

Morning Service Sunday 9th August from Cudham and Downe

Good morning, thank you for joining in this online service from the Parish 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 overcoming fear and doubt as he walks on water and invites Peter to join him!

Jesus said, 'Take courage, it is me. Don't be afraid.'

Our God is a powerful God, who does things way beyond our understanding. But we have no need to fear, for we know we are safe in God's presence. Let us come to our God now. Let us bow down and worship.

Here's an opening prayer

God of wind and waves, thank you that you meet us
when we are sure of our faith
when we are battling our doubts, wherever we are today. **Amen.**

Our opening hymn is Jesus shall reign

- 1 Jesus shall reign where'er the sun
does his successive journeys run;
his kingdom stretch from shore to shore,
till moons shall wax and wane no more.
- 2 People and realms of ev'ry tongue
dwell on his love with sweetest song,
and infant voices shall proclaim
their early blessings on his name.
- 3 To him shall endless prayer be made
and praises throng to crown his head;
his name like incense shall arise
with ev'ry morning sacrifice.
- 4 Let ev'ry creature rise and bring
peculiar honours to our King;
angels descend with songs again,
and earth repeat the loud amen.

We now spend time saying sorry to God, after a moment of reflection we pray

**Lord Jesus, we are sorry for the times
we do not put our trust in you.
We are sorry that sometimes
we focus on the problems in the deep water in front of us,
instead of trusting you to keep us afloat.
Forgive us, Lord, and help us trust in you. 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 Daren and comes from Matthew 14 verses 22-33, after which we welcome our guest preacher, George Crowder, Northern Regional Director of Church Society.

Matthew 14:22-33

²² Immediately Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead of him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowd. ²³ After he had dismissed them, he went up on a mountainside by himself to pray. Later that night, he was there alone, ²⁴ and the boat was already a considerable distance from land, buffeted by the waves because the wind was against it.

²⁵ Shortly before dawn Jesus went out to them, walking on the lake. ²⁶ When the disciples saw him walking on the lake, they were terrified. "It's a ghost," they said, and cried out in fear.

²⁷ But Jesus immediately said to them: "Take courage! It is I. Don't be afraid."

²⁸ "Lord, if it's you," Peter replied, "tell me to come to you on the water."

²⁹ "Come," he said.

Then Peter got down out of the boat, walked on the water and came toward Jesus. ³⁰ But when he saw the wind, he was afraid and, beginning to sink, cried out, "Lord, save me!"

³¹ Immediately Jesus reached out his hand and caught him. "You of little faith," he said, "why did you doubt?"

³² And when they climbed into the boat, the wind died down. ³³ Then those who were in the boat worshipped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

Sermon: Rev George Crowder

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 Daren
Lord God, we come before you to pray for all those people
for whom taking risks is a way of life.

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer

We pray for our emergency services – paramedics, the police,
the fire service – all who daily face difficult situations
as they seek to help to protect us and make our world a safer
and more peaceful place.

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer

We pray for people who work in troubled areas
– the armed forces in war zones,
those who bring humanitarian aid
into areas of natural disaster, and many more.

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer

We pray for people who take risks in your name, Lord Jesus
– those who take your word where it is most needed
– and for people who grapple with faith and doubt.

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer

We pray for those whose lives are full of risk and uncertainty
– those who face unemployment
– those who are ill or recovering from hospital treatment
– the recently bereaved

And we pray for ourselves in the week that lies ahead

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer

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 Will you come and follow me?

1 Will you come and follow me
if I but call your name?
Will you go where you don't know
and never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown,
will you let my name be known,
will you let my life be grown,
in you and you in me?

2 Will you leave yourself behind
if I but call your name?
Will you care for cruel and kind
and never be the same?
Will you risk the hostile stare
should your life attract or scare?
Will you let me answer prayer
in you and you in me?

3 Will you let the blinded see
if I but call your name?
Will you set the prisoners free
and never be the same?
Will you kiss the leper clean,
and do such as this unseen,

and admit to what I mean
in you and you in me?

4 Will you love the 'you' you hide
if I but call your name?
Will you quell the fear inside
and never be the same?
Will you use the faith you've found
to reshape the world around,
through my sight and touch and sound
in you and you in me?

5 Lord, your summons echoes true
when you but call my name.
Let me turn and follow you
and never be the same.
In your company I'll go
where your love and footsteps show.
Thus I'll move and live and grow
in you and you in me.

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

A final prayer of reflection and blessing:-

Peter only knew life as a fisherman.
But he got out of the boat and followed you, Lord.

**Help us to hear your voice,
get out of our boats and follow you.**

In the week ahead,
may the world and its problems decrease
as you increase in our lives.

**Keep us focused on your way,
looking ahead and trusting you.**

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

Amen