

Stoke Poges Church

St Giles' and St Andrew's



Led by Revd Natasha Brady

Welcome everyone

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

As we gather

Spirit of God, moving over the deep, dark waters,
bringing order out of chaos in the beginning of all things,
bring us your peace.

Come, Holy Spirit.

Lowly dove, winging your way over the waters of the flood,
bringing signs of a new beginning for the world,
bring us your hope.

Come, Holy Spirit.

Spirit, descending as a dove over the waters of the Jordan,
bringing the approval of God at the beginning of Jesus' ministry,
bring us your blessing.

Come, Holy Spirit.

Creating, redeeming, sustaining,
inspiring, restoring, empowering.

Come, Holy Spirit.

Song

Rejoice in the Lord always

Performed by Listener Kids, Arky Arky Vol.3 2021. Used with permission

Rejoice in the Lord always and again I say rejoice
Rejoice in the Lord always and again I say rejoice
Rejoice Rejoice and again I say Rejoice
Rejoice Rejoice and again I say Rejoice

Rejoice x4

Rejoice in the Lord always and again I say rejoice
Rejoice in the Lord always and again I say rejoice
Rejoice Rejoice and again I say Rejoice
Rejoice Rejoice and again I say Rejoice

Rejoice Rejoice and again I say Rejoice
Rejoice Rejoice and again I say Rejoice

Clap you hands and stomp your feet
Everybody sing this song with me.
Rejoice Rejoice and again I say Rejoice

repeat 4 times

Rejoice x 4

Rejoice in the Lord always and again I say rejoice
Rejoice in the Lord always and again I say rejoice
Rejoice Rejoice and again I say Rejoice
Rejoice Rejoice and again I say Rejoice

Rejoice Rejoice and again I say Rejoice
Rejoice Rejoice and again I say Rejoice

Clap you hands and stomp your feet
Everybody sing this song with me.
Rejoice Rejoice and again I say Rejoice

Clap you hands and stomp your feet
Everybody sing this song with me.
Rejoice Rejoice and again I say Rejoice

Confession

Lord God, we want to **turn away** from all that is evil,
and **turn back** to you and your ways.

We **turn away** from hatred and division, and **turn back** to you.

We **turn away** from selfishness and greed, and **turn back** to you.

We turn away from wastefulness and laziness, and **turn back** to you.
May we not turn to the left or turn to the right, but keep straight on,
following your Son, by the power of your Spirit.
Amen.

Growing Faith

Genesis 6-8 abridged Video by SteeleHouse Media, 2006, used with permission

¹¹ Now the earth was corrupt in God's sight and was full of violence. ¹² God saw how corrupt the earth had become, for all the people on earth had corrupted their ways. ¹³ So God said to Noah, 'I am going to put an end to all people, for the earth is filled with violence because of them. I am surely going to destroy both them and the earth. ¹⁴ So make yourself an ark of cypress-wood; make rooms in it and coat it with pitch inside and out... ... ¹⁹ You are to bring into the ark two of all living creatures, male and female, to keep them alive with you. ²⁰ Two of every kind of bird, of every kind of animal and of every kind of creature that moves along the ground will come to you to be kept alive. ²¹ You are to take every kind of food that is to be eaten and store it away as food for you and for them.' ²² Noah did everything just as God commanded him.

⁷ The LORD then said to Noah, 'Go into the ark, you and your whole family, because I have found you righteous in this generation... ⁴ Seven days from now I will send rain on the earth for forty days and forty nights, and I will wipe from the face of the earth every living creature I have made.' ⁵ And Noah did all that the LORD commanded him...

¹³ On that very day Noah and his sons, Shem, Ham and Japheth, together with his wife and the wives of his three sons, entered the ark. ¹⁴ They had with them every wild animal according to its kind, all livestock according to their kinds, every creature that moves along the ground according to its kind and every bird according to its kind, everything with wings. ¹⁵ Pairs of all creatures that have the breath of life in them came to Noah and entered the ark. ¹⁶ The animals going in were male and female of every living thing, as God had commanded Noah. Then the LORD shut him in.

¹⁷ For forty days the flood kept coming on the earth, and as the waters increased they lifted the ark high above the earth... ²³ Every living thing on the face of the earth was wiped out; people and animals and the creatures that move along the ground and the birds were wiped from the earth. Only Noah was left, and those with him in the ark. ²⁴ The waters flooded the earth for a hundred and fifty days.

⁸ But God remembered Noah and all the wild animals and the livestock that were with him in the ark, and he sent a wind over the earth, and the waters receded... ⁴ and on the seventeenth day of the seventh month the ark came to rest on the mountains of Ararat...
⁶ After forty days Noah opened a window he had made in the ark ⁷ and sent out a raven, and it kept flying back and forth until the water had dried up from the earth. ⁸ Then he

sent out a dove to see if the water had receded from the surface of the ground. ⁹ But the dove could find nowhere to perch because there was water over all the surface of the earth; so it returned to Noah in the ark. He reached out his hand and took the dove and brought it back to himself in the ark. ¹⁰ He waited seven more days and again sent out the dove from the ark. ¹¹ When the dove returned to him in the evening, there in its beak was a freshly plucked olive leaf! Then Noah knew that the water had receded from the earth. ¹² He waited seven more days and sent the dove out again, but this time it did not return to him... ¹⁴ By the twenty-seventh day of the second month the earth was completely dry. ¹⁵ Then God said to Noah, ¹⁶ 'Come out of the ark ... ¹⁸ So Noah came out, together with his sons and his wife and his sons' wives. ¹⁹ All the animals and all the creatures that move along the ground and all the birds – everything that moves on land – came out of the ark, one kind after another. ²⁰ Then Noah built an altar to the LORD ...

Let's talk ...

Listen as Natasha opens God's word.

Song

Peace like a river - the Arky Arky version

Performed by Listener Kids, Arky Arky Vol.3 2021. Used with permission

I've got peace like a river, I've got peace like a river, I've got peace like a river in my soul.
I've got peace like a river, I've got peace like a river, I've got peace like a river in my soul.

I've got love like an ocean, I've got love like an ocean, I've got love like an ocean in my soul.
I've got love like an ocean, I've got love like an ocean, I've got love like an ocean in my soul.

I've got joy like a fountain, I've got joy like a fountain, I've got joy like a fountain in my soul.
I've got joy like a fountain, I've got joy like a fountain, I've got joy like a fountain in my soul.

I've got peace, love and joy like a river
I've got peace, love and joy like a river
I've got peace, love and joy like a river in my soul.

I've got peace, love and joy like a river
I've got peace, love and joy like a river
I've got peace, love and joy like a river in my soul.

Peace love joy in my soul.

Chat and Catch Prayers

Let's play 'chat and catch' with God. We can chat to him and then try catch His reply. It might be a thought or a picture, or just a feeling.

Father, thank you so much for giving us this beautiful planet and all the amazing animals. Sorry that we are messing it up, not treating it as well as we could.

Now in your head, chat to God and tell him your favourite animal.

Keep the Silence

Tell God your favourite place.

Keep the Silence

Tell God something about your favourite friend.

Keep the Silence

Now we will try to catch.

Ask God to show you a way that you can help his creation, making this world a better place.

Wait for that picture or word to come into your head.

Amen.

Lord there is so much beauty in our world. Help us to stop, look and listen to your creation - the amazing world of plants and the canopy of trees, the peace of green fields and the thunder of the sea. May we turn again and love, honour and conserve what you have so graciously given. **Amen**

The 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.

Song Never Once

Writers: Jason Ingram, Matt Redman and Tim Wanstall; Performed by Graham Kendrick and the Virtual Band. Spirit Music Group, BMG Rights Management, Essential Music Publishing. This version produced, arranged and mixed by Steve Thompson for Beracah Music International.

The Grace

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ

(Hold out your hands as if expecting a present)

And the love of God

(Put your hands on your heart)

And the fellowship of the Holy Spirit

(Hold hands)

Be with us all now and for ever. Amen

(Raise hands together on the word 'Amen' and shout loudly!)

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.



Scan or click to donate

Thank you for whatever you are able to give

Bible Notes

Genesis 6-8

The Lord saw how great the wickedness of the human race had become on the earth, and that every inclination in the human heart was to do only evil all the time. So the Lord said, 'I will wipe from the face of the earth the human race I have created – and with them the animals, the birds and the creatures that move along the ground – for I regret that I have made them.' But Noah found favour in the eyes of the Lord. God gave Noah and all his family the chance to start afresh, just like he gives us that chance every day and every year. Like the people of Noah's time, we are also messing up – just look at the way we are destroying the planet God made for us. When we see a rainbow we can remember God's promise, not to flood the whole earth again, but let it also remind us - we are the stewards of the earth. Which is a huge responsibility that we trust God to give us the wisdom to do well.



Ask yourself: How does trust in God sustain you for daily life?

Questions and Answers

- If you were on the ark, which animals would you like to look after?
- Which animal are you most like?
- What could you do to help God's planet?

Daily trust

Do a daily act of trust. It could be doing some trust exercises, e.g. a blindfolded obstacle course with a partner guiding; having an honest conversation with someone about your faith or writing a prayer or poem about trusting in God. Reflect back at the end of the week – are there any trust acts that you would like to continue? How did it feel to place trust in this way?



You will need: plain flour, salt, water, access to an oven; paints, paintbrush.

Make some salt dough decorations www.bbcgoodfood.com/howto/guide/how-make-salt-dough-recipe

Shape the salt dough into your favourite animal. Keep it somewhere it can be seen. Look after it, and let it remind you that God creates. We steward.



NATURE WALK

Go on a nature walk reflecting on the words: 'This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent.' As you walk, look for signs around you that speak to you about belief – the way a plant tracks the sun, how nature finds a way even in difficult circumstances, like a plant growing out of a rock.



LISTEN

Listen to the song, 'Trust In You', Lauren Daigle on *How Can It Be*.

<https://thefishnashville.com/content/music/lauren-daigle-trust-in-you-official-music-video>

What words or phrases stand out for you? What circumstances or situations make you feel as though your trust is shaken?

