



## **St Edmund's Taverham with St Peter's Ringland**

**Worship for Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup>  
August  
Eighth Sunday after Trinity**

### **Our gathering song this week (written by Phil Wickham)**

How great the chasm that lay between us  
How high the mountain I could not climb  
In desperation I turned to heaven  
And spoke your name into the night  
Then through the darkness your loving kindness  
Tore through the shadows of my soul  
The work is finished the end is written  
Jesus Christ my Living Hope

Who could imagine so great a mercy?  
What heart could fathom such boundless grace?  
The God of Ages stepped down from Glory  
To wear my sin and bear my shame  
The cross has spoken I am forgiven  
The King of Kings calls me His own  
Beautiful Saviour I'm yours forever  
Jesus Christ my Living Hope

Hallelujah praise the One who set me free  
Hallelujah death has lost its grip on me  
You have broken every chain there's salvation in your Name  
Jesus Christ my Living Hope

Then came the morning that sealed the promise  
Your buried body began to breathe  
Out of the silence the Roaring Lion  
Declared the grave has no claim on me

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Jesus Yours is the victory

Welcome to our worship this week. It is good to be able to praise God wherever we are, to remember God's goodness and faithfulness, to acknowledge our joys and our sorrows and to remember our call to live in love and grace with one another.

God is close to all who call on him;  
to all who pray with honesty and sincerity.  
So come to this time of prayer  
with confidence and expectation,  
for God is among us,  
and will hear our prayers. Amen.

**Let's sing together** (Psalm 23 by Stuart Townsend)

The Lord's my shepherd, I'll not want  
He makes me lie in pastures green  
He leads me by the still, still waters  
His goodness restores my soul

And I will trust in You alone  
And I will trust in You alone  
For Your endless mercy follows me  
Your goodness will lead me home

He guides my ways in righteousness  
And He anoints my head with oil  
And my cup, it overflows with joy  
I feast on His pure delights

And though I walk the darkest path  
I will not fear the evil one  
For You are with me, and Your rod and staff  
Are the comfort I need to know



Our scripture reading this week is from the **gospel of Matthew, chapter 14:13-21**.

As you hear this familiar story, ask the Holy Spirit to open your heart and mind to these words.

### **Jesus Feeds Five Thousand**

13 When Jesus heard the news about John, he left there in a boat and went to a lonely place by himself. The people heard about it, and so they left their towns and followed him by land. 14 Jesus got out of the boat, and when he saw the large crowd, his heart was filled with pity for them, and he healed their sick.

15 That evening his disciples came to him and said, "It is already very late, and this is a lonely place. Send the people away and let them go to the villages to buy food for themselves."

16 "They don't have to leave," answered Jesus. "You yourselves give them something to eat!"

17 "All we have here are five loaves and two fish," they replied.

18 "Then bring them here to me," Jesus said. 19 He ordered the people to sit down on the grass; then he took the five loaves and the two fish, looked up to heaven, and gave thanks to God. He broke the loaves and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the people. 20 Everyone ate and had enough. Then the disciples took up twelve baskets full of what was left over. 21 The number of men who ate was about five thousand, not counting the women and children.

As you reflect on this passage of scripture, what strikes you about it? Perhaps it is the miracle itself, or the reaction and responses of the disciples or maybe the crowd, desperate to hear the words of Jesus. What might God be showing you through these words?

You may like to read Rev Paul's thoughts in the St Eds newsheet or St Peter's website

### **Let us pray.**

Dear God,  
Remind me to  
share  
whatever  
is in my basket  
today.  
You will do the rest. Amen.

The collect for this week.

Lord God,  
your Son left the riches of heaven  
and became poor for our sake:  
when we prosper save us from pride,  
when we are needy save us from despair,  
that we may trust in you alone;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### **The Lord's Prayer**

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.

### **We sing together** (words by Timothy Dudley-Smith)

Lord for the years, Your love has kept and guided  
Urged and inspired us, cheered us on our way  
Sought us and saved us, pardoned and provided  
Lord of the years, we bring our thanks today

Lord for that word, the word of life which fires us  
Speaks to our hearts and sets our souls ablaze

Teaches and trains, rebukes us and inspires us  
Lord of the word, receive Your people's praise

Lord for our land, in this our generation  
Spirits oppressed by pleasure, wealth and care  
For young and old, for commonwealth and nation  
Lord of our land, be pleased to hear our prayer

Lord for our world, when we disown and doubt Him  
Loveless in strength and comfortless in pain  
Hungry and helpless, lost indeed without Him  
Lord of the world, we pray that Christ may reign

Lord for ourselves, in living power remake us  
Self on the cross and Christ upon the throne  
Past put behind us for the future take us  
Lord of our lives, to live for Christ alone

### **Our Prayer of Blessing**

So now we leave this space of worship  
And while so much of the road ahead is uncertain,  
the path constantly changing,  
we know some things that are as solid and sure  
as the ground beneath our feet,  
and the sky above our heads.

We know God is love.  
We know Christ's light endures.

We know the Holy Spirit this there,  
found in the space between all things,  
closer to us than our next breath,  
binding us to each other,  
until we meet we again,

Go in peace. Amen

~ submitted by Rev. Nora Vedress, Calvary United Church in Prince Albert,  
Saskatchewan, Canada.