

*The Benefice of St Mary the Virgin,
Higham Ferrers with St John the Baptist,
Chelveston-cum-Caldecott*

Stilling the Storm



Meeting Point

Second Sunday before Lent

20th February 2022

Welcome to this Online Service

Have you ever been frightened by a storm? Have you ever been travelling on land, sea or in the air and felt you might not survive the journey? That's the experience in our Bible reading today and the theme of our hymns – beginning with this reminder of God's great loving kindness and mercy to us in our lives.

Paul introduces the service

Hymn

**There's a wideness in God's mercy,
like the wideness of the sea.**

**There's a kindness in God's justice,
which is more than liberty.**

**There is no place where earth's sorrows
are more keenly felt than heaven:
there is no place where earth's failings
have such gracious judgement given.**

**For the love of God is broader
than the measures of the mind,
and the heart of the Eternal
is most wonderfully kind.**

**But we make God's love too narrow
by false limits of our own,
and we magnify its strictness
with a zeal God will not own.**

**There is welcome for the sinner,
and more graces for the good.
There is mercy with the Savior,
there is healing in his blood.**

**There is plentiful redemption
In the blood that has been shed;
There is joy for all the members
In the sorrows of the Head.**

**If our love were but more simple,
we should rest upon God's word,
and our lives would be illumined
by the presence of our Lord.**

F W Faber 1862

INTRODUCTION AND ACCLAMATION (Chris and Michelle)

We meet in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

Amen

The Lord of glory be with you

the Lord bless you

A PRAYER WITH OUR THEME FOR THE WEEK

by Brenda

Almighty God,
give us reverence for all creation
and respect for every person,
that we may mirror your likeness
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

AMEN

Bible Reading

Luke Chapter 8

One day Jesus said to his disciples, "Let us go over to the other side of the lake." So they got into a boat and set out. As they sailed, he fell asleep. A squall came down on the lake, so that the boat was being swamped, and they were in great danger. The disciples went and woke him, saying, "Master, Master, we're going to drown!"

He got up and rebuked the wind and the raging waters; the storm subsided, and all was calm. "Where is your faith?" he asked his disciples. In fear and amazement they asked one another, "Who is this? He commands even the winds and the water, and they obey him."



Hymn

**Eternal Father, strong to save
Whose arm hath bound the restless wave
Who biddest the mighty ocean deep
It's own appointed limits keep;
Oh, hear us when we cry to Thee
For those in peril on the sea!**

**O Christ! Whose voice the waters heard
And hushed their raging at Thy Word
Who walked on the foaming deep
And calm amidst it's rage didst sleep;
Oh, hear us when we cry to Thee
For those in peril on the sea!**

**Most Holy Spirit! Who didst brood
Upon the chaos dark and rude
And bid it's angry tumult cease
And give, for wild confusion, peace;
Oh, hear us when we cry to Thee
For those in peril on the sea!**

**O Trinity of love and power!
Our family shield in danger's hour;
From rock and tempest, fire and foe
Protect us wheresoever we go;
Thus evermore shall rise to Thee
Glad hymns of praise from land and sea**
William Whiting (1860)

Reflection – Paul



Hymn –

**Thou, whose almighty word
chaos and darkness heard,
and took their flight;
hear us, we humbly pray,
and, where the Gospel day
sheds not its glorious ray,
let there be light!**

**Thou who didst come to bring
on thy redeeming wing
healing and sight,**

heal to the sick in mind,
sight to the in-ly blind,
now to all humankind,
let there be light!

Spirit of truth and love,
life-giving holy Dove,
speed forth thy flight!
Move on the waters' face
bearing the gifts of grace,
and, in earth's darkest place,
let there be light!

Holy and blessed Three,
glorious Trinity,
Wisdom, Love, Might;
boundless as ocean's tide,
rolling in fullest pride,
through the world far and wide,
let there be light!

John Marriott (1813)

PRAYER HYMN – WATER OF LIFE

***Chorus: Water of Life, cleanse and refresh us:
Raise us to life in Christ Jesus.***

**Verse: All you who thirst come to the waters
And you will never be thirsty again**

Chorus

**Verse: As rain from heav'n, so is God's word,
It waters the earth and brings forth life.**

Chorus

**Verse: Dying with Christ, we shall rise with Him
Death shall have no more pow'r over us.**

Chorus

**Verse: Turn to the Lord, cast off your wickedness
You will find peace in his infinite love.**

Chorus

Stephen Dean (b. 1948)

How Amazing Grace came to be written

Paul Collins, Chairman of Newton and Cowper Museum in Olney,
Buckinghamshire.

Hymn

**Amazing grace! How sweet the sound
that saved a wretch like me.
I once was lost, but now am found,
was blind, but now I see.**

**'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
and grace my fears relieved.
How precious did that grace appear
the hour I first believed.**

**Through many dangers, toils and snares
I have already come;
'tis grace hath brought me safe thus far
and grace will lead me home.**



**When we've been there ten thousand years
bright shining as the sun,
we've no less days to sing God's praise
than when we've first begun.**

Words: John Newton (1725-1807)

Music: probably of Scottish origin

FINAL BLESSING PRAYER *by Lesley and Michelle*

The power of God be about you
The love of Christ enfold you
The joy of the Spirit be within you
And the blessing of God Almighty,
The Father, Son and Holy Spirit
Come down upon you this day and remain
with you always.

Amen



The Lord God almighty is our father
Who loves us and tenderly cares for us

The Lord Jesus Christ is our Saviour
Who will defend us to the end

The Holy Spirit is among us
**Who will lead us in God's holy way
To God almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit
Be praise and glory, today and for ever
Amen**

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