

Call to worship (from Roots)

The Lord has done wonderful things;
let us sing a new song with our lips,
our lives, our hearts, our very being.

Hymn “Let all the world” H&P 10,

Or <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p07cdvjm>

Or “O sing to the Lord” StheF 42

A prayer based on the hymn “How great thou art” from Christian Aid/Jess Hall

<p>1. Our souls sing out a joyful song, Our souls sing out how great thou art. We consider the works you have made The stars of the night, the leaves of the trees The birds of the air the oceans and streams.</p>	<p>2. Our souls sing out a mournful song, Our souls grieve before our God. We consider the works our hands have made; The warming of the planet, the rising of seas The wilting of the harvest, devastating communities.</p>	<p>3. Our souls sing out a contrite song Our souls bow down low. We regret the works our hands have made The impact on the poorest, the livelihoods lost The deepening of poverty, the environmental and human cost</p>
<p>4. Our souls sing out a penitent song, Our souls turn back to what is right. We consider the good works our hands can make; The words of justice we can speak, the acts of love we can give The hand of solidarity we can extend, for others to fully live.</p>	<p>5. Our souls sing out a hopeful song Our souls look to the Lord, where our hope comes from We consider the works you call us to; The love of our neighbour, the stewardship of the earth The flourishing of all creation, the wonder of its worth.</p>	

Readings :

- (i) Psalm 98
- (ii) Acts 10 verses 44-48

Reflection

The sea can be amazingly frightening in a storm when the waves crash against the shore powerfully and energetically. The sea can also be quite calming when the tide is gently but systematically coming in on a calm day and the water is filling every crack in the rocks until finally all has been filled to the brim and more. The Holy Spirit is a bit like this, dynamic, energising and powerful one minute and gentle, flowing yet keen to fill every gap in another. Perhaps, these are helpful images for us as we read the story of Peter and Cornelius from Acts 10. By the time we reach verse 44 in our lectionary reading, Peter has been nudged into rethinking his food regulations and pushed into visiting Cornelius. At the meeting of Peter and Cornelius, the Holy Spirit fills the Gentiles to overflowing. Both Peter and Cornelius have become freed from the rules, regulations and rituals that their culture required of them and freed to further God’s rule on earth and the development of the early church. Last week at Hilton, we clicked on this link https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fErXScG_6Jk and listened to one of our former local preachers, Ken Luxon, tell the story of Peter and Cornelius in a different way. We invite you to do the same.

Psalm 98 calls us to respond in a new way when we become aware of the presence of God in our lives and to rejoice with the whole of creation. Peter’s experience of the Holy Spirit, in this story, brings him and his fellow Jews the

realisation that Gentiles as well as Jews could be filled to overflowing by the Holy Spirit and his response was not to sing but, in his joy, to order the baptism of the newly converted and support their discipleship development.

Questions to think about

- (i) What is it in nature which will give us the ability to notice God at work ?
- (ii) Which actions can we personally take in response to the work of God and the Holy Spirit in our lives ?



The week ahead of us is designated “Christian Aid” week and this year, the charity is highlighting Rose (-) whose life is made more difficult because she has no easy access to water and Florence (->) whose life has been improved by the building of a dam near her home. She can now water her tomatoes, onions and chillies, keep bees, make honey and sell her honey at the market. In short, she can feed her children. A water source near home has been transformational for the life of Florence and her children and Florence responds in joy and song. With sufficient donations this year, it is hoped that the life of Rose and others can also be transformed by the provision of a water supply near to home.



Hymn “

Holy Spirit come confirm us” H&P 288/ StheF 382

Or https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WcccR_SZrv4

Prayers (by Christian Aid)

Our God,

we pray for transformation of hardened hearts and closed minds resistant to the changes needed for a sustainable and thriving future

for stones of apathy and indifference to become hearts of concern and compassion,

for stones of self-preservation to become hearts of secure generosity,

for stones of fear of scarcity to become hearts of generous abundance

for stones of judgement and shame to become hearts of mercy and grace

for the stones of longing and consumerism to become hearts satisfied and in communion with your phenomenal creation.

Transform us by your Spirit that we might be your people. In your name we pray,

Amen.

The Lord’s Prayer As our Saviour taught his disciples we pray:

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.

Hymn “Sing to the Lord a joyful song” H&P 17,

Or “You shall go out with joy” StheF 487

Or <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OH0XbpNY2g8>

Sending out prayer : (adapted from Roots)

Spirit of truth, lead us to a greater wisdom.

Spirit of strength, in our weaknesses, make us strong.

Spirit of power, show us when and how to act for you.

Holy Spirit, help us to share the gospel message with all whom we meet.

Amen.

Circuit Weekly Service Calendar – Week Commencing: Sunday 9th May 2021

Day	Time	Service Type	Location	Details
Sunday	6:30am	Radio	Black Cat Radio	Rev Sue Baker-Maher 102.5FM or online at: www.blackcatradio.org
	09:45am	Online - Live	Zoom - Hilton	Pauline Zähler https://zoom.us/j/92378310002 Meeting ID: 923 7831 0002
	10:00am		Zoom - Huntingdon	Rev James Bamber https://zoom.us/j/83236199279 Meeting ID: 832 3619 9279
	10:30am		Zoom - Circuit Telephone	Sue Kinder https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82995322148 Meeting ID: 829 9532 2148 0131 460 1196; 0203 051 2874; 0203 481 5237; 0203 481 5240
	10.30 a.m.		Zoom Sawtry	Barbara Spencer https://zoom.us/j/172859764 Meeting ID: 172 859 764
	10.30 a.m.		Hybrid (In presence and zoom) also Facebook	St Ives
	7p.m.	Online-Live	Café Worship	Rev Sue Baker-Maher https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82995322148 Meeting ID: 829 9532 2148 0131 460 1196; 0203 051 2874; 0203 481 5237; 0203 481 5240
Monday to Friday	08:30am	Online - Live	Zoom Morning Prayers	https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86258109837
Any Day	Any Time	Telephone	01480 597118	Devotional Message
Wednesday	10:30am	Online – Live	Zoom – Berkley Street	Coffee Morning - Margaret Wilson https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89206584600 Meeting ID: 892 0658 4600
	3:00pm		Zoom – Sawtry	Tea & Chat https://zoom.us/j/172859764 Meeting ID: 172 859 764
Thursday	7:00pm		Zoom – Praise	Sing along - all welcome – Margaret Wilson https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85653152565 Meeting ID: 856 5315 2565
Any Day	Any Time	Online	YouTube direct or via link on Huntingdon Facebook	Pause for Thought with Rev James on his YouTube channel New editions added Saturday evening.