thought and word and deed,
and in what we have left undone.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.**

**For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us,
that we may walk in newness of life
to the glory of your name. Amen.**

^Merciful Lord,
Grant to your faithful people pardon and peace, that we may be cleansed from all our sins and serve you with a quiet mind; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Affirming Faith**

^Let us stand to affirm our faith in the God of justice.

Do you believe and trust in God the Father,
source of all being and life,
the one for whom we exist?
**We believe and trust in him.**

Do you believe and trust in God the Son,
who took our human nature,
died for us and rose again?
**We believe and trust in him.**

Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit, who gives life to the people of God and makes Christ known in the world?
**We believe and trust in him.**

This is the faith of the Church.
**This is our faith.**
**We believe and trust in one God,**
**Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.**

**Intercessions
– we kneel or sit for prayer**

**Collect for Freedom Sunday
– Holy Innocents (adapted)**

^Heavenly Father,
whose children suffered at the hands of Herod:
By your great might frustrate the evil designs of all in power,
*in government, industry and the marketplace*
and establish your reign of justice, love and peace;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **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.**
**And lead us not into temptation,**
**but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom,**
**the power, and the glory,**
**for ever and ever. Amen.**

**The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ**
**and the love of God**
**and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit**
**be with us all evermore. Amen.**

**Notices**

**Closing Hymn 581
– I have heard my people cry**

I, the Lord of sea and sky,
I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in dark and sin
my hand will save.

I, who made the stars of night,
I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them?
Whom shall I send?

*Here I am, Lord.
Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord,
if you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.*

I, the Lord of snow and rain,
I have borne my people’s pain.
I have wept for love of them.
They turn away.

I will break their hearts of stone,
give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak my word to them.
Whom shall I send?

*Here I am, Lord.
Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord,
if you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.*

I, the Lord of wind and flame,
I will tend the poor and lame.
I will set a feast for them,
my hand will save.

Finest bread I will provide
till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give my life to them.
Whom shall I send?

*Here I am, Lord.
Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord,
if you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.*

**Harvest Thanksgiving
– Carryduff 2 October 10:00
– Killaney 16 October 3:00**

^Teach us what it means to live in freedom with justice for all.
dedicated to the good of people all over the world.
you have created us with the ability to work for the common good.
Send your Spirit upon us your people as we seek to discover ways in which we can honour you by the way we produce excellent and consume what others have