The Parish Church of St Matthew Northampton

The Fourth Sunday after Trinity



The calming of the storm

The Parish Mass

Sunday 23rd June 2024 10.15 am





Welcome to St Matthew's Parish Church

In the Bible the calming of a storm is a characteristic sign of divine power, because the wind and the sea are seen as forces of evil and chaos that only God can control. Today's readings speak of God's mastery over the watery chaos.

But the storm can also stand for the trials and tribulations which the righteous suffer, and from which only the power of God can save them. All this prepares us for the gospel reading. By calming a storm Jesus shows his divine power and his care for his disciples in their trials.

The storm reflects the post-Easter experience of the early Church. The disciples have run into all sorts of difficulties and feel that the Lord has abandoned them. But they are summoned to have faith in his presence with them and care for them.

We can relate the storms mentioned in the scriptures to the storms through which the Church is passing, and proclaim the power of Christ to still these storms today if we cling to him.

It is our custom to spend some time in quiet preparation before the liturgy begins, and save further conversation until we meet socially for refreshments afterwards. The following reflection, based on today's themes, may be found helpful:

Reflection

My faith is tested many times every day, and more times than I'd like to confess, I'm unable to keep the banner of faith aloft. If a promise is not kept, or if a secret is betrayed, or if I experience long-lasting pain, I begin to doubt God and God's love. I fall into a chasm of disbelief, and I cry out in despair. But then the Spirit lifts me up again, and once more I am secured in faith. I don't know how that happens, save when I cry our earnestly, I am answered immediately and am returned to faithfulness. I am once again filled with spirit and firmly planted in solid ground.

Maya Angelu

Settings

Communion Service in F (Gloria only)

Herbert Sumsion (1899-1995)

The Mass of the Altar of Life

David Halls

I

Order of Service

¶ The Gathering

§ At the sound of the bell, all stand

Hymn

§ The procession enters

ΑII

LIGHT of the minds that know him,
May Christ be light to mine!
My sun in risen splendour,
My light of truth divine;
My guide in doubt and darkness,
My true and living way,
My clear light ever shining,
My dawn of heaven's day.

Life of the souls that love him,
May Christ be ours indeed!
The living bread from heaven
On whom our spirits feed;
Who died for love of sinners
To bear our guilty load,
And make of life's brief journey
A new Emmaus road.

Strength of the wills that serve him,
May Christ be strength to me,
Who stilled the storm and tempest,
Who calmed the tossing sea;
His Spirit's power to move me,
His will to master mine,
His cross to carry daily
And conquer in his sign.

May it be ours to know him
That we may truly love,
And loving, fully serve him
As serve the saints above;
Till in that home of glory
With fadeless splendour bright,
We serve in perfect freedom
Our strength, our life, our light.

Words Timothy Dudley-Smith (born 1926) based on a prayer of Saint Augustine of Hippo 354-430

Music King's Lynn
English folk melody
arranged by Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

† In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All Amen.

The Greeting

Welcome in the name of Christ.
God's grace, mercy and peace be with you
and also with you.

The service is introduced

Invitation to Confession

When the apostles were caught in the storm they turned to Jesus for help and found it.

From time to time we too get caught in storms or trials of one kind or another.

When that happens, we must turn to God, and trust that he will forgive us and help us through.

Silence is kept

Confession

Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
we have sinned against you,
through our own fault,
in thought, and word, and deed,
and in what we have left undone.
We are heartily sorry,
and repent of all our sins.
For your Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake,
forgive us all that is past;
and grant that we may serve you in newness of life
to the glory of your name.
Amen.

Kyries

Lord Jesus, you are our refuge in times of distress: Lord, have mercy.

All Lord, have mercy.

You are our fortress in times of danger: Christ, have mercy.

All Christ, have mercy.

You are our hope in times of despair: Lord, have mercy.

All Lord, have mercy.

Absolution

The Lord enrich you with his grace, and nourish you with his blessing; the Lord defend you in trouble and keep you from all evil; the Lord accept your prayers, and † absolve you from your offences, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Saviour.

All Amen.

Gloria in Excelsis

Choir

Glory be to God on high, and in earth peace, good will towards men.

We praise thee, we bless thee, we worship thee, we glorify thee, we give thanks to thee for thy great glory, O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father almighty.

O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesu Christ; O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.

Thou that takest away the sins of the world, receive our prayer.

Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us.

For thou only art holy; thou only art the Lord; thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, art Most High, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

The Collect

Let us pray.

Almighty God,
you have broken the tyranny of sin
and have sent the Spirit of your Son into our hearts
whereby we call you Father:
give us grace to dedicate our freedom to your service,
that we and all creation may be brought
to the glorious liberty of the children of God;
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.

All Amen.

§ Sit

¶ The Liturgy of the Word

First Reading

Reader A reading from the Book of Job.

The Lord answered Job out of the whirlwind:

'Who is this that darkens counsel by words without knowledge? Gird up your loins like a man, I will question you, and you shall declare to me. 'Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth? Tell me, if you have understanding. Who determined its measurements—surely you know! Or who stretched the line upon it? On what were its bases sunk. or who laid its cornerstone when the morning stars sang together and all the heavenly beings shouted for joy? 'Or who shut in the sea with doors when it burst out from the womb? when I made the clouds its garment, and thick darkness its swaddling band, and prescribed bounds for it, and set bars and doors, and said, "Thus far shall you come, and no farther, and here shall your proud waves be stopped"?"

Job 38.1-11

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Psalm



Choir

O give thanks to the Lord, for he is gracious, for his steadfast love endures for ever. Let the redeemed of the Lord say this, those he redeemed from the hand of the enemy, And gathered out of the lands from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south. **Response**

Those who go down to the sea in ships and ply their trade in great waters, These have seen the works of the Lord and his wonders in the deep. For at his word the stormy wind arose and lifted up the waves of the sea. **Response**

They were carried up to the heavens and down again to the deep; their soul melted away in their peril.

They reeled and staggered like a drunkard and were at their wits' end.

Then they cried to the Lord in their trouble, and he brought them out of their distress.

He made the storm be still and the waves of the sea were calmed. Response

Then were they glad because they were at rest, and he brought them to the haven they desired. Let them give thanks to the Lord for his goodness and the wonders he does for his children. Let them exalt him in the congregation of the people and praise him in the council of the elders. **Response**

Psalm 107.1-3 & 23-32

Holy Gospel

§ Stand

Acclamation



Cantor May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighthen the eyes of our mind: so that we may know the hope to which he calls us.

All Alleluia ...

The Lord be with you and also with you.

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

All

Glo - ry to you, O__ Lord.

When evening had come, Jesus said to the disciples, 'Let us go across to the other side.' And leaving the crowd behind, they took him with them in the boat, just as he was. Other boats were with him. A great gale arose, and the waves beat into the boat, so that the boat was already being swamped. But he was in the stern, asleep on the cushion; and they woke him up and said to him, 'Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?' He woke up and rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, 'Peace! Be still!' Then the wind ceased, and there was a dead calm. He said to them, 'Why are you afraid? Have you still no faith?' And they were filled with great awe and said to one another, 'Who then is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?'

Mark 4.35-41

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

ΑII



Homily

§ Sit

The Nicene Creed

§ Stand

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

All We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.

All may bow For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come.

Amen.

Prayers of the Faithful

Priest The apostles cried out to the Lord in their trouble, and he rescued them.

Let us now bring our needs before the Lord, confident that he will hear our prayers too.

§ Kneel

The response to each petition

Intercessor Lord, in the storms of life we call upon you:

All grant us your peace.

After the final petition

Priest All-powerful God, grant that in the midst of life's storms

we may experience the calming presence of your Son, so that we may find peace and tranquillity in your service.

We ask this through the same Christ our Lord.

All Amen. 8 Stand

¶ The Liturgy of the Sacrament

Sign of Peace

ΑII

Lord Jesus Christ, when a storm blew up and threatened to sink the apostles' boat, your said to them, 'Why are you afraid? Have you still no faith?' Then you rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, 'Peace! Be still!' and there was a dead calm.

Calm the storms that anger causes to blow up among us, so that we may enjoy the peace and unity of your kingdom where you live for ever and ever.

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

Let us offer each other a sign of Christ's peace.

Hymn

ΑII

PRAISE to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation;
O my soul, praise him, for his is thy health and salvation:
All ye who hear,
Brothers and sisters draw near,
Praise him in glad adoration.

Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things so wondrously reigneth,

Shelters thee under his wings, yea, so gently sustaineth:

Hast thou not seen

All that is needful hath been

Granted in what he ordaineth?

Praise to the Lord, who doth prosper thy work and defend thee;
Surely his goodness and mercy here daily attend thee;
Ponder anew
All the Almighty can do,
He who with love doth befriend thee.

Praise to the Lord, who, when tempests their warfare are waging,
Who, when the elements madly around thee are raging,
Biddeth then cease,
Turneth their fury to peace,
Whirlwinds and waters assuaging.

Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore him!
All that hath life and breath come now with praises before him!
Let the Amen
Sound from his people again:
Gladly for ay we adore him.

Words Joachim Neander (1650-1680), Catherine Winkworth (1827-1878) Music Lobe den Herren adapted by Joachim Neander (1650-1680)

Invitation to Prayer

Pray, my brothers and sisters, that our sacrifice may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

All May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good, and the good of all his Church.

Prayer over the Gifts

O Lord, receive the sacrifice of praise, and grant that, cleansed by its action, we may make offering of a heart pleasing to you. Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

ΑII

ΑII

The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you and also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

All We lift them to the Lord.

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

It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation, always and everywhere to give you thanks, holy Father, almighty and eternal God.

From sunrise to sunset this day is holy, for Christ has risen from the tomb and scattered the darkness of death with light that will not fade. This day the risen Lord walks with your gathered people, unfolds for us your word, and makes himself known in the breaking of the bread.

And though the night will overtake this day you summon us to live in endless light, the never-ceasing sabbath of the Lord.

And so, with choirs of angels and with all the heavenly host, we proclaim your glory and join their unending song of praise:

All 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.

Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness; grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit, and according to your holy will, these gifts of bread and wine may be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ;

who, in the same night that he was betrayed, took bread and gave you thanks; he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:

Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper he took the cup and gave you thanks; he gave it to them, saying:

Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me. Great is the mystery of faith:



ΑII

And so, Father, calling to mind his death on the cross, his perfect sacrifice made once for the sins of the whole world, rejoicing in his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension, and looking for his coming in glory, we celebrate this memorial of our redemption.

As we offer you this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, we bring before you this bread and this cup and we thank you for counting us worthy to stand in your presence and serve you.

Send the Holy Spirit on your people and gather into one in your kingdom all who share this one bread and one cup, so that we, in the company of Mary the Virgin Mother of God, St Matthew and all the saints, may praise and glorify you for ever, through Jesus Christ our Lord;

by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father, for ever and ever.

All Amen.

The Blessed Sacrament is elevated and bells are rung

§ Kneel

The Lord's Prayer

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us.

All 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.

Breaking of the Bread

My flesh is food indeed, and my blood is drink indeed, says the Lord.

Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood dwell in me and I in them.

Agnus Dei

ΑII

All Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.

> Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.

> Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, grant us peace.

Invitation to Communion

Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

All Lord, I am not worthy to receive you, but only say the word, and I shall be healed.

Giving of Communion

The eyes of all wait upon you, O Lord, and you give them their food in due season.

Spiritual Communion – for those at home

Act of Reception

All In union, blessed Jesus, with the faithful gathered at every altar of your Church where your blessed Body and Blood are offered this day,

(and remembering particularly my own parish ...)

I long to offer you praise and thanksgiving, for creation and all the blessings of this life, for the redemption won for us by your life, death, and resurrection, for the means of grace and the hope of glory.

(and particularly for the blessings given me ...)

I believe that you are truly present in the Holy Sacrament, and, since I cannot at this time receive communion, I pray you to come into my heart.
I unite myself with you and embrace you with all my heart, my soul, and my mind.
Let nothing separate me from you;
let me serve you in this life until, by your grace, I come to your glorious kingdom and unending peace.
Amen.

Motet

Choir Ave Verum Corpus

Edward Elgar (1857-1934)

Hymn

ΑII

PEACE, perfect peace, in this dark world of sin? The blood of Jesus whispers peace within.

Peace, perfect peace, by thronging duties pressed? To do the will of Jesus, this is rest.

Peace, perfect peace, with sorrows surging round? In Jesus' bosom naught but calm is found.

Peace, perfect peace, with loved ones far away? In Jesus' keeping we are safe and they.

Peace, perfect peace, our future all unknown? Jesus we know, and he is on the throne.

Peace, perfect peace, death shadowing us and ours? Jesus has vanquished death and all its powers.

It is enough: earth's struggles soon shall cease, And Jesus, call us to heaven's perfect peace.

Words Edward Henry Bickersteth (1825-1906)

Music Song 46 Orlando Gibbons (1583-1625)

Prayer after Communion

Let us pray.

§ Stand

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.

All Amen.

All Fill us, good Lord, with your Spirit of love; and as you have fed us with the one bread of heaven, so make us one in heart and mind, in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Hymn

ΑII

WHEN all thy mercies, O my God, My rising soul surveys, Transported with the view, I'm lost In wonder, love, and praise.

Unnumbered comforts to my soul
Thy tender care bestowed,
Before my infant heart conceived
From whom those comforts flowed.

When in the slippery paths of youth With heedless steps I ran,
Thine arm unseen conveyed me safe,
And led me up to man.

When worn with sickness oft hast thou With health renewed my face; And when in sins and sorrow sunk, Revived my soul with grace.

Through every period of my life Thy goodness I'll pursue, And after death in distant worlds The glorious theme renew.

Through all eternity to thee A joyful song I'll raise; For O eternity's too short To utter all thy praise.

Words Joseph Addison (1672-1719)

Music Contemplation Frederick Arthur Gore Ouseley (1825-1889)

Notices for the Community

§ Sit

¶ Sending Out

§ Stand

The Lord be with you.

All and also with you.

Solemn Blessing

May the Lord be with you to protect you.

All Amen.

May the Lord go before you to lead you, and follow you to give you strength.

All Amen.

May the Lord watch over you, keep you in his care, and bless you with his peace.

All Amen.

And the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son †, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always.

All Amen.

The Dismissal

The Mass is ended. Go in peace.

All Thanks be to God.

Organ Voluntary

Litanies

Jehan Alain (1911-1940)

The procession departs

Those leaving immediately are asked to be aware of those who wish to listen to the organ voluntary.

Collection – our response to God's generosity

We invite you to make a monetary offering towards the ministry and mission of St Matthew's Church. You may do so using any of the following methods:

Cash, cheques, stewardship envelopes - using the receptacle provided at the back of church. If you are a taxpayer please use the envelopes in the chairs, and fill out the details in order that our parish may also benefit from the Gift Aid (an extra 25p for every pound given) associated with your giving.

Contactless giving - using the terminal provided. Just press the button for the amount you wish to give - £5, £10, or £20, and then hold your bank card over the reader

Giving on your smart phone - using the QR code printed below. It gives you the option of any amount, Gift Aid, and making a regular payment.

Giving online - click the donate button on the parish website or Facebook page and follow the instructions.

Your generosity is gratefully received. Thank you.



Our thanks are due to Mandy and Mark Ludlow who have generously financed the production of this week's service booklet.

This evening at 5.30 pm Congregational Evensong

Please take this booklet home as an aid to prayer and reflection during the week, and then re-cycle it.

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