Stoke Poges Church St Giles' and St Andrew's



5th July 2020 Who is Jesus? What is he about?

Welcome to this All Age Family service

Introductory music: Church (Take Me Back)

Sung by Cochren & Co. Songwriters: Bryan Fowler / Micah Kuiper / Michael Cochrane. Church (Take Me Back) lyrics © Sony/ATV Music Publishing LLC Link to full version and video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3eTOcrWu8mQ

<u>Welcome</u>

<u>Notice</u>

. . ..

<u>Opening prayer:</u> (*All*) We are here today, Lord, to worship you. As we come before you, we want to be amazed by your wisdom, bowled over by your love, and completely lost in you. Lord, open our hearts to receive you, in ways beyond whatever we could ever ask or even think. Amen. Simon Edwards

Natasha Brady

² When John, who was in prison, heard about the deeds of the Messiah, he sent his disciples ³ to ask him, "Are you the one who is to come, or should we expect someone else?"

¹⁶ "To what can I compare this generation? They are like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling out to others:

¹⁷ "'We played the pipe for you,

and you did not dance;

we sang a dirge,

and you did not mourn.'

¹⁸ For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, 'He has a demon.' ¹⁹ The Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, 'Here is a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners.' But wisdom is proved right by her deeds."

The Father Revealed in the Son

²⁵ At that time Jesus said, "I praise you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and learned, and revealed them to little children. ²⁶ Yes, Father, for this is what you were pleased to do.

²⁷ "All things have been committed to me by my Father. No one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal him

²⁸ "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. ²⁹ Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰ For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."

Is Jesus the One?:

Simon Edwards

Song: You Got This

Have you ever had one of those days When nothing really goes your way Then you see it wasn't meant to You get a new view, yeah, yeah Everybody has sleepless nights Lost in the worry, will I work out alright? Feels like I'm going crazy Stressed out praying, yeah, yeah

I know it's not a lot, know it's not a lot I give You all I got, give You all I got I know it's true, I can count on You

I don't know the way But You got this Give me the faith That You got this Even today You got this I know that I know that I know that You got this Caught up in the same mistakes You catch my fall when I fall on my face Learning slowly, God You show me, yeah, yeah

There's a better way, there's a better way I give You everything, give You everything I know it's true, I can count on You

I don't know the way But You got this Give me the faith That You got this Even today You got this I know that I know that I know that You got this Yeah, You got this Give me the faith That You got this Even today You got this I know that I know that I know that You got this

Breathe in, breathe out Feels good to shout it out, shout it out Breathe in, breathe out Feels good to shout it out, shout it out

I don't know the way But You got this Give me the faith That You got this Even today You got this I know that I know that I know that You got this Yeah, You got this Give me the faith That You got this Even today You got this I know that I know that I know that You got this

Give me the faith I know that I know that I know that You got this Yeah I know that I know that I know that You got this

Sung by Love & The Outcome. Source: Musixmatch Songwriters: Jonathan Smith / Bryan Fowler / Chris Rademaker You Got This lyrics © So Essential Tunes, Be Essential Songs, Curb Word Music

What is Jesus about?:

Tina Edwards

<u>Getting real with God:</u>	Simon Edwards	
Dear Lord, it doesn't always sink in just who I am talking to when I come before you. I don't fully get it, that I'm in the presence of such a mighty God.		(AII)
Please, Lord, forgive me for the times when my picture and understanding of you are far too small; when I try to fit you into that tiny box that I think I can cope with; when I'm frightened to let your power loose in my life. Forgive me, Lord, and make me whole. Amen.		
Pause		
Merciful father, I am sorry for the things I have thought, said and done, (All) which have hurt others and damaged me I lay these things before you now		(All)
Pause		
Faithful friend, I thank you for always loving me, no matter how I behave (All) Thank you for forgiving me Help me to trust you always Amen		
Prayers: Provide the Provide t	Prepared and led by Heather & Oliver McDowell	

Lord's Prayer:

Led by Jeff Higgins

Our Father in heaven, Hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, Your will be done, On earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins As we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation But deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, And the glory are yours now and for ever. Amen.

Song: I Stand In Awe Of You

You are beautiful beyond description Too marvellous for words Too wonderful for comprehension Like nothing ever seen or heard Who can grasp Your infinite wisdom? Who can fathom the depth of Your love? You are beautiful beyond description Majesty, enthroned above

And I stand, I stand in awe of You I stand, I stand in awe of You Holy God, to whom all praise is due I stand in awe of You

You are beautiful beyond description Too marvellous for words Too wonderful for comprehension Like nothing ever seen or heard

Who can grasp Your infinite wisdom? Who can fathom the depth of Your love? You are beautiful beyond description Majesty, enthroned above

And I stand, I stand in awe of You I stand, I stand in awe of You Holy God, to whom all praise is due I stand in awe of You

Of you, of you

Source: Musixmatch Songwriters: Mark Altrogge I Stand In Awe lyrics © Sovereign Grace Praise

His yoke is easy:

Tina Edwards

Song: | Belong

I see hope, coming on the horizon There's no need for hiding Cause I belong

Here I am In the presence of the Great I am Near to your heart oh God I have found my joy I've searched so long In darkness I have walked so far Fighting but I'm holding on When your love draws near

Hallelujah, I belong here In your presence safe and secure I see hope, coming on the horizon There's no need for hiding Cause I belong I often fail But daily your love prevails Christ my peace within I will trust in you In your presence Lord Joys will overflow You are God and friend I am home again

Hallelujah, I belong here In your presence safe and secure I see hope, coming on the horizon There's no need for hiding Cause I belong

Oh how could this be true That I belong with you Oh what you went through To prove what love can do

How could this be true That I belong with you Oh what you went through To prove what love can do

Hallelujah, I belong here In your presence safe and secure I see hope, coming on the horizon There's no need for hiding Cause I belong

I see hope, coming on the horizon There's no need for hiding Cause I belong

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Sung by Tim Timmons & Amy Grant. Source: <u>Musixmatch</u> Songwriters: David Leonard / Tim Timmons / Andrew Ripp / Leslie Jordan / Sarah Macintosh / Ethan Hulse / Jacob Stillman / Stephanie Skipper I Belong lyrics © All Essential Music, Be Essential Songs

Stoke Poges Church Contacts:

Reverend Natasha Brady: Tel 01753 645389 Email: vicar@stokepogeschurch.org

To contact the church office please email office@stokepogeschurch.org or phone 01753 642331. Please do not come to the office in person; we are all working remotely.

Going Deeper

Bible Notes: Matthew 11.16-19, 25-30

In Matthew's Gospel, we see Jesus mock those who are 'wise', as he suggests that their longing for wisdom blinds them to what God is really doing. It is in fact vulnerable and humble children who are most likely to be in tune with God. Jesus also uses the metaphor of a yoke. A yoke can be a way of bearing a 'burden', but it is also a way of connecting two animals as they are 'yoked' together. So, the image of sharing a yoke with Jesus suggests being paired and guided by him as well as him offering to help bear our burdens.

Perhaps a burden that the people were carrying was the missed expectations about the Messiah; we too may still need to reassess our expectations of who Jesus is and what he is able to do, to come to him and learn from him.

Questions for Reflection



- What can we learn from this image?
- How might we help people who carry heavy burdens?
- What does 'my yoke is easy... my burden is light' mean to you?

Live your faith

Write a list of the wonderful things you see in a friend and send the list to them.

A personal prayer

Lord, you know how weary and bowed down I feel sometimes. I claim your rest for my soul. I come to you in my emptiness and cry to you for your fullness. Rescue me and fill me, Lord. Amen



Activity time 🥏

Matthew 11.16-19,25-30

Jesus reassures us that no matter how busy life is, if we ask him, he will share our burdens and give us rest.





Talk How often do we 'carry on regardless' when really we need some help? Why are we often worried about asking for help?

Do Offer to help a neighbour or relative who is struggling with something. They may have difficulty carrying their shopping or weeding their garden.

Pray Father God, when we face situations that we find difficult, help us to remember that you are always there to share our troubles. Amen.



Can you balance? Draw yourself and raw a friend on either end of the see-saw.





Look at these two pictures of a donkey carrying a heavy load. Can you spot five differences between the two pictures?









Unscramble the words relating to things that Jesus offers us. Write the correct words on the backpacks.



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Answer: rest; peace; gentleness; easy yoke; light load