

Stoke Poges Church

St Giles' and St Andrew's



Welcome to this Family Service

Led by Revd Natasha Brady

Notices can be found on your [Friday Email](#), on our [website](#), [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#). At the end of the service sheet, are your Roots at Home & Activity Sheets.

Opening Prayer

Lord, whatever the weather in our lives,
be it stormy or calm,
may we for this hour put it aside
and bask in the sunshine of your love.

Amen.

Song

My Lighthouse

In my wrestling and in my doubts
In my failures You won't walk out
Your great love will lead me through
You are the peace in my troubled sea
You are the peace in my troubled sea

In the silence, You won't let go
In the questions, Your truth will hold

Your great love will lead me through
You are the peace in my troubled sea
You are the peace in my troubled sea

My lighthouse, my lighthouse
Shining in the darkness, I will follow You
My Lighthouse, my Lighthouse
I will trust the promise
You will carry me safe to shore...
Safe to shore...
Safe to shore...
Safe to shore

I won't fear what tomorrow brings
With each morning I'll rise and sing
My God's love will lead me through
You are the peace in my troubled sea
You are the peace in my troubled sea...

My lighthouse, my lighthouse
Shining in the darkness, I will follow You
My lighthouse, my lighthouse
I will trust the promise
You will carry me safe to shore...
Safe to shore...
Safe to shore...
Safe to shore...

Fire before us, You're the brightest
You will lead us through the storms
Fire before us, You're the brightest
You will lead us through the storms

My lighthouse, my lighthouse
Shining in the darkness, I will follow You
My lighthouse, my lighthouse
I will trust the promise
You will carry me safe to shore...
Safe to shore...
Safe to shore...
Safe to shore

Source: Musixmatch

Songwriters: Llewellyn Christopher Dean / Gilkeson Gareth Andrew

My Lighthouse lyrics © Thank You Music Ltd.

Confession

Take a moment to be silent

Lord, I confess you don't always have the effect on me that you had on the waves.

I flap around in the deep waters,
thinking I'm going to sink any minute
and actually make things worse.
You stilled the storms to whisper
and calmed the loud waves with a hush.

Forgive me, Lord, for not trusting in you.
I'm sorry that I just don't seem to have got the hang of that yet.
Amen.

Reading Psalm 107. 1-3;23-31 read to us by Margriet Wells

1 Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures for ever. 2 Let the redeemed of the Lord tell their story – those he redeemed from the hand of the foe, 3 those he gathered from the lands, from east and west, from north and south.

23 Some went out on the sea in ships; they were merchants on the mighty waters.
24 They saw the works of the Lord, his wonderful deeds in the deep. 25 For he spoke and stirred up a tempest that lifted high the waves. 26 They mounted up to the heavens and went down to the depths; in their peril their courage melted away. 27 They reeled and staggered like drunkards; they were at their wits' end. 28 Then they cried out to the Lord in their trouble, and he brought them out of their distress. 29 He stilled the storm to a whisper; the waves of the sea were hushed. 30 They were glad when it grew calm, and he guided them to their desired haven. 31 Let them give thanks to the Lord for his unfailing love and his wonderful deeds for mankind.

Sermon Natasha is opening God's Word for us today

Affirmation of Faith

We say together in faith

Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God almighty, who was and is and is to come.

We believe in God the Father, who created all things:
for by his will they were created and have their being.

We believe in God the Son, who was slain:
for with his blood he purchased us for God, from every tribe and language, from every people and nation.

**We believe in God the Holy Spirit:
the Spirit and the Bride say 'Come!' Even so come Lord Jesus!
Amen**

cf Revelation 4.8,11;5.9;22.17,20

Song

In Christ Alone

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

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
'Til 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

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

No guilt in life, no fear in death
This is the power of Christ in me
From a life's first cry to final breath
Jesus commands my destiny
No power of hell, no scheme of man
Could ever pluck me from His hand
'Til He returns or calls me home
Here in the power of Christ I stand

Intercession prepared and read to us by John Wheatley

Response: In you O Lord ~ **Do we put our trust**

Lord's Prayer

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.

Collect

God our redeemer, you have delivered us from the power of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of your Son:

grant, that as by his death he has recalled us to life, so by his continual presence in us he may raise us to eternal joy;

through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.

Amen

Song

How Great Thou Art

O 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 pow'r throughout the universe displayed:

Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to thee;

How great thou art, how great thou art!

Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to thee:

How great thou art, how great thou art!

When through the woods and forest glades I wander
And hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees,
When I look down from lofty mountain grandeur,
And hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze:

Chorus

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:

Chorus

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 there proclaim, my God, how great thou art!

Chorus

Final Prayer

Lord, as we leave this time of peace,
send us out into the calms and storms of life
knowing we need no other protector but you.
Amen.

Thank you for joining us today.

Quick Note: The Church office will be open Monday & Thursday 10am – 1pm, other days
please email office@stokepogeschurch.org or phone 01753 642331.



Bible Notes

This psalm celebrates God's steadfast love, shown as the redeemer and rescuer of God's people. One phrase is repeated throughout the psalm, like a chorus: 'They cried to the Lord in their trouble' (vv.6,13,19,28). Illness, storms, imprisonment and being lost in the desert – whenever human resources failed, they cried to God and God rescued them.



Can you hear me?

Listen to 'Can you hear me?' by Thomas Hewitt Jones, written during the 2020 pandemic lockdown to bring hope to those suffering from loneliness and despair.

- How might the song be used to encourage people to speak about difficult issues?
- How might they bring hope to people who are feeling all 'at sea'?
- Are there specific individual or community actions that you could take this week?

Prayer Den

'Make yourselves at home in my love' (John 15.9, MSG).
Build a 'prayer den' – a place where you can feel comfortable and 'at home' with God. For example, find a quiet corner of your house or garden and make it cosy using cushions or blankets, perhaps with a poster or two inside. Use it as a space where you can be quiet and share with God your joys, hopes, fears and sorrows...and listen for God's response.

PLAY

If restrictions permit, go to the park with at least one other person and take a ball. If online, share a word game or play trivia with at least one other person. If you are alone, play a game of Patience. Afterwards, think about what enjoying the company of friends – and/ or simply playing – teaches you about your relationship with God.

Puddle prayers

Splashing in puddles is fun & you can pray at the same time.

Next time it rains - give it a go!

Find some puddles and spend time splashing around. Imagine each puddle is a person that you want to know the love of Jesus.

As you jump, say the person's name.

How big a splash you can make? Ask God for the courage to splash out his love for people.

Daily Prayer

You will need: a long strip of paper (e.g. cut an A4 sheet lengthways down the middle), scissors, pens.

Fold your strip of paper into a concertina shape (approx. 7.5cm wide). Draw a person shape on the top face, making sure that the arms touch the edges/ folds. Cut round the shape, ensuring that the people remain joined at the folds. Open out your chain of people. Write the name of a friend on each figure and decorate. Use this as a reminder to pray for those friends each day this week.