

Stoke Poges Church

St Giles' and St Andrew's



Please join us online ...

Welcome and Notices

Opening Prayer

Let us pray ...

**Mighty and most holy God, giver of all good gifts,
we come before you today as members of your body.**

**We are joined in praise and worship, as we learn from you
and share with each other.**

**Build us up, Lord, we pray, as we drink in the wonders of your presence.
Amen.**

Songs

Build Your Kingdom Here

Come set Your rule and reign
In our hearts again
Increase in us we pray
Unveil why we're made
Come set our hearts ablaze with hope
Like wildfire in our very souls
Holy Spirit come invade us now

We are Your Church
We need Your power in us

We seek Your kingdom first
We hunger and we thirst
Refuse to waste our lives
For You're our joy and prize
To see the captive hearts released
The hurt, the sick, the poor at peace
We lay down our lives for Heaven's cause

We are Your church
We pray revive this earth

Chorus

*Build Your kingdom here
Let the darkness fear
Show Your mighty hand
Heal our streets and land
Set Your church on fire
Win this nation back
Change the atmosphere
Build Your kingdom here
We pray*

Unleash Your kingdom's power
Reaching the near and far
No force of hell can stop
Your beauty changing hearts
You made us for much more than this
Awake the kingdom seed in us
Fill us with the strength and love of Christ
We are Your church
We are the hope on earth

Chorus x2

Songwriters: Chris Llewellyn / Gareth Gilkeson / Will Herron
Build Your Kingdom Here lyrics © Capitol Christian Music Group

The Servant King

From heaven you came helpless babe
Entered our world, your glory veiled
Not to be served but to serve
And give Your life that we might live

Chorus

*This is our God, The Servant King
He calls us now to follow Him
To bring our lives as a daily offering
Of worship to The Servant King*

There in the garden of tears
My heavy load he chose to bear
His heart with sorrow was torn
'Yet not My will but Yours, ' He said

Chorus

Come see His hands and His feet
The scars that speak of sacrifice
Hands that flung stars into space
To cruel nails surrendered

Chorus

So let us learn how to serve
And in our lives enthrone Him
Each other's needs to prefer
For it is Christ we're serving

Chorus

Songwriters: Chris Llewellyn / Graham Kendrick / Gareth Gilkeson
The Servant King lyrics © Thank You Music Ltd., Make Way Music

Confession

After a period of reflection

**Come, let us return to the Lord and say:
Lord our God, in our sin we have avoided your call.
Our love for you is like a morning cloud,
like the dew that goes away early.**

**Have mercy on us;
deliver us from judgement;
bind up our wounds and revive us;
in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

cf Hosea 6

May almighty God, who sent his Son into the world to save sinners, bring us his pardon and peace, now and for ever.

Amen.

Reading Acts 3.1-12. read to us by Margriet Wells

One day Peter and John were going up to the temple at the time of prayer—at three in the afternoon. **2** Now a man who was lame from birth was being carried to the temple gate called Beautiful, where he was put every day to beg from those going into the temple courts. **3** When he saw Peter and John about to enter, he asked them for money. **4** Peter looked straight at him, as did John. Then Peter said, “Look at us!” **5** So the man gave them his attention, expecting to get something from them.

6 Then Peter said, “Silver or gold I do not have, but what I do have I give you. In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, walk.” **7** Taking him by the right hand, he helped him up, and instantly the man’s feet and ankles became strong. **8** He jumped to his feet and began to walk. Then he went with them into the temple courts, walking and jumping, and praising God. **9** When all the people saw him walking and praising God, **10** they recognised him as the same man who used to sit begging at the temple gate called Beautiful, and they were filled with wonder and amazement at what had happened to him.

Sermon Pat Hegarty is opening God’s Word for us today

Creed

Let us declare our faith in God.

We believe in God the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named.

We believe in God the Son, who lives in our hearts through faith, and fills us with his love.

We believe in God the Holy Spirit, who strengthens us

with power from on high.

We believe in one God; Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen

Prayers prepared and read to us by Jamie Brady

Response:

Most Merciful Father

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

Gracious Father, you gave up your Son out of love for the world: lead us to ponder the mysteries of his passion, that we may know eternal peace through the shedding of our Saviour's blood, Jesus Christ our Lord. **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

Chorus

*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 (oh-oh-oh-oh-oh)
Safe to shore (oh-oh-oh-oh-oh)
Safe to shore (oh-oh-oh-oh-oh)
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

Chorus

Fire before us, You're the brightest
You will lead us through the storms
x4

Chorus

Songwriters: Gareth Gilkeson / Chris Llewellyn
My Lighthouse lyrics © Capitol Christian Music Group

Final Prayer

As we draw this service to a close, let us pray ...

**Lord, we thank you that we each have a part to play in the work of your body.
Thank you for all the people and things that support our walk with you.
Please help us to support others in turn.
Amen.**

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

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Going Deeper



Questions for reflection

- ~ Who/what do you call out to when things are tough?
- ~ When things go wrong how is Jesus present for you?
- ~ And when things go well who do you praise?

Bible notes

There is something in the gaze. 'Look at us,' said Peter, as he and John look back intently at the disabled man (3.4). They see one another, recognise one another, not just as beggar or as spare change but as people, particular people. This encounter is more than a financial transaction ('I have no silver or gold...'): money cannot communicate this gift. There is so much more to be given and received, in the name of the one who had told a paralysed man to stand up and go home (Luke 5.24). In Luke's Gospel, Jesus is confronted for telling the paralysed man that his sins are forgiven; there is no condemnation or call to repentance, just a declaration: 'Friend, your sins are forgiven you.' Here in Acts 3, there is no mention of sin in the conversation between Peter and the disabled man, and it is not mentioned until later when Peter addresses the crowd, as friends or brothers (if you read the rest of chapter 3), calling them to recognise what they did in their ignorance, and inviting them all to start over, to know forgiveness of sins and the refreshing presence of the Lord...

Peter and John here are faithful, trusting witnesses (3.15). They testify to what they have seen, heard and felt, as will the disabled man, now restored, whose testimony is to stand alongside the accused apostles in court, as another witness of resurrection.

A prayer for all those affected by coronavirus

Keep us, good Lord,
under the shadow of your mercy.
Sustain and support the anxious,
be with those who care for the sick,
and lift up all who are brought low;
that we may find comfort
knowing that nothing can separate us from your love
in Christ Jesus, our Lord.

Amen.

Dwelling in the word

Read Psalm 23 aloud slowly (with reflective music playing, if you wish). Read it several times, perhaps from different translations. Make this your prayer for the week, and let your soul be restored.