

St Edmund's Taverham with St Peter's Ringland

Worship for Sunday 23rd August

Eleventh Sunday after Trinity

Welcome to our worship today.

Our help is in the Name of the Lord, who has made heaven and earth (Psalm 124:7).

Our gathering song. (written by John L Bell and Nick Moore)

Take, O take me as I am
Summon out what I shall be
Set your seal upon my heart
And set me free

Show me how to be at peace
Let me be all I can be
Guide my way along the path
And walk with me

Watch, O watch me as I grow
Give me sight so I can see
Grant me strength to fight the foe
And stand with me

Give me wisdom to perceive
How to use you as the key
Teach me so I may believe
Unlock the door for me

Help me flourish every day
Set my troubled mind at ease
Nourish hearts and souls I pray
I'll feel your peace

So take, O take me as I am
Summon out what I shall be

Set your seal upon my heart
And live in me

(First and last verse John Bell. Verses, 2-4 Nick Moore)

As we worship today we thank God for our church family and the bonds of love and friendship between us which bind us together despite our physical distance. We welcome one another in Christ's Name, mindful of God's love and invitation to each of us to receive God's mercy and grace.

(inspired by Mark 8:29 and Matthew 16:15)

In the name of the Lord Jesus
the bread breaker
the light gatherer
cross carrier
welcome

May the peace of the Lord Jesus
the peace maker
and the temple disturber
friend of the sinner
and companion on the road
be with us all

Let us draw close to the Lord Jesus
the saviour
the healer
the teacher
and worship him

and ask ourselves
who do we say he is?

~ inspired by Mark 8:29 and posted on Spill the Beans.
[http://www.spillbeans.org.uk /](http://www.spillbeans.org.uk/)

Song (written by Robert Walmsley)

Come let us sing of a wonderful love, tender and true
Out of the heart of the Father above
Streaming to me and to you
Wonderful love dwells in the heart of the Father above

Jesus the Saviour this gospel to tell, joyfully came
Came with the helpless and hopeless to dwell
Sharing their sorrow and shame
Seeking the lost, saving, redeeming at measureless cost

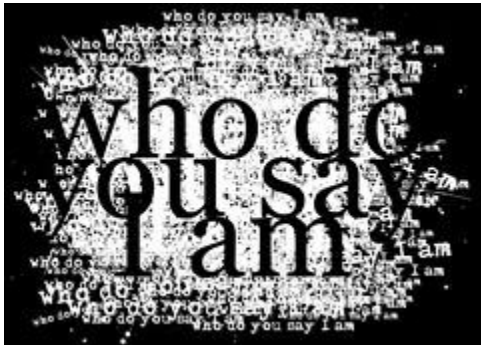
Jesus is seeking the wanderers yet, why do they roam?
Love only waits to forgive and forget
Home, weary wanderer, home!
Wonderful love dwells in the heart of the Father above

Come to my heart, O thou wonderful love, come and abide
Lifting my life till it rises above
Envy and falsehood and pride
Seeking to be lowly and humble, a learner of Thee

As we worship this morning let's recall the good things that have happened this week and spend a few moments giving thanks for God's goodness.

We also bring to mind the things that have caused us concern this week; things that we may be anxious about, hurts we may have felt or perhaps hurts we have caused others. As we bring these things before God we remember God's promise of peace, forgiveness and presence.

Our scripture reading the week is from **Matthew's gospel, chapter 16:13-20.**



Peter's Declaration about Jesus

¹³ Jesus went to the territory near the town of Caesarea Philippi, where he asked his disciples, "Who do people say the Son of Man is?"

¹⁴ "Some say John the Baptist," they answered. "Others say Elijah, while others say Jeremiah or some other prophet."

¹⁵ "What about you?" he asked them. "Who do you say I am?"

¹⁶ Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God."

¹⁷ "Good for you, Simon son of John!" answered Jesus. "For this truth did not come to you from any human being, but it was given to you directly by my Father in heaven. ¹⁸ And so I tell you, Peter: you are a rock, and on this rock foundation I will build my church, and not even death will ever be able to overcome it. ¹⁹ I will give you the keys of the Kingdom of heaven; what you prohibit on earth will be prohibited in heaven, and what you permit on earth will be permitted in heaven."

²⁰ Then Jesus ordered his disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

The question Jesus asks Peter is a question for all of us. As you reflect on this reading hold that question in mind. Who do you say Jesus is?

You may like to read Rev Paul's thoughts in last week's St Ed's newsheet or the thought for the week on the St Peter's website

Let us pray

**God of glory,
the end of our searching,
help us to lay aside
all that prevents us from seeking your kingdom,
and to give all that we have
to gain the pearl beyond all price,
through our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen**

The Lord's Prayer

Song (10,000 Reasons written by Matt Redman)

Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul, Worship His holy name
Sing like never before, O my soul, I'll worship Your holy name

The sun comes up, it's a new day dawning
It's time to sing Your song again
Whatever may pass, and whatever lies before me
Let me be singing when the evening comes

You're rich in love, and You're slow to anger
Your name is great, and Your heart is kind
For all Your goodness, I will keep on singing
Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find

And on that day when my strength is failing
The end draws near, and my time has come
Still my soul will sing Your praise unending
Ten thousand years and then forevermore

Jesus stands and asks:
"Who do you say I am?"
We join millions who have gone before
and say: "the Messiah"

Jesus stands in front of us
and tells us the realities of discipleship
We join millions who have gone before
in the challenges of living as disciples.

Jesus stands before us
and offers food and drink for the journey.
Fed and nourished,
we go out into the world to live and serve.

Jesus stands before us, shining in glory,
and will be with us to the end of the age.
Thanks be to God. Amen.

~ posted by Rev Gord on his blog, Worship Offerings.
<http://worshipofferings.blogspot.ca/>