

# St Paul's Zoom Worship - Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2020

## Whirlwinds

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**He is risen indeed, Alleluia!**



As God's people we have gathered:  
**let us worship him together.**  
Be with us, Spirit of God;  
**nothing can separate us from your love.**  
Breathe on us, breath of God  
**fill us with your saving power.**  
Speak in us, wisdom of God;  
**bring strength, healing and peace.**

### Hymn: Be still for the presence of the Lord

Be still, for the presence of the Lord,  
The holy One, is here;  
Come bow before him now  
With reverence and fear  
In him no sin is found  
We stand on holy ground.  
Be still, for the presence of the Lord,  
The holy One, is here.

Be still, for the glory of the Lord  
Is shining all around;  
He burns with holy fire,  
With splendour he is crowned:  
How awesome is the sight  
Our radiant king of light!  
Be still, for the glory of the Lord  
Is shining all around.

Be still, for the power of the Lord  
Is moving in this place:  
He comes to cleanse and heal,  
To minister his grace -  
No work too hard for him.  
In faith receive from him.  
Be still, for the power of the Lord  
Is moving in this place.



### Collect

God our redeemer, you have delivered us from the power of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of your Son: grant, that as by his death he has recalled us to life, so by his continual presence in us he may raise us to eternal joy; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## Reading: 2 Kings 2: 1-15

Now when the Lord was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. <sup>2</sup> Elijah said to Elisha, “Stay here; for the Lord has sent me as far as Bethel.” But Elisha said, “As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.” So they went down to Bethel. <sup>3</sup> The company of prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha, and said to him, “Do you know that today the Lord will take your master away from you?” And he said, “Yes, I know; keep silent.”

<sup>4</sup> Elijah said to him, “Elisha, stay here; for the Lord has sent me to Jericho.” But he said, “As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.” So they came to Jericho. <sup>5</sup> The company of prophets who were at Jericho drew near to Elisha, and said to him, “Do you know that today the Lord will take your master away from you?” And he answered, “Yes, I know; be silent.”

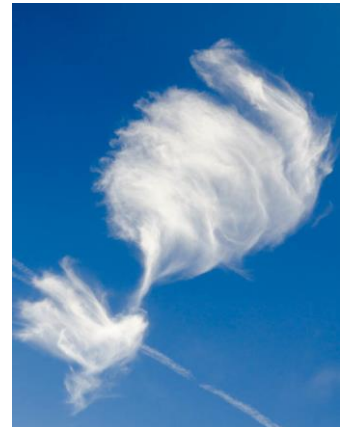
<sup>6</sup> Then Elijah said to him, “Stay here; for the Lord has sent me to the Jordan.” But he said, “As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.” So the two of them went on. <sup>7</sup> Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. <sup>8</sup> Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up, and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, until the two of them crossed on dry ground.

<sup>9</sup> When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, “Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you.” Elisha said, “Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit.” <sup>10</sup> He responded, “You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not.” <sup>11</sup> As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. <sup>12</sup> Elisha kept watching and crying out, “Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!” But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

<sup>13</sup> He picked up the mantle of Elijah that had fallen from him, and went back and stood on the bank of the Jordan. <sup>14</sup> He took the mantle of Elijah that had fallen from him, and struck the water, saying, “Where is the Lord, the God of Elijah?” When he had struck the water, the water was parted to the one side and to the other, and Elisha went over.

<sup>15</sup> When the company of prophets who were at Jericho saw him at a distance, they declared, “The spirit of Elijah rests on Elisha.” They came to meet him and bowed to the ground before him.

## Reflection



## **Prayer of Confession** *(we say sorry for the ways we have turned away from God)*

We use the following response

Lord, have mercy

Christ, have mercy

Lord, have mercy

**All: Lord, have mercy**

**All: Christ, have mercy**

**All: Lord, have mercy**

## **Absolution** *(Hear God's words of forgiveness)*

## **Intercessions**

## **Song: These are the days of Elijah**

## **The Creed**

Let us declare our faith and trust in God.

**All: 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.**

## **Thy Kingdom Come global wave of prayer**



*"In praying 'Thy Kingdom Come' we all commit to playing our part in the renewal of the nations and the transformation of communities."*

*Archbishop Justin Welby*

*During the 11 days of Thy Kingdom Come, it is hoped that everyone who takes part will:*

- Deepen their own relationship with Jesus Christ*
- Pray for 5 friends or family to come to faith in Jesus*
- Pray for the empowerment of the Spirit that we would be effective in our witness*

## **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 share the peace**

The risen Christ came and stood among the disciples and said 'Peace be with you'.

Then were they glad when they saw the Lord. Alleluia!

The peace of the Lord be always with you. Alleluia!

**And also with you. Alleluia!**

## **Hymn: In Christ Alone** (Stuart Townend)

In Christ alone my hope is found,  
He is my light, my strength, my song  
This Cornerstone, this solid Ground  
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm.  
What heights of love, what depths of peace  
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease  
My Comforter, my All in All  
Here in the love of Christ I stand.

There in the ground His body lay,  
Light of the world by darkness slain:  
Then bursting forth in glorious day  
Up from the grave He rose again  
And as He stands in victory  
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me,  
For I am His and He is mine  
Bought with the precious blood of Christ.

In Christ alone! - who took on flesh,  
Fullness of God in helpless babe.  
This gift of love and righteousness,  
Scorned by the ones He came to save  
Till on that cross as Jesus died,  
The wrath of God was satisfied  
For every sin on Him was laid  
Here in the death of Christ I live.

No guilt in life, no fear in death,  
This is the power of Christ in me  
From life's first cry to final breath,  
Jesus commands my destiny  
No power of hell, no scheme of man,  
Can ever pluck me from His hand  
Till He returns or calls me home  
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand.

## **Blessing**