

ST PETER & ST PAUL'S CHURCH, AYLESFORD



A Service of the Word with Holy Communion

Heard in the Storm

Trinity 3 and Fathers' Day
20th June 2021

Welcome and Gathering

Call to Worship

Jesus on the boat in the storm said:
'Peace! Be still!'...and there was a great
calm. We come to God, just as we are.
Sometimes at ease. Sometimes confused
by life's storms, with concerns in our
hearts and questions in our minds, with
troubles in our lives and fears for our
world. Let us trust God with our big
questions, and listen for God's still small
word to restore us to a sense of peace.

**Loving and sometimes silent God, we
come into your presence, thankful to
quieten our hearts and to wait for you to
speak. We bring our joys, our challenges,
and our questions. We open our hearts
honestly to you, and we wait in that
space beyond questions to feel you hold
us in compassion. Amen.**

Hymn

I cannot tell why he whom angels worship
should set his love upon the sons of men,
or why as shepherd he should seek the
wanderers
to bring them back, they know not how or
when.

But this I know, that he was born of Mary
when Bethlehem's manger was his only
home,
and that he lived at Nazareth and laboured;
and so the saviour, saviour of the world,
is come.

I cannot tell how silently he suffered
as with his peace he graced this place of
tears,
or how his heart upon the cross was broken,
the crown of pain to three and thirty years.
But this I know, he heals the broken-hearted,
and stays our sin and calms our lurking fear,
and lifts the burden from the heavy-laden;
for yet the saviour, saviour of the world,
is here.

I cannot tell how he will win the nations,
how he will claim his earthly heritage,
how satisfy the needs and aspirations
of east and west, of sinner and of sage.
But this I know, all flesh shall see his glory,
and he shall reap the harvest he has sown,
and some glad day his sun shall shine in
splendour
when he the saviour, saviour of the world,
is known.

I cannot tell how all the lands shall worship,
when at his bidding every storm is stilled,
or who can say how great the jubilation
when all our hearts with love for him are
filled.

But this I know, the skies will fill with rapture,
and myriad, myriad human voices sing,
and earth to heaven, and heaven to earth,
will answer,
'At last the saviour, saviour of the world is
king!'

William Young Fullerton (1857-1932)

Prayer of Confession

God of our questions and our struggles,
when we too quickly mistake silence for
indifference:

forgive and help us.

When the voice of our own needs silences
the voices of others:

forgive and help us.

When we abandon others in their storm
and watch safely from the shore:

forgive and help us.

When we lose faith because things get
tough:

forgive and help us.

In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Assurance of forgiveness

Lord Jesus, you do not let us sink when
our faith is going under. You do not let our
boats overturn when the seas of our life
get rough. You do not let our questions
swamp us or our failures destroy us.

Rather, you forgive us ... you save us, you
encourage, challenge and calm us – and
for this we are thankful. **Amen.**

A prayer of Adoration

Eternal God,

**we praise and adore you for all that
you are: for being bigger than even our
biggest questions; for caring more than
we can fully comprehend.**

**We praise and adore you for your
strength and your silence; for your
power and your peace.**

**We praise and adore you for being in
control and yet not controlling; for being
in the storms and beyond them.**

**We praise and adore you, Father, Son
and Holy Spirit, we praise you for ever.
Amen.**

The Collect

**God our Saviour,
look on this wounded world
in pity and in power;
hold us fast to your promises of peace
won for us by your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

The Liturgy of the Word

First Reading

Job 38.1-11

Then the Lord spoke to Job out of the
storm. He said: "Who is this that obscures
my plans with words without knowledge?
Brace yourself like a man; I will question
you, and you shall answer me. "Where
were you when I laid the earth's
foundation? Tell me, if you understand.
Who marked off its dimensions? Surely
you know! Who stretched a measuring
line across it? On what were its footings
set, or who laid its cornerstone - while the
morning stars sang together and all the
angels shouted for joy? "Who shut up the
sea behind doors when it burst forth from
the womb, when I made the clouds its
garment and wrapped it in thick darkness,
when I fixed limits for it and set its doors
and bars in place, when I said, 'This far
you may come and no farther; here is
where your proud waves halt'?"

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Hymn

Timeless love! We sing the story,
praise his wonders, tell his worth;
love more fair than heaven's glory,
love more firm than ancient earth!
Tell his faithfulness abroad:
who is like him? Praise the Lord!

By his faithfulness surrounded,
north and south his hand proclaim;
earth and heaven formed and founded,
skies and seas, declare his Name!
Wind and storm obey his word:
who is like him? Praise the Lord!

Truth and righteousness enthrone him,
just and equal are his ways;
more than happy, those who own him,
more than joy, their songs of praise!
Sun and Shield and great Reward:
who is like him? Praise the Lord!

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Gospel Reading

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

Mark 4.35-41

That day when evening came, he said to
his disciples, "Let us go over to the other
side." Leaving the crowd behind, they
took him along, just as he was, in the
boat. There were also other boats with
him. A furious squall came up, and the
waves broke over the boat, so that it was
nearly swamped. Jesus was in the stern,
sleeping on a cushion. The disciples woke
him and said to him, "Teacher, don't you
care if we drown?" He got up, rebuked
the wind and said to the waves, "Quiet!
Be still!" Then the wind died down and it
was completely calm. He said to his
disciples, "Why are you so afraid? Do you
still have no faith?" They were terrified
and asked each other, "Who is this? Even
the wind and the waves obey him!"

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Affirmation of Faith

Let us declare our faith in God, Father,
Son and Holy Spirit.

**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

Faithful God, **may they know you care.**
Loving God, **may they trust you're there.**
Saving God, **hear our prayer.**

And at the end

In Jesus' name. **Amen.**

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

The Peace

God will speak peace to his people,
to those who turn to him in their hearts.

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

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

Hymn

Dear Lord and Father of mankind,
forgive our foolish ways;
re-clothe us in our rightful mind;
in purer lives thy service find,
in deeper reverence, praise.

In simple trust like theirs who heard
beside the Syrian sea
the gracious calling of the Lord,
let us, like them, without a word
rise up and follow thee.

Drop thy still dews of quietness,
till all our strivings cease;
take from our souls the strain and stress,
and let our ordered lives confess
the beauty of thy peace.

Breathe through the heats of our desire
thy coolness and thy balm;
let sense be dumb, let flesh retire;
speak through the earthquake, wind and
fire,
O still small voice of calm.

John Greenleaf Whittier (1807-1892)

Offertory Prayer

Lord God, you who are able to do far
more abundantly than all we ask or think;
stir the power within us, that the gifts we
give may be used to your glory. May our
offering bless your church, your people,
your creation. **Amen.**

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.

... we join the unending song of your glory:
**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.

... eternal Father, 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

I break this bread and take this cup so
that we all share in the life of Christ.

God's gifts for all God's people.

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

The body and blood of Christ.

Amen.

Please wait to be guided by a sidesperson.

There will be no words said at the altar.

Prayer after Communion

O God, whose beauty is beyond our imagining and whose power we cannot comprehend: show us your glory as far as we can grasp it, and shield us from knowing more than we can bear until we may look upon you without fear; through Jesus Christ our Saviour. **Amen.**

Sending

News and Notices

Hymn

In Christ alone my hope is found,
He is my light, my strength, my song;
This Cornerstone, this solid ground,
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
What heights of love, what depths of peace,
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease!
My Comforter, my all in all,
Here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone! - who took on flesh,
Fullness of God in helpless babe!
This gift of love and righteousness,
Scorned by the ones He came to save:
Till on that cross as Jesus died,
The wrath of God was satisfied -
For every sin on Him was laid;
Here in the death of Christ I live.

There in the ground His body lay,
Light of the world by darkness slain:
Then bursting forth in glorious day
Up from the grave He rose again!
And as He stands in victory
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me,
For I am His and He is mine -
Bought with the precious blood of Christ.

No guilt in life, no fear in death,
This is the power of Christ in me;
From life's first cry to final breath,
Jesus commands my destiny.

No power of hell, no scheme of man,
Can ever pluck me from His hand;
Till He returns or calls me home,
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand!

Keith Getty & Stuart Townend
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A sending out prayer and blessing

Go in peace. May the whisper of God's wisdom go with you today into all your relationships.

And the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you
and with all those you 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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