

## **Morning Service 28<sup>th</sup> June**

(organ music played before the service by Samuel Sleath – Balbastre Cannonade)

*Thank you for joining us for this morning service on St Peter and St Paul's Day – Cudham church is dedicated to St Peter and St Paul, as is the church school in Cudham, so I'm delighted that members of the church and school feature in our service, thanks to Samuel Sleath for the organ music at the beginning and end of our special service today. I'm Rev John Musson, vicar of St Peter and St Paul's Church Cudham and St Mary's Downe. You'll find the words of the service on the church website [pcd.org.uk](http://pcd.org.uk)*

*Jesus called Simon Peter- the Rock – and asks us to respond like Peter and to worship him as the Christ, the son of the Living God! We begin our worship*

### **The Greeting**

Have you heard the good news?

*What good news?*

The good news about Jesus.

*I've heard of him – he speaks wise words.*

There's more than that – he speaks with love.

*He must be a prophet.*

He's more than that – he changes lives.

*He must be special.*

He's more than that – he's God's own Son.

*What should I do?*

Come and worship the living Lord.

***Our Opening Hymn is the Servant King – thanks to Kevin for recording this for us.***

**From heav'n You came, helpless Babe,  
Entered our world, Your glory veiled;  
Not to be served but to serve,  
And give Your life that we might live.**

***This is our God, the Servant King,  
He calls us now to follow Him,  
To bring our lives as a daily offering  
Of worship to the Servant King.***

**There in the garden of tears,  
My heavy load He chose to bear;  
His heart with sorrow was torn,  
'Yet not my will but Yours,' He said.**

**Come see His hands and His feet,  
The scars that speak of sacrifice;  
Hands that flung stars into space  
To cruel nails surrendered.**

**So let us learn how to serve,  
And in our lives enthrone Him;  
Each other's needs to prefer,  
For it is Christ we're serving.**

***We now spend time reflecting on our need to say sorry and to hear God forgive us.  
Let us pray***

Living God, we confess that our lives are not always ones of living sacrifice,  
but that more often we are bounded by conditions of our own making  
about how far we will go to live out our faith.

**Forgive us for our lack of boldness.**

We confess that we do not always mirror your hopes of what your church will be,  
that we do not accept difference or change easily,  
that we only want to recognise each others' gifts  
if they are ones we want to receive.

**Forgive us for our lack of openness.**

We confess that our world could be a much better place  
and that we could play our part in making it so.  
We do not challenge assumptions that injustice is inevitable  
and do not value the small things we can do to make a difference.

**Forgive us for our lack of urgency.**

Father God, the giver of life,  
we offer our lives back to you.  
Forgive us, change us and renew us.  
In the name of Christ,

**Amen.**

May the God of love  
bring us back to himself,  
forgive us our sins,  
and assure us of his eternal love  
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

### **Prayer for Today – St Peter's Day**

Almighty God, who inspired your apostle Saint Peter  
to confess Jesus as Christ and Son of the living God:  
build up your Church upon this rock,  
that in unity and peace it may proclaim one truth  
and follow one Lord, your Son our Saviour Christ,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

**Denise has prepared a special craft today – Peter was a fisherman before he met Jesus**

**(denise craft video making a boat)**

## Now Ellie is going to read from the Bible - Matthew 16:13-19

Peter Declares That Jesus Is the Messiah

<sup>13</sup> When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say the Son of Man is?"

<sup>14</sup> They replied, "Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, Jeremiah or one of the prophets."

<sup>15</sup> "But what about you?" he asked. "Who do you say I am?"

<sup>16</sup> Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God."

<sup>17</sup> Jesus replied, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah, for this was not revealed to you by flesh and blood, but by my Father in heaven. <sup>18</sup> And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it. <sup>19</sup> I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven."

This is the Word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God**

### Talk

If I put this on, what might my job be? A builder? An engineer? A scaffolder? One of those, probably. But what if I was a schoolteacher? A teacher looks the same as everyone else. A solicitor, maybe? And they also look much the same as anyone else. Unless a person wears some kind of special hat or uniform in their job, it is almost impossible to know what they do just by looking at them.

Now, I've got a question – do you think Jesus looked special? He certainly didn't wear any kind of hat or uniform to say who he was. And although some of you might be shocked at this - just looking at Jesus, he might have seemed to be like anyone else of his day.

When we read the gospels, as you can imagine, there was a lot of confusion about who Jesus really was. One day, Jesus was with his disciples and he played a little game of 'who do you think I am' with his friends

One of the disciples answered, "Some say you are John the Baptist." Because he promised the kingdom of God

"Some say you are Elijah or one of the prophets," answered another because he said what God was going to do.

Jesus questioned the disciples further, "But who do you say that I am?"

Did you notice when Ellie read the bible passage, what Peter said.

"You are the Christ," answered Peter, "the Son of the living God."

The Bible doesn't tell us, but I think that the other disciples might have cheered, "Yes, Peter! Good answer! That's what we thought all along!"

Jesus looked at Peter and said, "Blessed are you Simon, son of John, because my Father in heaven has revealed this to you. From now on, I will call you Peter (which means rock) and upon this rock I will build my church." He was pleased that Peter had worked out, not by how Jesus looked, but by what he had seen him do, and what he had heard him say - in other words he'd watched and listened carefully, that Jesus was someone special – God's son, and God's promised Christ, the one who came to rescue us and to bring us into a relationship with God. Jesus gave Peter a nickname too – wonder if you have one, something that might reflect your character or personality – what might be yours, do you think?

Peter's was 'rocky' – dependable, trustworthy – though he did let Jesus down. More importantly, as God's friends we can be part of his church, not a building but a people, to support each other, and to rely on Jesus who is our rock and fortress when things get difficult.

Jesus still asks that question today - who do you say I am? How would you answer? "He was a great teacher." Or some might say, "He was a great religious leader." That's putting the wrong hat on him, or the wrong uniform. They don't know what Peter knew. Yet when we read the bible, hear the words that Jesus spoke, and see the things that Jesus did, and see on the cross Jesus taking away our wrongs and giving to us eternal life, we can trust Father God to reveal to us what he revealed to Peter, that Jesus was no ordinary man, though that's how he might have looked, and to know Jesus as the Christ, the Son of the living God – that's an amazing truth, and one that can support us each and every day.

A short prayer. Thank you Lord Jesus that you are the Christ, the Son of the Living God. Help me to say 'yes' to you and to know this truth more and more each day. Amen.

*Please join us for homegroup on Wednesday at 8pm via zoom as we look again at this passage - Meeting ID: 860 2912 7068 Password: 716183 John will be sending out notes soon, please ask if you'd like a copy.*

## **The Creed**

Do you believe and trust in God the Father,  
source of all being and life,  
the one for whom we exist?

**We believe and trust in him.**

Do you believe and trust in God the Son,  
who took our human nature,  
died for us and rose again?

**We believe and trust in him.**

Do you believe and trust in  
God the Holy Spirit,  
who gives life to the people of God  
and makes Christ known in the world?

**We believe and trust in him.**

This is the faith of the Church.

**This is our faith.**

**We believe and trust in one God,  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.**

*Thanks to Karen and family who now bring us our prayers:*

*Our prayers today help us think about God who is - Father, Son and Holy Spirit.  
The response is, Hear our prayer*

We thank you, Father God, for you give us friends  
with whom we can be ourselves:  
those who know us as we truly are,  
who tell us the truth and challenge us gently.  
We thank you for our schools, nurseries and preschools,  
For children and teachers, and support staff too.  
Lord in your mercy.

**Hear our prayer**

We thank you, Jesus, for you call us friends.  
You trust us as you trusted St Peter and St Paul,  
you know us through and through,  
yet go on loving and accepting us as we are.  
We thank you for all who watch this service online,  
Help us to think through how we can return to church for our services too.  
Lord in your mercy.

**Hear our prayer**

We thank you, Holy Spirit, for you draw us to the living God,  
We pray that you will be close to those who need healing  
As they are unwell, and we pray for the relatives of those who have died.  
Please help them all.  
Lord in your mercy.

**Hear our prayer**

We thank you Father, Son, and Holy Spirit  
for the rock of our faith,  
enabling us to be rocks on earth for you,  
to build one church with you;  
that ourselves, friends and neighbours will come to see and to know you,  
for you are our living God who we can praise and worship wherever  
And whoever we are.  
Lord in your mercy.

**Hear our prayer**

*After a moment to bring our own prayers to God:*

Jesus taught us to call God our Father,  
so in faith and trust 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**

We also celebrate our links today with St Peter and St Paul Church of England School, Cudham, where Dan Finch has just been appointed Head of School.

(Dan Video)

Thanks Dan, we look forward to working with you too. Do have a look at the excellent videos on the School youtube page <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCN4fa90eZ-PopWYE0cEmxCA>

### **Our Closing Song, again recorded by Kevin, is My Jesus, my saviour:**

**My Jesus, my Saviour  
Lord there is none like you  
All of my days, I want to praise  
The wonders of your mighty love  
My comfort, my shelter  
Tower of refuge and strength  
Let every breath, all that I am  
Never cease to worship You**

**Shout to the Lord, all the earth let us sing  
Power and majesty, praise to the King  
Mountains bow down and the seas will roar  
At the sound of Your name  
I sing for joy at the work of your hands  
Forever I'll love you, forever I'll stand  
Nothing compares to the promise I have in you.**

**Closing responses – even though at the moment we cannot meet in church, we are the church...**

Lord Jesus,

**thank you for your church.**

For giving us a place where we are welcome and where we belong.

**Thank you for your church.**

For giving us all sorts of people to learn from and to share with.

**Thank you for your church.**

For giving us somewhere to gather to sing to you and hear about you.

**Thank you for your church.**

For giving us a family all around the world,  
bigger than we can imagine who share our love of you.

**Thank you for your church.**

For showing us yourself through each other,  
giving us love, joy, faith and hope to celebrate.

**Thank you for your church. Amen.**

*Thank you for joining us in worship today. Details of our next services are found on our facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/PCDChurches/> where you can watch the service live or catch up later, and you'll find this week's notice sheet and other useful information on the church website [pcd.org.uk](http://pcd.org.uk)*

*In particular please contact us at [admin@pcd.org.uk](mailto:admin@pcd.org.uk) for our questionnaire about church worship and our letter about finance.*

*Please also contact the Vicar, Rev John Musson if you need any help or just for a chat! [vicar@pcd.org.uk](mailto:vicar@pcd.org.uk)  
01959540012*

## **Blessing**

Keep us, Father, in the community of faith,  
the Church of your Son Jesus Christ,  
and help us to confess him as Messiah and Lord  
in all we say and do.

And so may the blessing of God;  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit

Be with us and remain with us always. **Amen.**

Thanks to Samuel for our closing organ music – Belier Toccata

(Organ music to close)