

The Cotteridge Church

Proper 7 Sunday 19th June 2022

Give me the wings of faith to rise
within the veil, and see
the saints above, how great their joys,
how bright their glories be.

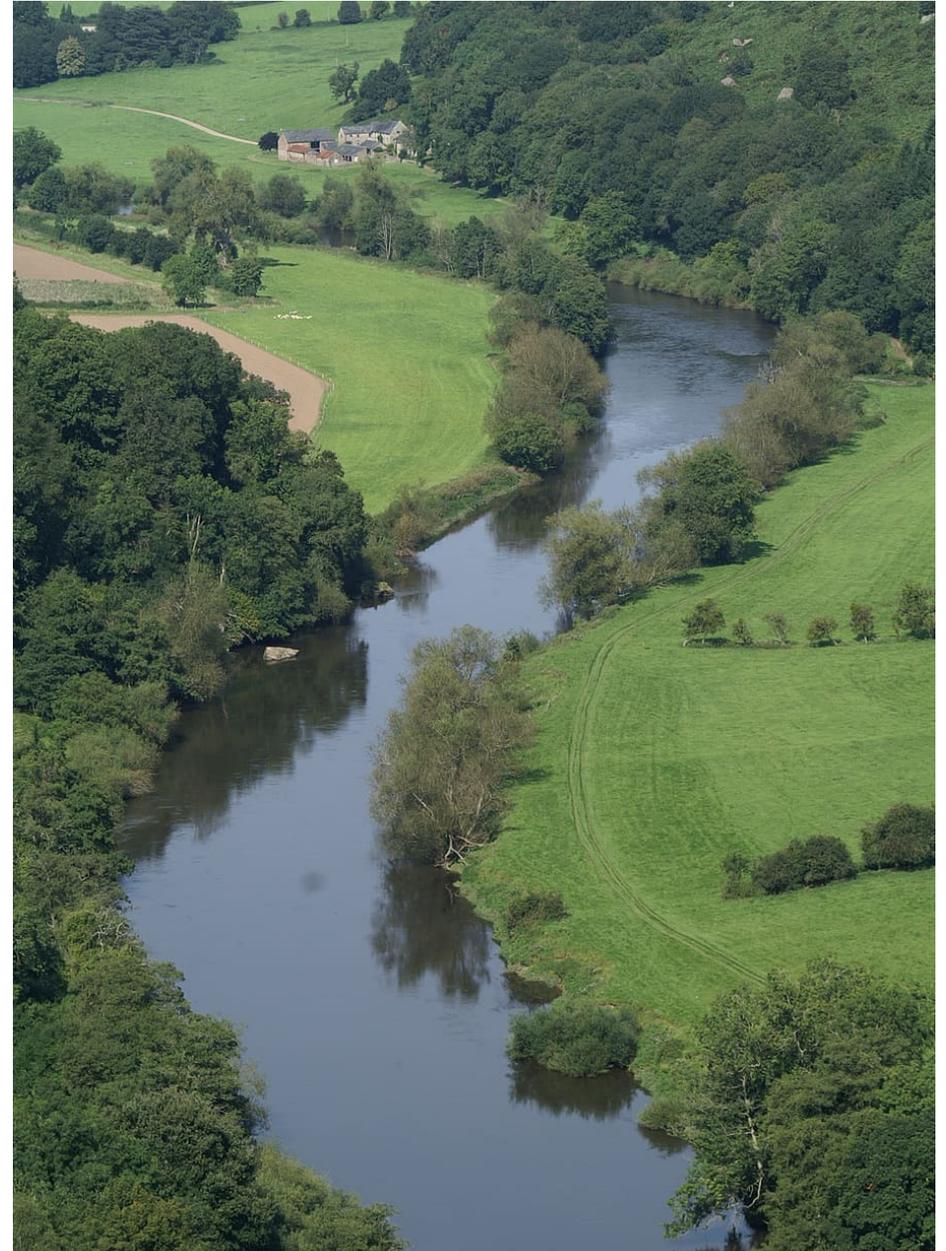
Once they were mourning here below,
and poured out sighs and tears:
they wrestled hard, as we do now,
with sins, and doubts and fears.

I ask them whence their victory came:
they, with united breath,
ascribe their conquest to the Lamb,
their triumph to his death.

They marked the footsteps that he trod,
his zeal inspired their breast;
and, following their incarnate God,
possess the promised rest.

Our glorious Leader claims our praise
for his own pattern given;
while the long cloud of witnesses
show the same path to heaven.

StF 747 Isaac Watts



Bible Readings

1 Kings 19:1-4, (5-7), 8-15a

Psalms 42 and 43

Galatians 3:23-29

Luke 8:26-39

Collect for Easter 5

God of truth,
help us to keep your law of love
and to walk in ways of wisdom,
that we may find true life
in Jesus Christ your Son.
Amen

Some time ago I saw a picture of an old burned-out mountain shack. All that remained was the chimney...the charred debris of what had been that family's sole possession. In front of this destroyed home stood an old grandfather-looking man dressed only in his underclothes with a small boy clutching a pair of patched overalls. It was evident that the child was crying.

Beneath the picture were the words which the artist felt the old man was speaking to the boy. They were simple words, yet they presented a profound theology and philosophy of life. Those words were, "Hush child, God ain't dead!" That vivid picture of that burned - out mountain shack, that old man, the weeping child, and those words "God ain't dead" keep returning to my mind. Instead of it being a reminder of the despair of life, it has come to be a reminder of hope! I need reminders that there is hope in this world. In the midst of all of life's troubles and failures, I need mental pictures to remind me that all is not lost as long as God is alive and in control of His world. God is indeed in control.

The Cotteridge Church

Proper 8 Sunday 26th June 2022

1 Of all the Spirit's gifts to me,
I pray that I may never cease
to take and treasure most these three:
love, joy, and peace.

2 The Spirit shows me love's the root
of every gift sent from above,
of every flower, of every fruit,
that God is love.

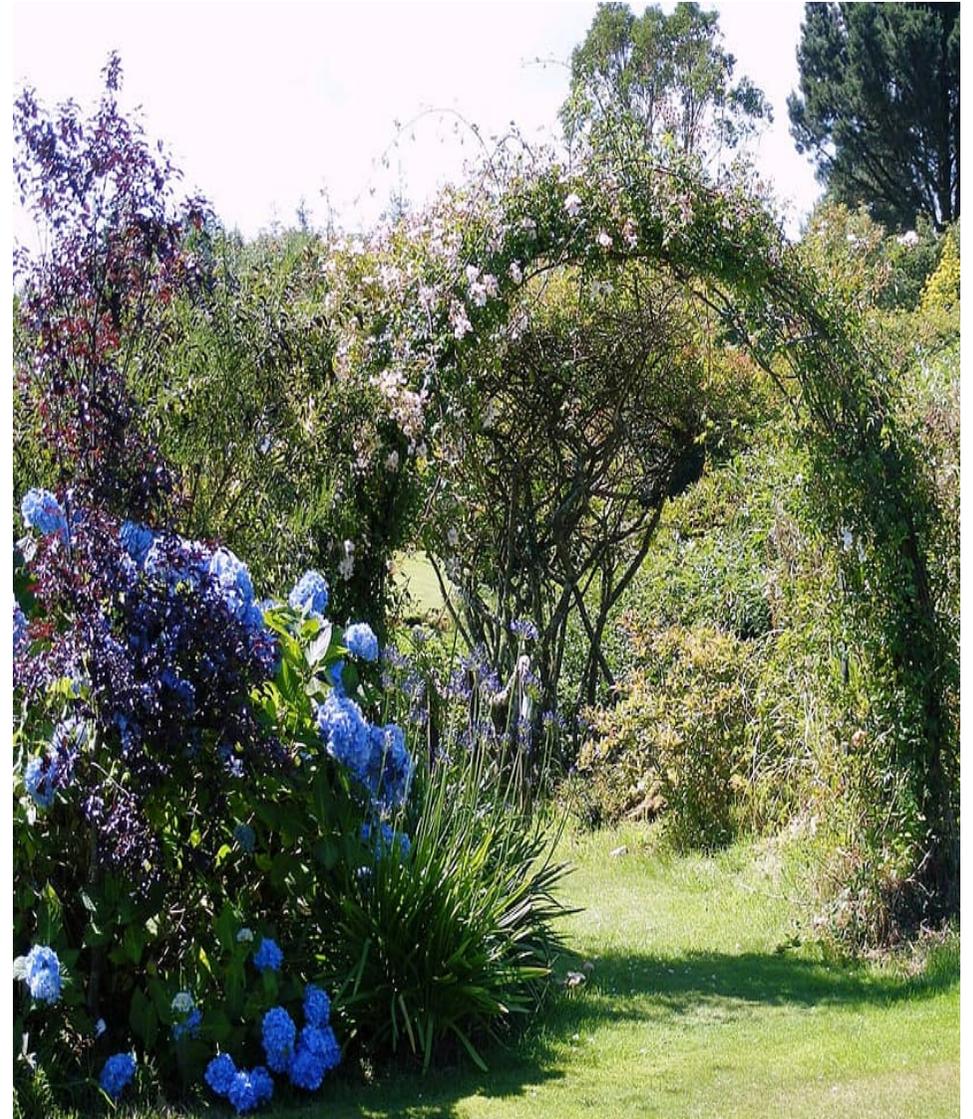
3 The Spirit shows if I possess
a love no evil can destroy;
however great is my distress,
then this is joy.

4 Though what's ahead is mystery,
and life itself is ours on lease,
each day the Spirit says to me,
"Go forth in peace!"

5 We go in peace, but made aware
that, in a needy world like this,
our clearest purpose is to share
love, joy, and peace.

StF 709

Fred Pratt Green



Bible Readings

2 Kings 2 1-2

Psalm 77 1-2 11-end

Galatians 5 1 13-25

Luke 9 51 end

Collect for Proper 8

Gracious Father,
by the obedience of Jesus
you brought salvation to our wayward world:
draw us into harmony with your will,
that we may find all things restored in him,
our Saviour Jesus Christ.
Amen

Proper 8

Joel, goes out and plays with the neighbour's kids, some of whom have already at the age 6, learned every profane word there is. Joel has learned that as a Christian there are better ways of dealing with negative feeling than using profanity. One day a friend was starting to use those words when I overheard Joel say: 'Jason, God doesn't like that kind of talk. That's not what your tongue is for why do you talk like that?'

In the next moment, Joel learned a very difficult lesson. The boys started making fun of him and then they pushed over his bike. He came running into the house crying and saying, 'They said I'm dumb and that you don't know what you're talking about.'

Joel learned at a young age that this committed life is not easy. He learned if one lives each day committed to the Lord, and is willing to stand up against the world, it will be tough, it will not be easy. Christ did not say our lives would be easy as he has sent us out into the world to be lights, to bear witness to his glory. -
Many are not like Joel. They are not willing to stand up for their Christian convictions in this world.

They are like the tubas in this story:.

A marching band of a small college wanted to play for homecoming and impress the crowd. But they didn't have a big enough band. So they recruited some students who would march along even though they couldn't play. They could carry the tubas. And they looked very impressive great big shining horns. As they came marching down the street a little boy who was watching intently said, 'Momma there's nothing coming out of those big things.'