

# ST PETER & ST PAUL'S CHURCH, AYLESFORD



## A Service of Holy Communion

Instinctive faith

Trinity 9 - 9th August 2020

### Gathering

#### Words of Welcome

#### Call to Worship

Jesus said: 'Take courage, it is I.  
Don't be afraid.'

Our God is a powerful God,  
who does things way beyond our  
understanding.

But we have no need to fear,  
for we know we are safe in God's  
presence.

Let us come to our God now.  
Let us bow down and worship.  
**Amen.**

#### Hymn

Eternal Father, strong to save,  
whose arm doth bind the restless wave,  
who bidd'st the mighty ocean deep  
its own appointed limits keep:

O hear us when we cry to thee  
for those in peril on the sea.

O Saviour whose almighty word  
the winds and waves submissive heard,  
who walkedst on the foaming deep,  
and calm amid its rage didst sleep:  
O hear us when we cry to thee  
for those in peril on the sea.

O sacred Spirit, who didst brood  
upon the chaos dark and rude,  
who bad'st its angry tumult cease,  
and gavest light and life and peace:  
O hear us when we cry to thee  
for those in peril on the sea.

O Trinity of love and power,  
our brethren shield in danger's hour;  
from rock and tempest, fire and foe,  
protect them whereso'er they go:  
and ever let there rise to thee  
glad hymns of praise from land and sea.

*William Whiting (1860)*

### Prayers of Penitence

#### Invitation to Confession

Let us confess our sins in penitence and  
faith, firmly resolved to keep God's  
commandments and to live in love and  
peace with all.

Lord God,  
We are sorry for the times we take my  
eyes off you, and seek to do things in our  
own strength.  
We are sorry for the times we doubt that  
you can keep us on the straight and  
narrow.  
We are sorry for the times we ask you for  
signs.

**Lord, we pray that you will forgive our  
doubts and hesitations, show us your  
loving presence, especially when we  
most need it, and teach us to trust you  
at all times. Amen.**

## Absolution

May the God of love and power forgive us and free us from our sins, heal and strengthen us by his Spirit, and raise us to new life in Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## Prayer of Praise

**God of the earth and the waves,  
we praise you that you more than meet  
all our needs.**

**You call us out from our security  
to experience your adventures and  
blessings.**

**We thank you for your forgiveness that  
sets us free.**

**We know you don't want us to be like a  
becalmed ship, or stuck in the harbour.  
You want us out in deep water – and  
you'll be with us.**

**We praise you, Lord.  
Amen.**

## Collect

**Gracious Father,  
revive your Church in our day,  
and make her holy, strong and faithful,  
for your glory's sake in Jesus Christ our  
Lord. Amen.**

## The Liturgy of the Word

### Reading

Matthew 14.22-33

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

Immediately Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead of him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowd. After he had dismissed them, he went up on a mountainside by himself to pray.

Later that night, he was there alone, and the boat was already a considerable distance from land, buffeted by the waves because the wind was against it.

Shortly before dawn Jesus went out to them, walking on the lake. When the disciples saw him walking on the lake, they were terrified. "It's a ghost," they said, and cried out in fear. But Jesus immediately said to them: "Take courage! It is I. Don't be afraid." "Lord, if it's you," Peter replied, "tell me to come to you on the water." "Come," he said. Then Peter got down out of the boat, walked on the water and came toward Jesus. But when he saw the wind, he was afraid and, beginning to sink, cried out, "Lord, save me!" Immediately Jesus reached out his hand and caught him. "You of little faith," he said, "why did you doubt?" And when they climbed into the boat, the wind died down. Then those who were in the boat worshipped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

This is the Gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## Reflection

### Affirmation of Faith

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 of Intercession

*Response:*

Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

**Merciful Father, accept these prayers  
for the sake of your Son our Saviour  
Jesus Christ. Amen.**

## The Liturgy of the Sacrament

### The Peace

Peace is the gift that Jesus offers to his disciples, in the storms of life and in their hearts, by faith. It is a gift that each of us can share with the world.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
**And also with you.**

### Hymn

You call me out upon the waters  
The great unknown where feet may fail  
And there I find You in the mystery  
In oceans deep my faith will stand

*I will call upon Your Name  
And keep my eyes above the waves  
When oceans rise  
My soul will rest in Your embrace  
For I am Yours and You are mine*

Your grace abounds in deepest waters  
Your sovereign hand will be my guide  
Where feet may fail and fear surrounds me  
You've never failed and You won't start now

Spirit lead me where my trust is without borders  
Let me walk upon the waters  
Wherever You would call me  
Take me deeper than my feet could ever wander  
And my faith will be made stronger  
In the presence of my Saviour

I will call upon Your Name  
Keep my eyes above the waves  
My soul will rest in Your embrace  
I am Yours and You are mine

*Matt Crocker, Joel Houston & Salomon Ligthelm*

## The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord is here.  
**His Spirit is with us.**

Lift up your hearts.  
**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**It is right to give thanks and praise.**

... singing the hymn of your unending praise ...

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of  
the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

Great is the mystery of faith:  
**Christ has died:  
Christ is risen:  
Christ will come again.**

... in songs of everlasting praise:  
**Blessing and honour and glory and  
power be yours for ever and ever. Amen.**

## The Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour taught us so we pray

**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.**

#### Breaking of the Bread

We break the bread of life, and that life is  
the light of the world.

**God here among us, light in the midst of  
us, bring us to light and life.**

#### Invitation to Communion

Draw near with faith. Receive the body of  
our Lord Jesus Christ which he gave for  
you. Eat in remembrance that he died for  
you, and feed on him in your hearts by  
faith with thanksgiving.

#### Giving of Communion

*Please wait to be guided by a sidesperson.  
There will be no words at the distribution  
and there is no need to say 'Amen'.*

#### Prayer after Communion

Holy Father,  
who gathered us here around the table of  
your Son, to share this meal with the  
whole household of God: in that new  
world where you reveal the fullness of  
your peace, gather people of every race  
and language to share in the eternal  
banquet of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Lord, in these days of mercy,  
**make us quiet and prayerful;**  
in these days of challenge,  
**make us stronger in you;**  
in these days of emptiness,  
**take possession of us;**  
in these days of waiting,  
**open our hearts to the mystery of  
your cross.**

*Angela Ashwin*

## Sending

### News and Notices

### Hymn

Go forth and tell! O church of God, awake!  
God's saving news to all the nations take;  
proclaim Christ Jesus, saviour, Lord, and king,  
that all the world his worthy praise may sing.

Go forth and tell! God's love embraces all;  
he will in grace respond to all who call:  
how shall they call if they have never heard  
the gracious invitation of his word?

Go forth and tell where still the darkness lies;  
in wealth or want, the sinner surely dies:  
give us, O Lord, concern of heart and mind,  
a love like yours which cares for all mankind.

Go forth and tell! The doors are open wide:  
share God's good gifts let no one be denied;  
live out your life as Christ your Lord shall  
choose,  
your ransomed powers for his sole glory use.

Go forth and tell! O church of God, arise!  
go in the strength which Christ your Lord  
supplies;  
go till all nations his great name adore  
and serve him, Lord and king for evermore

*James Seddon (1915 - 1983)*

### Blessing

May God strengthen our faith and resolve  
to look after others in need. May we who  
cry out in fear, be transformed by the  
creative actions of God. May the world,  
which often fails to notice God's  
handiwork, recognise Jesus as the Son of  
God. And the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be among us and remain with us, and  
those we love and miss, this day and  
always. **Amen.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.  
**In the name of Christ. Amen.**

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