

**The Venta Group of Churches
Caistor St Edmund, Bixley,
Stoke Holy Cross and Dunston Parish Councils**

“As dark as death can be — particularly for those suffering with grief — light and life are greater. May the living flame of the Easter hope be a steady guide as we face the future.”

The Queen's Easter
Message 2020

**A SERVICE OF THANKSGIVING
FOR THE LIFE AND REIGN OF
HER MAJESTY
QUEEN ELIZABETH THE SECOND**

**Sunday 18th September 2022
10.30am
Stoke Holy Cross Church**

At the beginning of the service we will play music written for the Queen's 90th birthday celebrations

INTRODUCTION & WELCOME

Heavenly Father, Almighty and Everlasting God;
we gather today to remember
her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II,
in thankfulness for the blessing
which her reign was to all of us;
for the example she set of tireless devotion to duty;
for her steadfast courage in times of war and anxiety;
for her inspirational and constant faith in the Lord Jesus Christ
and for the love and loyalty she inspired
in countless people around the world.
And we pray that you give us grace
to hold these blessings in our heart,
so that joining together as one
we might promote the welfare of this and all nations,
and seek first your kingdom and righteousness
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

HYMN

Praise, my soul, the King of heaven;
To His feet thy tribute bring.
Ransomed, healed,
restored, forgiven,
who like thee
His praise should sing?
Praise Him! Praise Him!
Praise the everlasting King.

Praise Him for His
grace and favour
To our fathers in distress.
Praise Him still the same for ever,
Slow to chide, and swift to bless.
Praise Him! Praise Him!
Glorious in His faithfulness.

changed from glory into glory,
till in heaven we take our place,
till we cast our crowns before thee,
lost in wonder, love, and praise.

BLESSING

May God in his infinite love and mercy
bring the whole Church,
living and departed in the Lord Jesus,
to a joyful resurrection
and the fulfilment of his eternal kingdom;
and the blessing of God Almighty,
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,
be upon you and remain with you always.
Amen.

THE LAST POST

2 Minutes' Silence

REVEILLE

THE NATIONAL ANTHEM

God save our gracious King,
Long live our noble King,
God save The King!
Send him victorious,
Happy and glorious,
Long to reign over us,
God save The King!

CLOSING MUSIC

At the end of the service we will play a new hymn written in remembrance of Her Majesty the Queen on behalf of the Bible Society and other charities.

After the service we will be serving hot and cold drinks and invite you to stay for this. We have a collection plate at the back of the church if you would like to give a donation to the Bible Society, or you can ask to use a card reader if you'd prefer.

**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**

HYMN

Love divine, all loves excelling,
joy of heaven, to earth come down,
fix in us thy humble dwelling,
all thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesus, thou art all compassion,
pure unbounded love thou art;
visit us with thy salvation,
enter every trembling heart.

Breathe, O breathe Thy loving Spirit
into every troubled breast;
let us all in Thee inherit
let us find thy promised rest
Take away the love of sinning,
Alpha and Omega be;
end of faith as its beginning,
set our hearts at liberty.

Come, almighty to deliver,
let us all thy grace receive;
suddenly return, and never,
never more thy temple leave.
Thee we would be always blessing,
serve thee as thy host above;
pray, and praise thee, without ceasing,
glory in thy perfect love.

Finish then thy new creation:
pure and spotless let us be;
let us see thy great salvation,
perfectly restored in thee;

Father-like He tends and spares us;
Well our feeble frame He knows.
In His hands He gently bears us,
Rescues us from all our foes.
Praise Him! Praise Him!
Widely as His mercy flows.

Angels, help us to adore Him;
Ye behold Him face to face;
Sun and moon,
bow down before Him,
Dwellers all in time and space.
Praise Him! Praise Him!
Praise with us the God of grace.

FIRST READING: I Samuel 16:1-13

at the end of each reading

This is the word of the Lord
thanks be to God.

SECOND READING: Mark 10:35-45

HYMN

My hope is built on nothing less
Than Jesus blood and righteousness
I dare not trust the sweetest frame
But wholly trust in Jesus name

*Christ alone, Cornerstone
Weak made strong in the Saviour's love
Through the storm, He is Lord
Lord of all*

When darkness seems to hide His face
I rest on His unchanging grace
In every high and stormy gale
My anchor holds within the veil

Christ alone, Cornerstone

When He shall come with trumpet sound
Oh may I then in Him be found
Dressed in His righteousness alone
Faultless stand before the throne

Christ alone, Cornerstone

Edward Mote, Eric Liljero, Jonas Myrin, Reuben Morgan, William Batchelder Bradbury
CCLI Song Number 6158927
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SERMON

Followed by a time of reflection, while the musicians sing Sovereign over Us

There is strength within the sorrow
There is beauty in our tears
And you meet us in our mourning
With a love that casts out fear
You are working in our waiting
You're sanctifying us
When beyond our understanding
You're teaching us to trust

*Your plans are still to prosper
You have not forgotten us
You're with us in the fire and the flood
You're faithful forever
Perfect in love
You are sovereign over us*

You are wisdom unimagined
Who could understand your ways
Reigning high above the heavens
Reaching down in endless grace
You're the lifter of the lowly
Compassionate and kind
You surround and you uphold me
And your promises are my delight

Even what the enemy means for evil
You turn it for our good
You turn it for our good and for your glory

Even in the valley, you are faithful
You're working for our good
You're working for our good and for your glory

Bryan Brown / Aaron Keyes / Jack Anthony Mooring, lyrics © Meaux Jeux Music, Worshiptogether.com Songs,
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HYMN:

The Lord's my shepherd; I'll not want.
He makes me down to lie
in pastures green; he leadeth me
the quiet waters by.

My soul he doth restore again
and me to walk doth make
within the paths of righteousness,
e'en for his own name's sake;

Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale,
yet will I fear no ill;
for thou art with me, and thy rod
and staff me comfort still;

My table thou hast furnished
in presence of my foes;
my head thou dost with oil anoint,
and my cup overflows.

Goodness and mercy all my life
shall surely follow me,
and in God's house forevermore
my dwelling place shall be.

PRAYERS *concluding with 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. 5