



Stoke Poges Church

St Giles' and St Andrew's



Sunday 30th August 2020
Led by Revd Natasha Brady

please join in using the words in **bold**

Opening Hymn

At the name of Jesus ev'ry knee shall bow,
ev'ry 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.

Name him, Christians, name him, with love strong as death,
but with awe and wonder, and with bated breath;
he is God the saviour, he is Christ the Lord,
ever to be worshipped, trusted and adored.

Surely, this Lord Jesus shall return again,
with his Father's glory, with his angel train;
for all wreaths of empire meet upon his brow,
and our hearts confess him King of glory now.

Written by Caroline M. Noel, Performed by Salisbury Cathedral Choir, Directed by David Halls, Organ: David Halls

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

Song

God is here! As we his people
Meet to offer praise and prayer,
May we find in fuller measure
What it is in Christ we share.
Here, as in the world around us,
All our varied skills and arts
Wait the coming of his Spirit
Into open minds and hearts.

Here are symbols to remind us
Of our lifelong need of grace;
Here are table, font and pulpit,
Here the cross has central place.
Here in honesty of preaching,
Here in silence, as in speech,
Here in newness and renewal
God the Spirit comes to each.

Lord of all, of church and kingdom,
In an age of change and doubt,
Keep us faithful to the gospel,
Help us work your purpose out.
Here, in this day's dedication,
All we have to give, receive;
We who cannot live without you,
We adore you! We believe!

Psalm 105. 1-6, 23-26, 45b - **said**

¹ Give praise to the Lord, proclaim his name;
make known among the nations what he has done.

² Sing to him, sing praise to him;
tell of all his wonderful acts.

³ Glory in his holy name;
let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.

⁴ Look to the Lord and his strength;
seek his face always.

⁵ Remember the wonders he has done,
his miracles, and the judgments he pronounced,

⁶ you his servants, the descendants of Abraham,
his chosen ones, the children of Jacob.

²³ Then Israel entered Egypt;
Jacob resided as a foreigner in the land of Ham.

²⁴ The Lord made his people very fruitful;
he made them too numerous for their foes,

²⁵ whose hearts he turned to hate his people,
to conspire against his servants.

²⁶ He sent Moses his servant,
and Aaron, whom he had chosen.

⁴⁵ that they might keep his precepts
and observe his laws.

Praise the Lord.

**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

Matthew 16. 21-28, read by Nigel Lowe

²¹ From that time on Jesus began to explain to his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things at the hands of the elders, the chief priests and the teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and on the third day be raised to life.

²² Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. 'Never, Lord!' he said. 'This shall never happen to you!'

²³ Jesus turned and said to Peter, 'Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling-block to me; you do not have in mind the concerns of God, but merely human concerns.'

²⁴ Then Jesus said to his disciples, 'Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ²⁵ For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will find it. ²⁶ What good will it be for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul? Or what can anyone give in exchange for their soul? ²⁷ For the Son of Man is going to come in his Father's glory with his angels, and then he will reward each person according to what they have done.

²⁸ 'Truly I tell you, some who are standing here will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom.'

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Canticle – said

The Benedictus

- 1 Blessed be the Lord the God of Israel,
who has come to his people and set them free.**
- 2 He has raised up for us a mighty Saviour,
born of the house of his servant David.**
- 3 Through his holy prophets God promised of old
to save us from our enemies,
from the hands of all that hate us,**
- 4 To show mercy to our ancestors,
and to remember his holy covenant.**
- 5 This was the oath God swore to our father Abraham:
to set us free from the hands of our enemies,**
- 6 Free to worship him without fear,
holy and righteous in his sight
all the days of our life.**
- 7 And you, child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High,
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,**
- 8 To give his people knowledge of salvation**

by the forgiveness of all their sins.

**9 In the tender compassion of our God
the dawn from on high shall break upon us,**

**10 To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death,
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.**

Luke 1.68–79

Sermon by Revd Natasha

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 by Richard Beckingsale

The response is:

In you O lord **Do we put our trust.**

The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done;
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
As we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory
For ever and ever.
Amen.**

The Collect for the 12th Sunday after Trinity

God of constant mercy,
who sent your Son to save us:
remind us of your goodness,
increase your grace within us,
that our thankfulness may grow,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Final Hymn

We love the place, O God,
wherein thine honour dwells;
the joy of thine abode
all earthly joy excels.

We love the house of prayer,
wherein thy servants meet;
and thou, O Lord, art there
thy chosen flock to greet.

We love the sacred font;
for there the holy Dove
to pour is ever wont
his blessing from above.

We love thine altar, Lord;
O what on earth so dear?
for there, in faith adored,
we find thy presence near.

We love the word of life,
the word that tells of peace,
of comfort in the strife,
and joys that never cease.

We love to sing below
for mercies freely given;
but O we long to know
the triumph-song of heaven.

Lord Jesus, give us grace
on earth to love thee more,
in heaven to see thy face,
and with thy saints adore.

Written by William Bullock, Performed by Wakefield Cathedral Choir, Complete New English Hymnal Vol.11

The Blessing

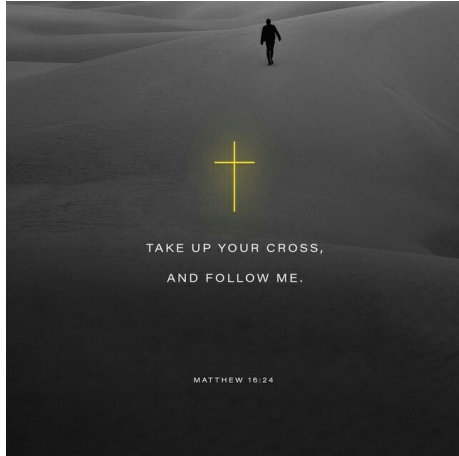
Grant, we beseech you, merciful Lord,
to your faithful people pardon and peace,
that they may be cleansed from all their sins
and serve you with a quiet mind;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Amen

Thank you for joining us today

Going Deeper

Bible Notes



- The passage from Matthew is the second half of the narrative in Caesarea Philippi. Jesus is unpacking what the titles Messiah and Son of God will mean: he will undergo great suffering and rejection. He will die and then rise on the third day. Peter's response is understandable, but it echoes the temptation narrative, when the devil offers Jesus great power if he abandons God's way. Peter has gone from getting something spectacularly right to getting something spectacularly wrong!
- If Jesus himself will have to suffer, his followers must prepare for suffering, too. Jesus highlights the downside of owning his story: there is sacrifice

involved. Anyone who wants to step into this story must be prepared to deny themselves and carry their cross – meaning, prepared to give up their life. However, there is a promise of liberation: anyone prepared to give up their life for the kingdom of God will find the life they were always looking for.

- Jesus' story follows a narrative arc of life, suffering and descent into death, and then ascent into glory. This is the story that he invites his disciples and us to share.

Keep telling the story

The story of the cross, which is the story of redemption, in which suffering undermines oppression, is the heart of the Christian story. It has profoundly influenced the nature of story and storytelling within our culture. What stories, novels, films, etc. do you know that have the idea of redemption at their heart?

A personal prayer

Lord, when we face bad news, or a tricky situation, it is human nature to make snap judgements. Often doing the first thing that comes into our head. Lord, help us to lay aside our own judgements, and always be willing to seek your wisdom. Amen.

Live your faith

Keep a list of all the things you notice that you are thankful for. By doing so, build up a story that is trustworthy. Store it somewhere handy, so you can read it whenever you want to. Keep it as a reminder and an inspiration for you when other 'worldly' stories crowd in.

Name

Activity time

ROOTS children's Sheet

30 August – 5 September 2020

Matthew 16.21-28

Jesus explains that being a follower will not always be easy, and that whoever puts themselves first will end up coming last.

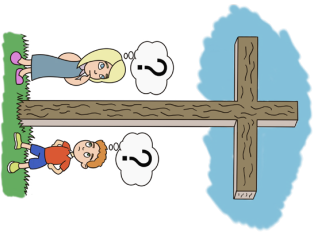


Add to the Bible things which are at the heart of Jesus' story.



Can you find these key words from today's Bible passage in the word search?

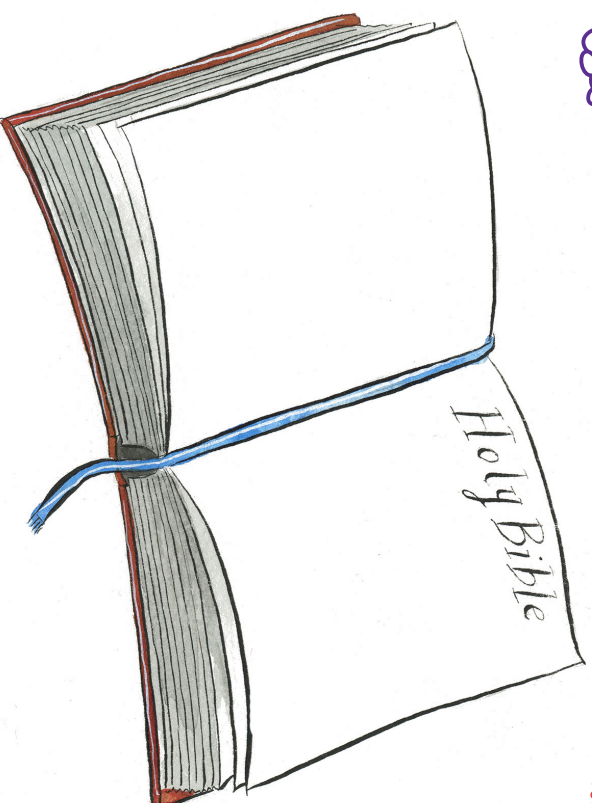
Family time



Talk How can we put others first instead of ourselves?

Do Challenge each other to find several things that are 'as hard as they are good' (e.g. sport, faith, hobbies) to try out this week.

Pray Dear Lord, thank you for teaching us that the path of following you is not always easy. Please give us patience, strength and help us to focus on the journey. Help us to know that it is worth carrying on. Keep us close to you, now and always. Amen.



Write the missing words in the correct gaps to discover what Jesus said.

_____ said: 'Whoever wants to _____ me should stop putting _____ first, and take up their _____.'

cross

follow

Jesus

themselves

s	b	i	i	c	w	e	h	l	t
c	s	f	q	p	x	s	n	h	w
z	g	e	e	s	i	u	e	a	x
q	k	t	l	f	p	m	J	i	c
h	e	v	l	f	s	j	e	s	x
r	o	e	c	e	l	b	s	s	r
g	s	z	l	r	p	e	u	e	u
x	q	v	d	r	o	L	s	M	g
s	e	l	p	i	c	s	i	d	e
s	f	o	l	l	o	w	s	u	w

cross

selfless

Messiah

themselves

Jesus

follow

Lord

Peter

selfish

disciples