

Stoke Poges Church

St Giles' and St Andrew's



Sunday 25th October 2020

Led by Nigel Lowe

Welcome to our service of Morning Prayer. Please join in using the words in **bold**.

Opening Hymn

"And can it be" by Charles Wesley

And can it be that I should gain
An int'rest in the Savior's blood?
Died He for me, who caused His pain?
For me, who Him to death pursued?
Amazing love! how can it be
That Thou, my God, shouldst die for me?
Amazing love! how can it be
That Thou, my God, shouldst die for me?

'Tis mystery all! The Immortal dies!
Who can explore His strange design?
In vain the firstborn seraph tries
To sound the depths of love Divine!
'Tis mercy all! let earth adore,
Let angel minds inquire no more.

Amazing love! how can it be
That Thou, my God, shouldst die for me?

He left His Father's throne above,
So free, so infinite His grace;
Emptied Himself of all but love,
And bled for Adam's helpless race:
'Tis mercy all, immense and free;
For, O my God, it found out me.
Amazing love! how can it be
That Thou, my God, shouldst die for me?

Long my imprisoned spirit lay
Fast bound in sin and nature's night;
Thine eye diffused a quickening ray,
I woke, the dungeon flamed with light;
My chains fell off, my heart was free,
I rose, went forth, and followed Thee.
Amazing love! how can it be
That Thou, my God, shouldst die for me?

No condemnation now I dread;
Jesus, and all in Him, is mine!
Alive in Him, my living Head,
And clothed in righteousness Divine,
Bold I approach the eternal throne,
And claim the crown, through Christ my own.
Amazing love! how can it be
That Thou, my God, shouldst die for me?

Prayer of Preparation

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

This is the day that the Lord has made
Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

We have come together in the name of Christ
to offer our praise and thanksgiving,
to hear and receive God's holy word,
to pray for the needs of the world,
and to seek the forgiveness of our sins,
that by the power of the Holy Spirit
we may give ourselves to the service of God.

Prayers of Penitence

Jesus says, "Repent for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand"
So let us turn away from our sin and turn to Christ,
confessing our sins in penitence and faith.

**Almighty and most merciful Father,
we have wandered and strayed from your ways like lost sheep.
We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts.
We have offended against your holy laws.
We have left undone those things that we ought to have done;
and we have done those things that we ought not to have done;
and there is no health in us.
But you, O Lord, have mercy upon us sinners,
Spare those who confess their faults.
Restore those who are penitent,
according to your promises declared to mankind
in Christ Jesus our Lord.
And grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake,
that we may live a disciplined, righteous and godly life,
to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

May the Father of all mercies
cleanse us from our sins,
and restore us in his image
to the praise and glory of his name,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

As we rejoice in the gift of this new day,
so may the light of your presence, O God,
set our hearts on fire with love for you;
now and for ever.

Amen

Hymn

“Forth in the peace of Christ we go”

Forth in the peace of Christ we go;
Christ to the world with joy we bring;
Christ in our minds, Christ in our lips,
Christ in our hearts, the world's true King.

King of our hearts, Christ makes us kings;
kingship with Him His servants gain;
with Christ, the Servant-Lord of all,
Christ's world we serve to share Christ's reign.

Priests of the world, Christ sends us forth
the world of time to consecrate,
the world of sin by grace to heal,
Christ's world in Christ to recreate.

Prophets of Christ, we hear His word:
He claims our minds, to search His ways,
He claims our lips, to speak His truth,
He claims our hearts, to sing His praise.

We are the Church; He makes us one:
here is one hearth for all to find,
here is one flock, one Shepherd-King,
here is one faith, one heart, one mind.

Songwriter James Quinn, tune Duke Street
Organist Harvey Stansfield and the Vox Angelica Quartet

Psalm

Psalm 1

¹Blessed is the one
who does not walk in step with the wicked
or stand in the way that sinners take
or sit in the company of mockers,
²but whose delight is in the law of the LORD,
and who meditates on his law day and night.
³That person is like a tree planted by streams of water,
which yields its fruit in season
and whose leaf does not wither –
whatever they do prospers.

⁴Not so the wicked!

They are like chaff
that the wind blows away.

⁵Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment,
nor sinners in the assembly of the righteous.

⁶For the LORD watches over the way of the righteous,
but the way of the wicked leads to destruction.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning is now
and shall be for ever. Amen**

Scripture Reading

1 Thessalonians 2.1-8 read by Margriet Wells

²You know, brothers and sisters, that our visit to you was not without results. ²We had previously suffered and been treated outrageously in Philippi, as you know, but with the help of our God we dared to tell you his gospel in the face of strong opposition. ³For the appeal we make does not spring from error or impure motives, nor are we trying to trick you. ⁴On the contrary, we speak as those approved by God to be entrusted with the gospel. We are not trying to please people but God, who tests our hearts. ⁵You know we never used flattery, nor did we put on a mask to cover up greed – God is our witness. ⁶We were not looking for praise from people, not from you or anyone else, even though as apostles of Christ we could have asserted our authority. ⁷Instead, we were like young children^[a] among you.

Just as a nursing mother cares for her children, ⁸so we cared for you. Because we loved you so much, we were delighted to share with you not only the gospel of God but our lives as well.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Hymn

The Lord Bless You and Keep You

The Lord bless you and keep you:

The Lord make His face to shine upon you,

To shine upon you and be gracious, and be gracious unto you

The Lord bless you and keep you:

The Lord make His face to shine upon you,

To shine upon you and be gracious, and be gracious unto you

The Lord lift up the light
Of His countenance upon you,
The Lord lift up the light
Of His countenance upon you,
And give you peace,
And give you peace,
And give you peace,
And give you peace

Amen (repeat x4)

Songwriter: John Rutter

Sung by the choir of Westminster Abbey during a service to celebrate the 60th wedding anniversary of Queen Elizabeth II and Prince Philip April 2010

Sermon

Natasha is opening God's word for us today

The Creed

**I believe in God, The Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
He ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Prayers

Prepared and read for us by Deb Whittaker

The response is:

Through our prayers, caring and sharing ~ **Your kingdom come**

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 sin,
As we forgive those who sin against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours
Now and forever. Amen.

The Collect

for the Last Sunday after Trinity

Blessed Lord,
who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning:
help us so to hear them,
to read, mark, learn and inwardly digest them
that, through patience, and the comfort of your holy word,
we may embrace and for ever hold fast the hope of everlasting life,
which you have given us in our Saviour Jesus Christ,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.
Amen

Final Hymn

"Tell out my soul" recorded for BBC Songs of Praise at Arundel Cathedral

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord!
Unnumbered blessings give my spirit voice;
Tender to me the promise of his word;
In God my Saviour shall my heart rejoice.

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his name!
Make known his might, the deeds his arm has done;
His mercy sure, from age to age the same;
His holy name, the Lord, the mighty One.

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his might!
Powers and dominions lay their glory by;
Proud hearts and stubborn wills are put to flight,
The hungry fed, the humble lifted high.

Tell out, my soul, the glories of his word!
Firm is his promise, and his mercy sure.
Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord
To children's children and forever more!

The Blessing

Grant, we beseech you, merciful Lord,
to your faithful people pardon and peace,
that they may be cleansed from all their sins
and serve you with a quiet mind;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Amen

Intro/outro music by www.purple-planet.com

Note

To contact the church please email office@stokepogeschurch.org or phone 01753 642331. Please do not come to the office in person without checking that someone will be there, as we are still working from home for part of the week.

Thank you for joining us today

Name

1 Thessalonians 2.1-8

Paul tells the Thessalonians how much he cares for them all.

Activity time



Draw a picture of someone you care about.



Family time

Talk Do you think it is easy or hard to be gentle?

Do Write a card or letter to someone you care about but haven't seen for a while.

Pray: Make a list of the people you care about and thank God for each of them. Add to the list during the week.



Find the words from today's verses in the word search.

l	r	s	b	o	n	i	n	v	v
h	r	h	t	f	e	u	t	c	n
i	i	a	d	n	r	m	y	k	o
v	s	r	e	s	d	e	x	y	h
g	l	e	e	d	l	m	a	w	u
n	o	v	a	t	i	u	i	j	r
j	g	s	n	v	h	e	r	a	c
z	p	e	p	o	c	g	s	o	d
f	g	d	e	e	p	l	y	w	c
w	d	e	j	r	l	h	j	u	n

gentle
care
deeply
share
gospel
dear
nurse
children

ROOTS children's Sheet

25-31 October 2020



Write a postcard telling someone how much you care for them.



