

Stoke Poges Church

St Giles' and St Andrew's



Sunday 24th May 2020

Led by Simon McDowell

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

Opening Hymn

"Alleluia, sing to Jesus"

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus!
His the sceptre, His the throne;
Alleluia! His the triumph,
His the victory alone!
Hark! The songs of peaceful Zion
Thunder like a mighty flood:
"Jesus out of every nation
Has redeemed us by His blood."

Alleluia! Not as orphans
Are we left in sorrow now;
Alleluia! He is near us;
Faith believes, nor questions how.
Though the cloud from sight received Him,
When the forty days were o'er,

Shall our hearts forget His promise?—
“I am with you evermore.”

Alleluia! Bread of angels,
Thou on earth our Food, our Stay;
Alleluia! Here the sinful
Flee to thee from day to day.
Intercessor, friend of sinners,
Earth's Redeemer, plead for me;
where the songs of all the sinless
sweep across the crystal sea.

Alleluia! King eternal,
Ye the Lord of Lords we own;
Alleluia! Born of Mary,
Earth thy footstool, Heav'n thy throne.
Thou within the veil have entered,
Robed in flesh, the great High Priest;
Thou on earth both Priest and Victim
in the eucharistic feast.

Songwriters: Dix / Pritchard

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

"Before the Throne of God above" Kingsway Music

Before the throne of God above,
I have a strong, a 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 can bid me thence depart,
No tongue can 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 to 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 with His blood;
My life is hid with Christ on high,
With Christ, my Saviour and my God,
(x2)

With Christ my Saviour and my God.

Songwriters: Bancroft / Cook

Psalm

Psalm 68:1-10 & 32-35 (NIVUK)

May God arise, may his enemies be scattered;
may his foes flee before him.

²May you blow them away like smoke –
as wax melts before the fire,
may the wicked perish before God.

³But may the righteous be glad
and rejoice before God;
may they be happy and joyful.

⁴Sing to God, sing in praise of his name,
extol him who rides on the clouds[☁];

rejoice before him – his name is the LORD.

⁵A father to the fatherless, a defender of widows,
is God in his holy dwelling.

⁶God sets the lonely in families,^[a]
he leads out the prisoners with singing;
but the rebellious live in a sun-scorched land.

⁷When you, God, went out before your people,
when you marched through the wilderness,^[a]

⁸the earth shook, the heavens poured down rain,
before God, the One of Sinai,
before God, the God of Israel.

⁹You gave abundant showers, O God;
you refreshed your weary inheritance.

¹⁰Your people settled in it,
and from your bounty, God, you provided for the poor.

³²Sing to God, you kingdoms of the earth,
sing praise to the Lord,

³³to him who rides across the highest heavens, the ancient heavens,
who thunders with mighty voice.

³⁴Proclaim the power of God,
whose majesty is over Israel,
whose power is in the heavens.

³⁵You, God, are awesome in your sanctuary;
the God of Israel gives power and strength to his people.

Praise be to God!

**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 17:1-11 read by Pam Blewett

After Jesus said this, he looked towards heaven and prayed:

¹'Father, the hour has come. Glorify your Son, that your Son may glorify you. ²For you granted him authority over all people that he might give eternal life to all those you have given him. ³Now this is eternal life: that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus

Christ, whom you have sent. ⁴I have brought you glory on earth by finishing the work you gave me to do. ⁵And now, Father, glorify me in your presence with the glory I had with you before the world began.

⁶I have revealed you to those whom you gave me out of the world. They were yours; you gave them to me and they have obeyed your word. ⁷Now they know that everything you have given me comes from you. ⁸For I gave them the words you gave me and they accepted them. They knew with certainty that I came from you, and they believed that you sent me. ⁹I pray for them. I am not praying for the world, but for those you have given me, for they are yours. ¹⁰All I have is yours, and all you have is mine. And glory has come to me through them. ¹¹I will remain in the world no longer, but they are still in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them by the power of ¹²your name, the name you gave me, so that they may be one as we are one.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Hymn

“At the Name of Jesus” – recorded for BBC Songs of Praise

At the name of Jesus every knee shall bow,
every tongue confess him King of glory now;
tis the Father's pleasure, we should call him Lord,
who from the beginning was the Mighty Word.

Humbled for a season, to receive a name
from the lips of sinners unto whom he came;
faithfully he bore it spotless to the last,
brought it back victorious when from death he passed.

Christians, this Lord Jesus shall return again,
With the Father's glory, and His angel train;
For all wreaths of empire meet upon His brow
And our hearts confess Him, King of glory now.

Songwriter: Caroline Noel

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 Pat Hegarty

The response is:

Breath of God ~ **Breathe on us**

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 Seventh Sunday of Easter / the Sunday after Ascension Day

O God the King of glory,
you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ
with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven:
we beseech you, leave us not comfortless,
but send your Holy Spirit to strengthen us
and exalt us to the place where our Saviour Christ is gone before,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Amen

Final Hymn

“All my hope on God is founded” recorded for BBC Songs of Praise

All my hope on God is founded;
he doth still my trust renew,
me through change and chance he guideth,
only good and only true.
God unknown, he alone
calls my heart to be his own.

Pride of man and earthly glory,
sword and crown betray his trust;
what with care and toil he buildeth,
tower and temple fall to dust.
But God's power, hour by hour,
is my temple and my tower.

God's great goodness aye endureth,
deep his wisdom, passing thought:
splendor, light and life attend him,
beauty springeth out of naught.
Evermore from his store
newborn worlds rise and adore.

Still from man to God eternal
sacrifice of praise be done,
high above all praises praising
for the gift of Christ, his Son.
Christ doth call one and all:
ye who follow shall not fall.

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; we are all working remotely.

Thank you for joining us today

**The Oxford Diocese have asked us to complete a survey about
online church attendance:**

Please could you [complete this short survey](#) as soon as possible after this online service.

If you attend the Diocesan Church at Home service and/or a number of other services from different parishes, you are welcome to complete the survey for each online service you've been to.

Going Deeper

Bible Notes

As the Gospel reaches the climax, John presents Jesus' last 'speech', which is in fact a prayer, crying out to his Father the desires of his heart, that through his actions to come God would be glorified. There is something here of the relationship between Father, Son and Spirit lifting one another up to be glorified; something the theologian Richard Rohr calls the 'divine dance' of the Trinity, in which each part glorifies another, but never itself.

The term glory - often associated with heavenly light - has other meanings. The crucifixion will be the hour in which Jesus is glorified. Jesus has also glorified his Father by finishing the work he was sent to do. And Jesus even says that he has been glorified in his disciples. Glory is deeply relational and mutual: Jesus asks the Father to glorify the Son so that the Son may glorify the Father. Glory is something to bestow on another.

Here is the great challenge for us today, as followers of Jesus that we would continue to lift him up, and bring glory to God through our actions and our relationship with one another, echoing the relationship between the Trinity – as Jesus prayed: 'that they would be one, as we are one'

Questions for Reflection



- What do you think these three figures are doing?
- What sort of things do you 'glorify' by the way you live?
- How best can we lift each other up?

Live your faith

In any situation you find yourself in this week, look for an opportunity to do something that will glorify or lift up God/Jesus.

A personal prayer

Lord, may your glory be seen in what I do and who I am. Amen

Name

John 17.1-11

Jesus talks to the Father about being glorified and prays for his followers.



Family time

Talk Discuss the things you do as a family that point to Jesus.

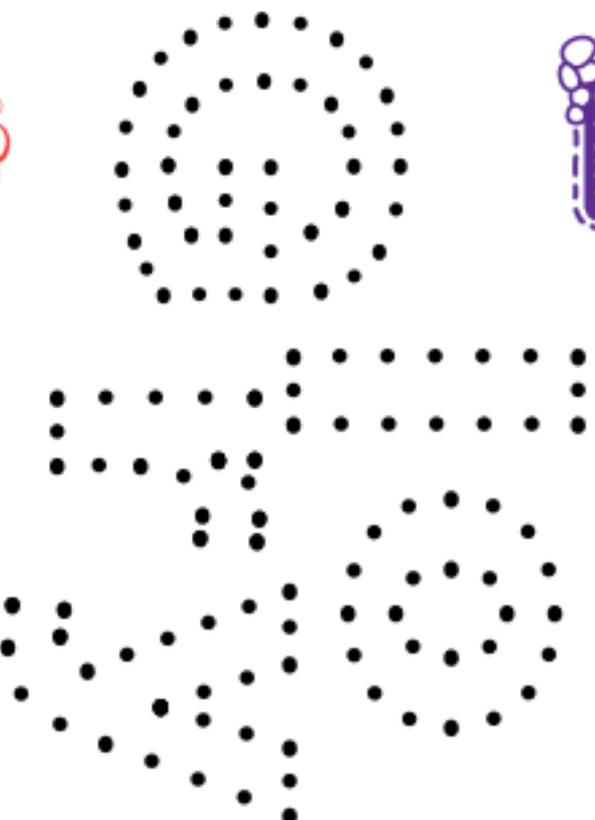
Do Go for a walk in a park, the countryside or at the beach, and talk about the ways that creation glorifies God.

Pray Jesus, we want to be people who notice your glory in the world around us. Help us to point to you with our words and actions so that people see how glorious you are. **Amen.**

Activity time



Join the dots to show today's key word.



Can you circle the things that give God glory?

Fighting with our brothers and sisters

Doing things as well as we can

Using our voices to praise God

Looking after the environment

Loving others

Being cheeky

Helping others

Sharing our things

Forgiving others

Making friends

Using our voices to swear

Leaving people out



Can you unscramble the words to describe Jesus?

camjiste _____

sroigolu _____

beedlicrin _____

dranait _____

het gink _____