

An Evening Service of the Word
From the Chapel of St Peter-on-the-Wall



***Welcome:** Welcome to our Evening Service of the Word on this Trinity 7 Sunday evening.*

Greeting

The light and peace of Jesus Christ be with you
and also with you.

The glory of the Lord has risen upon us.

Let us rejoice and sing God's praise for ever.

Opening Prayer

Faithful one, whose word is life:
come with saving power
to free our praise,
inspire our prayer
and shape our lives
for the kingdom of your Son,
Jesus Christ our Lord.

Song 1 You are Steadfast:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UyBVP5IH6rs>

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Prayers of Penitence

Come, let us return to the Lord and say:

**Lord our God,
in our sin we have avoided your call.
Our love for you is like a morning cloud,
like the dew that goes away early.
Have mercy on us;
deliver us from judgement;
bind up our wounds and revive us;
in Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

Absolution

May the God of all healing and forgiveness
draw us to himself,
and cleanse us from all our sins
that we may behold the glory of his Son,
the Word made flesh,
Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Praise

Blessed are you, Lord our God, King of the universe.

To you be glory and praise for ever.

From the rising of the sun to its setting
your name is proclaimed in all the world.

To you be glory and praise for ever.

When the time had fully come
you sent the Sun of Righteousness.

In him the fullness of your glory dwells.

To you be glory and praise for ever.

Song 2 All My Hope On God Is Founded

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W3LCGh02Vew>

Reading 1 Kings 6.11-14,23-38

¹¹ Now the word of the LORD came to Solomon, ¹² 'Concerning this house that you are building, if you will walk in my statutes, obey my ordinances, and keep all my commandments by walking in them, then I will establish my promise with you, which

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I made to your father David. ¹³ I will dwell among the children of Israel, and will not forsake my people Israel.'

¹⁴ So Solomon built the house, and finished it.

he Furnishings of the Temple

²³ In the inner sanctuary he made two cherubim of olive wood, each ten cubits high. ²⁴ Five cubits was the length of one wing of the cherub, and five cubits the length of the other wing of the cherub; it was ten cubits from the tip of one wing to the tip of the other. ²⁵ The other cherub also measured ten cubits; both cherubim had the same measure and the same form. ²⁶ The height of one cherub was ten cubits, and so was that of the other cherub. ²⁷ He put the cherubim in the innermost part of the house; the wings of the cherubim were spread out so that a wing of one was touching one wall, and a wing of the other cherub was touching the other wall; their other wings towards the centre of the house were touching wing to wing. ²⁸ He also overlaid the cherubim with gold.

²⁹ He carved the walls of the house all round about with carved engravings of cherubim, palm trees, and open flowers, in the inner and outer rooms. ³⁰ The floor of the house he overlaid with gold, in the inner and outer rooms.

³¹ For the entrance to the inner sanctuary he made doors of olive wood; the lintel and the doorposts were five-sided.^[a] ³² He covered the two doors of olive wood with carvings of cherubim, palm trees, and open flowers; he overlaid them with gold, and spread gold on the cherubim and on the palm trees.

³³ So also he made for the entrance to the nave doorposts of olive wood, each four-sided, ³⁴ and two doors of cypress wood; the two leaves of one door were folding, and the two leaves of the other door were folding. ³⁵ He carved cherubim, palm trees, and open flowers, overlaying them with gold evenly applied upon the carved work. ³⁶ He built the inner court with three courses of dressed stone to one course of cedar beams.

³⁷ In the fourth year the foundation of the house of the LORD was laid, in the month of Ziv. ³⁸ In the eleventh year, in the month of Bul, which is the eighth month, the house was finished in all its parts, and according to all its specifications. He was seven years in building it.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

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Psalm 75

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5wRpaSG_aok&t=2s

Reading Acts 12.1-17

James Killed and Peter Imprisoned

12 About that time King Herod laid violent hands upon some who belonged to the church. **2** He had James, the brother of John, killed with the sword. **3** After he saw that it pleased the Jews, he proceeded to arrest Peter also. (This was during the festival of Unleavened Bread.) **4** When he had seized him, he put him in prison and handed him over to four squads of soldiers to guard him, intending to bring him out to the people after the Passover. **5** While Peter was kept in prison, the church prayed fervently to God for him.

Peter Delivered from Prison

6 The very night before Herod was going to bring him out, Peter, bound with two chains, was sleeping between two soldiers, while guards in front of the door were keeping watch over the prison. **7** Suddenly an angel of the Lord appeared and a light shone in the cell. He tapped Peter on the side and woke him, saying, 'Get up quickly.' And the chains fell off his wrists. **8** The angel said to him, 'Fasten your belt and put on your sandals.' He did so. Then he said to him, 'Wrap your cloak around you and follow me.' **9** Peter^[a] went out and followed him; he did not realize that what was happening with the angel's help was real; he thought he was seeing a vision. **10** After they had passed the first and the second guard, they came before the iron gate leading into the city. It opened for them of its own accord, and they went outside and walked along a lane, when suddenly the angel left him. **11** Then Peter came to himself and said, 'Now I am sure that the Lord has sent his angel and rescued me from the hands of Herod and from all that the Jewish people were expecting.'

12 As soon as he realized this, he went to the house of Mary, the mother of John whose other name was Mark, where many had gathered and were praying. **13** When he knocked at the outer gate, a maid named Rhoda came to answer. **14** On recognizing Peter's voice, she was so overjoyed that, instead of opening the gate, she ran in and announced that Peter was standing at the gate. **15** They said to her, 'You are out of your mind!' But she insisted that it was so. They said, 'It is his angel.' **16** Meanwhile, Peter continued knocking; and when they opened the gate, they saw him and were amazed. **17** He motioned to them with his hand to be silent, and described for them how the Lord had brought him out of the prison. And he added, 'Tell this to James and to the believers.'^[b] Then he left and went to another place.

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This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Talk by Revd Steven Poss https://youtu.be/LEJzD_7pvM

Acts 12: 1-17 - James Killed and Peter Imprisoned

In our reading from Acts, we hear of two events to two of Jesus' closest disciples, namely James and Peter. James we hear has been killed by King Herod, who is a line of King Herod's who carried out nasty things. King Herod wanted to please the Jews and be on their side, so when he heard that James Killing pleased the Jews, he put Peter in Prison.

We then hear of the second event, where Peter escapes from prison with angelic assistance for the third time. But this time, Peter is heavily guarded, but this does not stop the angel. We hear this angelic assistance came from the constant prayer from the disciples who were now leaderless and resulted to constant prayer together and this is the theme for today.

We may not be in the same position as the disciples, but we may feel helpless during these challenging times and we are urged to be in constant prayer by the scriptures. That doesn't mean that we have to be in the same place and position all day, but we carry on with our daily lives and when we hear of some upsetting news on the TV or from a conversation with a neighbour, we can lift these things to God in prayer.

In this passage, we hear two different answers to prayer. Firstly James is not miraculously rescued, but Peter is. This is because God is sovereign and he decides as he sees fit. Let us lift everything to God in prayer and ask for his angelic assistance in our needs, **Amen**.

(Source - Acts – Stott)

Song 3 *Dear Angel Ever At My Side*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-EzaDK3GHUU>

Prayers of Intercession

God the Father, your will for all people is health and salvation.

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We praise and bless you, Lord.

God the Son, you came that we might have life,
and might have it more abundantly.

We praise and bless you, Lord.

God the Holy Spirit, you make our bodies the temple of your presence.

We praise and bless you, Lord.

Holy Trinity, one God, in you we live and move and have our being.

We praise and bless you, Lord.

Lord, grant your healing grace to all who are sick, injured or disabled,
that they may be made whole.

Hear us, Lord of life.

Grant to all who are lonely, anxious or depressed
a knowledge of your will and an awareness of your presence.

Hear us, Lord of life.

Grant to all who minister to those who are suffering
wisdom and skill, sympathy and patience.

Hear us, Lord of life.

Mend broken relationships, and restore to those in distress
soundness of mind and serenity of spirit.

Hear us, Lord of life.

Sustain and support those who seek your guidance
and lift up all who are brought low by the trials of this life.

Hear us, Lord of life.

Grant to the dying peace and a holy death,
and uphold by the grace and consolation of your Holy Spirit those who are
bereaved.

Hear us, Lord of life.

Restore to wholeness whatever is broken by human sin,
in our lives, in our nation, and in the world.

Hear us, Lord of life.

You are the Lord who does mighty wonders.

You have declared your power among the peoples.

With you, Lord, is the well of life

and in your light do we see light.

Hear us, Lord of life:

heal us, and make us whole.

A period of silence follows.

O Lord our God, accept the fervent prayers of your people;

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in the multitude of your mercies look with compassion upon us
and all who turn to you for help;
for you are gracious, O lover of souls,
and to you we give glory,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
now and for ever.

Amen.

Song 4 O Love that will not let me go.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U2cqblTDR8w>

The Lord's Prayer

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.

Song 5 As Now the Sun's Declining Rays

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2QfVqAbCiwQ>

Final Prayer

In darkness and in light,
in trouble and in joy,
help us, heavenly Father,
to trust your love,
to serve your purpose,
and to praise your name;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

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Sending Out

Jesus Christ is the light of the world:

a light no darkness can quench.

Stay with us, Lord, for it is evening:

and the day is almost over.

The darkness is not dark to you:

the night is as bright as the day.

Let your light scatter the darkness:

and fill your church with your glory. Amen.

Blessing

Lord Jesus Christ, Light of the world,

by your cross you have overcome all darkness that oppresses.

Come and shine on us here

that we may grow and live together in your love

which makes us one with all humanity.

**The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of
God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us evermore.
Amen**

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Closing blessing by Ray Simpson*