

Stoke Poges Church

St Giles' and St Andrew's



Sunday 27th September 2020

Led by Simon McDowell

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

Opening Hymn

"How Great Thou Art" sung by Lindsey Mackie

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:

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:

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!

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

“When I survey the wondrous cross”
sung at Westgate Baptist Church, Newcastle Upon Tyne

When I survey the wondrous cross
On which the Prince of glory died,
My richest gain I count but loss,
And pour contempt on all my pride.

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast,
Save in the death of Christ my God!
All the vain things that charm me most,
I sacrifice them to His blood.

See from His head, His hands, His feet,
Sorrow and love flow mingled down!
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet,
Or thorns compose so rich a crown?

Were the whole realm of nature mine,
That were an offering far too small;
Love so amazing, so divine,
Demands my soul, my life, my all.

Written by Isaac Watts

Psalm

Psalm 25:1-9 (NIVUK)

Of David.

¹In you, LORD my God,
I put my trust.

²I trust in you;
do not let me be put to shame,
nor let my enemies triumph over me.

³No one who hopes in you
will ever be put to shame,
but shame will come on those
who are treacherous without cause.

⁴Show me your ways, LORD,
teach me your paths.

⁵Guide me in your truth and teach me,
for you are God my Savior,
and my hope is in you all day long.

⁶Remember, LORD, your great mercy and love,
for they are from of old.

⁷Do not remember the sins of my youth
and my rebellious ways;
according to your love remember me,
for you, LORD, are good.

⁸Good and upright is the LORD;
therefore he instructs sinners in his ways.

⁹He guides the humble in what is right
and teaches them his way.

**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

Philippians 2:1-13 read by Pam Blewett

Therefore if you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any common sharing in the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, ² then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and of one mind. ³ Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value

others above yourselves, ⁴ not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.

⁵ In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus:

⁶ Who, being in very nature^ḡ God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage; ⁷ rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature^ḡ of a servant, being made in human likeness. ⁸ And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death - even death on a cross!

⁹ Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰ that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹ and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. ¹² Therefore, my dear friends, as you have always obeyed—not only in my presence, but now much more in my absence—continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling, ¹³ for it is God who works in you to will and to act in order to fulfill his good purpose.

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

Pat Hegarty 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 Richard Beckingsale

The response is:

In you O Lord ~ **do we put our trust**

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 Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity

O Lord, we beseech you
mercifully to hear the prayers of your people who call upon you;
and grant that they may both perceive and know what things they ought to do,
and also may have grace and power faithfully to fulfil them;
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

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

Going Deeper

This week's reading: Philippians 2.1-13

Bible Notes

Philippi, originally a Greek city, was considered to be a miniature Rome. The Romans knew how to run the empire and keep people in order. Slavery was taken for granted and woven throughout Roman society. Jesus' death by crucifixion was the ultimate slave's death; by asking the people of Philippi to be like Christ, Paul is asking them to embrace this existence, the lowest in the Roman Empire.

We can assume that people in Philippi would have heard of the crucifixion story, which must have been brought in via trade routes. Status was everything in their world, but this story and Paul's message about it shows that this kind of status doesn't mean anything to God.

In a world obsessed with self-interest and self-image, putting aside your own interests for the interests of others is quite a challenge, and one that we, as followers of Jesus, need to wrestle with. What does this look like in practice? How can we balance this with the need for self-care?

Questions for Reflection



- Where do you see yourself in this image?
- When do you find joy in helping others?
- If the keyhole represents 'key support', what does that look like in your community?

Live your faith

Think of someone you don't normally engage with – or someone who represents a group or ideology that you dislike – and do something specific and positive for that person.

A random act of kindness

Search the internet for and watch '20 random acts of kindness'. Think of a random act of kindness that you could do. Evaluate its costs to you (financial, time, etc.) – and make the necessary plans to do it.

A personal prayer

I simply pray that you, Lord God,
will help me show your love
to those around me.
Amen.

Name

Philippians 2.1-13

Paul encourages the Philippians to do things not for their own good but for the good of others.



Family time

Talk Why do we sometimes find it hard to be generous to others or to put other people first?

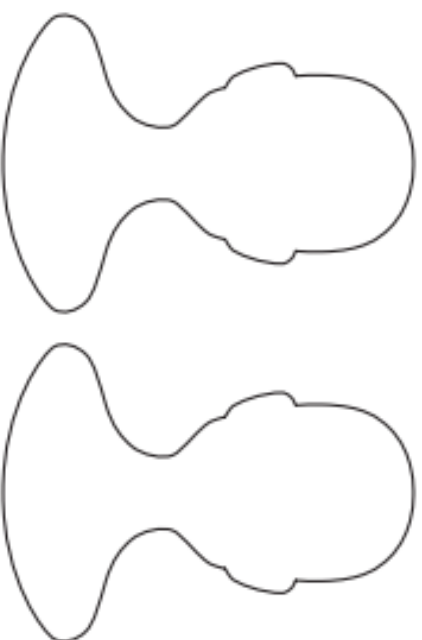
Do Think of four things you could do this week to put the interests of others first. Make a list together and check that you do all four during the week.

Pray Look at the list you have made of ways to put others first. Pray: Lord, may we be joyful as we *(read the list here)*. **Amen.**

Activity time



Make these figures look like those you should be thinking of first, e.g. a family member or a friend.



How many words can you make using the word interests? E.g. tent.

interests

ROOTS children's sheet

27 September – 3 October 2020



Carry out a survey to find out what other people think when they hear the word 'humility'. Write down what you discover here.

Name	What do you think when you hear the word 'humility'?