

Morning Service Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> August from Cudham and Downe

Good morning, thank you for joining in this online service from the Parishes of Cudham and Downe. I'm Rev John Musson, Vicar. All the words you will need for this service will appear on the screen. Feel free to join in with the hymns and to say the words in **bold**. Our theme today is Jesus meeting a woman with amazing faith and healing her daughter.

Come, with purpose,  
into the presence of the living God.  
Come to worship, and to be amazed,  
to discover and learn new things.  
Come, knowing that God welcomes us all with open arms.

Here's an opening prayer:

**Lord God, as we come before you now,  
we open our hearts to you.  
Help us to see that we can learn so much from others,  
even from those with whom we think  
we may not share much in common.  
Make us willing to stand out from the crowd,  
to hear your voice, and act upon it. Amen.**

Our opening hymn is Thou whose almighty word

- 1     Thou, whose almighty word  
      chaos and darkness heard,  
      and took their flight;  
      hear us, we humbly pray,  
      and where the gospel-day  
      sheds not its glorious ray,  
      let there be light.
  
- 2     Thou, who didst come to bring  
      on thy redeeming wing  
      healing and sight,  
      health to the sick in mind,  
      sight to the inly blind,  
      O now to all mankind  
      let there be light.
  
- 3     Spirit of truth and love,  
      life-giving, holy Dove,  
      speed forth thy flight;  
      move on the water's face,  
      bearing the lamp of grace,  
      and in earth's darkest place  
      let there be light.
  
- 4     Holy and blessèd Three,  
      glorious Trinity,  
      Wisdom, Love, Might;  
      boundless as ocean's tide  
      rolling in fullest pride,

through the earth far and wide  
let there be light.

We now spend time saying sorry to God:-

Lord, sometimes we look as though we are listening to others.

We may even make all the right noises!

But we confess that our attention is often anywhere

But where it is supposed to be.

**Forgive us, Lord, for missed opportunities.**

Sometimes we are too distracted by our own concerns.

We care only for ourselves,

and listen only to those who say what we want to hear.

**Forgive us, Lord, for missed opportunities.**

Sometimes we don't listen to people

because we don't like them,

or because they are different from us.

Sometimes we have bad or unhelpful thoughts.

**Forgive us, Lord, for missed opportunities.**

Sometimes we don't listen to you, Lord,

because we are too busy,

or frightened about what you might say to us.

**Forgive us, Lord, for missed opportunities. 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.**

Our bible reading is read by Fiona and comes from Matthew 14 verses 21-33, then there's a craft activity from Denise after which we welcome our guest preacher, Mark Wallace, Southern Regional Director of Church Society

Matthew 15: 21-28

<sup>21</sup> Leaving that place, Jesus withdrew to the region of Tyre and Sidon. <sup>22</sup> A Canaanite woman from that vicinity came to him, crying out, 'Lord, Son of David, have mercy on me! My daughter is demon-possessed and suffering terribly.'

<sup>23</sup> Jesus did not answer a word. So his disciples came to him and urged him, 'Send her away, for she keeps crying out after us.'

<sup>24</sup> He answered, 'I was sent only to the lost sheep of Israel.'

<sup>25</sup> The woman came and knelt before him. 'Lord, help me!' she said.

<sup>26</sup> He replied, 'It is not right to take the children's bread and toss it to the dogs.'

<sup>27</sup> 'Yes it is, Lord,' she said. 'Even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their master's table.'

<sup>28</sup> Then Jesus said to her, 'Woman, you have great faith! Your request is granted.' And her daughter was healed at that moment.

Sermon: Rev Mark Wallace

Let us declare our faith in God.

**We believe in God the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named.  
We believe in God the Son, who lives in our hearts through faith, and fills us with his love.  
We believe in God the Holy Spirit, who strengthens us with power from on high.  
We believe in one God; Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.**

Our prayers of intercession today are led by Richard

Jesus taught us to call God our Father, so in faith and trust we pray:

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come, your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Lead us not into temptation  
but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours  
now and for ever. Amen.**

Our closing hymn is Meekness and majesty

- 1 Meekness and majesty,  
manhood and deity,  
in perfect harmony,  
the Man who is God.  
Lord of eternity  
dwells in humanity,  
kneels in humility  
and washes our feet.  
*Oh, what a mystery,  
meekness and majesty.  
Bow down and worship  
for this is your God,  
this is your God.*
  
- 2 Father's pure radiance,  
perfect in innocence,  
yet learns obedience  
to death on a cross.  
Suffering to give us life,  
conquering through sacrifice,  
and as they crucify  
prays: 'Father forgive.'  
*Refrain*

3 Wisdom unsearchable,  
God the invisible,  
love indestructible  
in frailty appears.  
Lord of infinity,  
stooping so tenderly,  
lifts our humanity  
to the heights of his throne.  
*Refrain*

*Thank you for watching this service from Cudham and Downe. Join us again next week on youtube.*

A final prayer of reflection and blessing:-

**We go out today,  
renewed and strengthened in faith,  
ready to serve you, Lord,  
and find you in the people we meet.  
We go out to follow you, and our hearts.  
Lead us, good Lord. Amen.**

And so may the blessing of God;  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit  
Be with you this week and always.  
**Amen**