

Morning Prayer

Sunday 25th April 2021
Led by Revd Natasha Brady

Welcome to our service of Morning Prayer.

Notices can be found on your [Friday Email](#), on our [website](#), [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#).

Thanks to Janet Cottrell for choosing our music today.

Please join in today's service using the words in **bold**.

Opening Hymn

Great is thy faithfulness

- 1 Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father,
there is no shadow of turning with thee;
thou changest not, thy compassions they fail not,
as thou hast been thou for ever wilt be.
Great is thy faithfulness!
Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
all I have needed thy hand hath provided -
great is thy faithfulness, Lord unto me!

2 Summer and winter, and spring-time and harvest,
sun, moon and stars in their courses above,
join with all nature in manifold witness
to thy great faithfulness, mercy and love.

Chorus

3 Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!

Chorus

sung by St Martin's Voices

Thomas O Chisholm (1866-1960)

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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
cleans 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

Before the throne of God above

Before the throne of God above
I have a strong and perfect plea:
a great High Priest, whose name is Love,
who ever lives and pleads for me.
My name is graven on his hands,
my name is written on his heart;
I know that while in heaven he stands
no tongue shall bid me thence depart,
no tongue shall bid me thence depart.

When Satan tempts me to despair,
and tells me of the guilt within,
upward I look, and see Him there
who made an end of all my sin.
Because the sinless Saviour died,

my sinful soul is counted free;
for God, the just, is satisfied
to look on him and pardon me,
to look on him and pardon me.

Behold him there! the risen Lamb!
My perfect, spotless righteousness,
the great unchangeable I AM,
the King of glory and of grace!
One with himself, I cannot die;
my soul is purchased by his blood;
my life is hid with Christ on high,
with Christ, my Saviour and my God,
with Christ, my Saviour and my God.

One with himself, I cannot die;
my soul is purchased by his blood;
my life is hid with Christ on high,
with Christ, my Saviour and my God,
with Christ, my Saviour and my God.

Led by Seth Price, Logan Williams, Brittany and Brandon Hurlbert and Tim Packer for evening worship at St Nic's Church, Durham, Sunday 3 May 2020

Charitie Lees de Chenez (1841-1923)

Psalm

Psalm 23

¹The LORD is my shepherd, I lack nothing.

² He makes me lie down in green pastures,
he leads me beside quiet waters,

³ he refreshes my soul.

He guides me along the right paths
for his name's sake.

⁴Even though I walk
through the darkest valley,^[a]

I will fear no evil,
for you are with me;
your rod and your staff,
they comfort me.

⁵You prepare a table before me
in the presence of my enemies.

You anoint my head with oil;
my cup overflows.

⁶ Surely your goodness and love will follow me
all the days of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD
for ever.

**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 John 10.1-11 read by Judy Giles

¹¹ 'I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. ¹² The hired hand is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep. So when he sees the wolf coming, he abandons the sheep and runs away. Then the wolf attacks the flock and scatters it. ¹³ The man runs away because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep.

¹⁴ 'I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me – ¹⁵ just as the Father knows me and I know the Father – and I lay down my life for the sheep. ¹⁶ I have other sheep that are not of this sheepfold. I must bring them also. They too will listen to my voice, and there shall be one flock and one shepherd. ¹⁷ The reason my Father loves me is that I lay down my life – only to take it up again. ¹⁸ No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down and authority to take it up again. This command I received from my Father.'

This is the word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

Hymn

Restore, O Lord

- 1 Restore, O Lord, the honour of Your name,
 in works of sovereign power
 come shake the earth again;
 that all may see and come with reverent fear
 to the living God,
 whose kingdom shall outlast the years.

- 2 Restore, O Lord, in all the earth Your fame,
 and in our time revive
 the church that bears Your name.
 And in Your anger, Lord, remember mercy,
 O living God,
 whose mercy shall outlast the years.

- 3 Bend us, O Lord, where we are hard and cold,
 in Your refiner's fire
 come purify the gold.
 Though suffering comes and evil crouches near,
 still our living God
 is reigning, He is reigning here.
- 4 Restore, O Lord, the honour of Your name,
 in works of sovereign power
 come shake the earth again;
 that all may see and come with reverent fear
 to the living God,
 whose kingdom shall outlast the years.

sung by St Martin's Voices

Graham Kendrick (born 1950) & Chris Rolinson

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Sermon Revd Natasha is opening God's word for us today

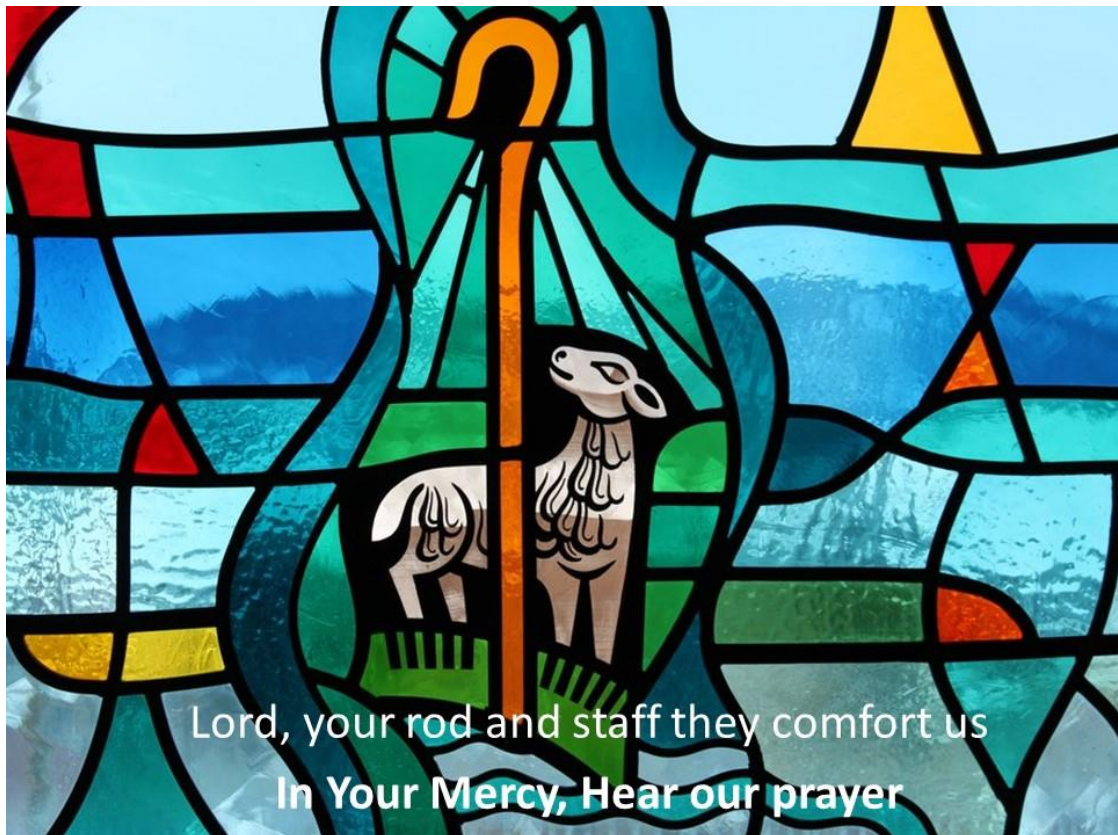
The Creed

**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, with some beautiful pictures she has chosen to illustrate them.



Lord, your rod and staff they comfort us
In Your Mercy, Hear our prayer



Lord, your rod and staff they comfort us
In Your Mercy, Hear our prayer.





Lord, your rod and staff they comfort us
In Your Mercy, Hear our prayer

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 Fourth Sunday of Easter

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ is the resurrection and the life:
Raise us, who trust in him, from the death of sin to the life of righteousness,
That we may seek those things which are above, where he reigns with you
In the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.
Amen

Final Hymn

In Christ alone

- 1 In Christ alone my hope is found,
he is my light, my strength, my song;
this cornerstone, this solid ground,
firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
What heights of love, what depths of peace,
when fears are stilled, when strivings cease!
My comforter, my all in all,
here in the love of Christ I stand.

- 2 In Christ alone! - who took on flesh,
fullness of God in helpless babe!
This gift of love and righteousness,
scorned by the ones he came to save:
till on that cross as Jesus died,
the wrath of God was satisfied -
for every sin on him was laid;
here in the death of Christ I live.

- 3 There in the ground his body lay,
light of the world by darkness slain:
Then bursting forth in glorious day
up from the grave he rose again!
And as he stands in victory,
sin's curse has lost its grip on me,
for I am his and he is mine -
bought with the precious blood of Christ.

- 4 No guilt in life, no fear in death,
this is the power of Christ in me;
from life's first cry to final breath,
Jesus commands my destiny.
No power of hell, no scheme of man,
can ever pluck me from his hand;
till he returns or calls me home,
here in the power of Christ I'll stand!

sung by St Martin's Voices

Stuart Townend (born 1963) and Keith Getty (born 1974)

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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 The Church office will be open Monday & Thursday 10am – 1pm, other days please email office@stokepogeschurch.org or phone 01753 642331 in normal business hours.

Thank you for joining us today



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Thank you for whatever you are able to give



Mark 8.31-38

Jesus told the disciples the things that were going to happen to him, even though this was upsetting for them to hear.



The disciples were shocked when Jesus told them he was going to die. In the space below, draw your own reaction to this news.

Write

Fit the words from the story into the grid. The shaded column will show a message from Jesus.

- Peter
- Gospel
- world
- lose
- suffer
- ashamed
- son
- disciple

Puzzle

Can you use the code to reveal what Jesus told his disciples?

+	x	Ω	ç	+	+	X	•	±	+	Ω	x	+	ç
a	b	d	e	f	h	m	n	o	s	t			

+xΩ ç +X • ± + Ω x + ç
 ,

Draw

Colour the spotted sections to complete the words of Jesus: 'Take up your _____ and follow me.'

