

Living in two worlds

Sunday 17th November 2024

“I believe in the kingdom come - then all the colours will bleed into one.” (U2: I still haven't found what I'm looking for)

Welcome to our Churches Together in Stroud united service.

This year's theme is The Thin Space: the spiritual place where we catch a glimpse of the 'kingdom on earth as it is in heaven', that place where a window opens onto a world of wonder and hope for this earth. Touching that 'thin space' propels us to bring something of heaven to earth; expressly, it propels us to work alongside the impoverished which, in turn, gives a glimpse of Christ in the hungry, the sick and the stranger.

Phil Coysh, Chair CTiS / Rev Simon Howell, Pioneer Minister



Our morning is in 3 parts:

1. We set the vision of the Thin Space, hear words from the Bible & stories of hope.
2. A time of worship where we call out to God to open the gates of heaven and, through there, behold Jesus as the light of the world.
3. We consider, through the life of Jesus and His imperative of seeking first the kingdom of God, just how we might bring hope to the world.



Guest Speaker: Bill Crooks

Trainer / Facilitator
www.billycrookscreative.uk
bill4crooks@gmail.com

Bill lives in central Stroud and works in International Development. He specialises in supporting programmes on anti-human trafficking and modern slavery. He is also a community artist and is passionate about kite making and decorating as a way of help enabling individuals and families who are living in challenging situations to express hope.

The kite display is produced by young people in the Stroud area and seeks reflect their hopes and dreams as well the joy of being creative. Bill has worked with young people from Sudan, Afghanistan Ethiopia, Syria, Lebanon and many other countries and cultures to produce similar kites.

Break Out Spaces

Bible Study in the Nave

Lectio Divina in the North Transept

Wall of Wonder Prayer in the South Aisle

Kite Prayer - Praying for hope for the world in the North Aisle

The Thin Space - Reflective prayer room in the Lady Chapel

Craft Activity in the South Transept

Under 5's Play and table discussions in the café

What a Beautiful Name


Ben Fielding / Brooke Ligertwood

You were the Word at the beginning
One with God the Lord Most High
Your hidden glory in creation
Now revealed in You our Christ

What a beautiful Name it is,
what a beautiful Name it is
The Name of Jesus Christ my King
What a beautiful Name it is,
nothing compares to this
What a beautiful Name it is,
the Name of Jesus

You didn't want heaven without us
So Jesus You brought heaven down
My sin was great Your love was
greater
What could separate us now

What a wonderful Name it is,
what a wonderful Name it is
The Name of Jesus Christ my King
What a wonderful Name it is,
nothing compares to this
What a wonderful Name it is,
the Name of Jesus
What a wonderful Name it is,
the Name of Jesus



Death could not hold You,
The veil tore before You
You silence the boast of sin and grave
The heavens are roaring, the praise of
Your glory
For You are raised to life again

You have no rival, You have no equal
Now and forever God You reign
Yours is the kingdom, Yours is the glory
Yours is the Name above all names

What a powerful Name it is,
what a powerful Name it is
The Name of Jesus Christ my King
What a powerful Name it is,
nothing can stand against
What a powerful Name it is,
the Name of Jesus

(Repeat)



Be Thou My Vision

Eleanor Henrietta Hull / Mary Elizabeth Byrne
Russell Mauldin

Be Thou my vision, O Lord of my heart
Naught be all else to me, save that Thou art
Thou my best thought by day or by night
Waking or sleeping Thy presence my light

Be Thou my wisdom, be Thou my true Word
I ever with Thee and Thou with me Lord
Thou my great Father and I Thy true son
Thou in me dwelling and I with Thee one

Be Thou my breastplate, my sword for the flight
Be Thou my armour and be Thou my might
Thou my soul's shelter and Thou my high tower
Raise Thou me heavenward, O power of my
power

Riches I need not nor man's empty praise
Thou mine inheritance all of my days
Thou and Thou only, the first in my heart
High King of heaven, my treasure Thou art

O high King of heaven, when battle is done
Grant heaven's joy to me, bright heaven's Sun
Christ of my own heart whatever befall
Still be my vision O Ruler of all
Christ of my own heart whatever befall
Still be my vision O Ruler of all

He's got the whole world in His hands

Carl Williams/Kenneth Scott
Bishop/Kenny Bishop/Mark Bishop

He's got the whole world in His
hands x4

He's got the little tiny baby in
His hands x3

He's got the whole world in His
hands

He's got you and me brother in
His hands x3

He's got the whole world in His
hands

He's got you and me sister in
His hands x3

He's got the whole world in His
hands

He's got ev'rybody here in His
hands x3

He's got the whole world in His
hands

He's got the whole world in His
hands x4

Share your stories @FOWStroud



Hosanna (I see the King of Glory)

Brooke Ligertwood

I see the King of glory
Coming on the clouds with fire
The whole earth shakes, the whole earth
shakes
I see His love and mercy
Washing over all our sin
The people sing, the people sing

**Hosanna, Hosanna,
Hosanna in the highest
Hosanna, Hosanna,
Hosanna in the highest**

I see a generation
Rising up to take their place
With selfless faith, with selfless faith
I see a near revival
Stirring as we pray and seek
We're on our knees, we're on our knees

Heal my heart and make it clean
Open up my eyes to the things unseen
Show me how to love like You have loved
me

Break my heart for what breaks Yours
Everything I am for Your Kingdom's cause
As I walk from earth into eternity

Light of the world (Here I am to Worship)

Tim Hughes

Light of the world,
You stepped down into darkness
Opened my eyes let me see
Beauty that made this heart
adore You
Hope of a life spent with You

**So here I am to worship
Here I am to bow down
Here I am to say that You're my God
You're altogether lovely
Altogether worthy
Altogether wonderful to me**

King of all days,
Oh so highly exalted
Glorious in heaven above
Humbly You came to the earth You
created
All for love's sake became poor

And I'll never know how
much it cost
To see my sin upon that cross
And I'll never know how
much it cost
To see my sin upon that cross

Oceans (Where My Feet May Fail)

Joel Houston/Matt Crocker/Salomon Lighthelm

You call me out upon the waters
The great unknown where feet
may fail
And there I find You in the
mystery
In oceans deep my faith will stand

**And I will call upon Your name
And keep my eyes above the
waves**

**When oceans rise
My soul will rest in Your embrace
For I am Yours and You are mine**

Your grace abounds in deepest
waters
Your sovereign hand will be my
guide
Where feet may fail and fear
surrounds me
You've never failed and You won't
start now

Spirit lead me where my trust is
without borders
Let me walk upon the waters
Wherever You would call me
Take me deeper than my feet
could ever wander
And my faith will be made
stronger
In the presence of my Saviour

God of the Poor (Beauty for Brokenness)

Graham Kendrick

Beauty for brokenness, hope for despair
Lord in Your suff'ring world, this is our prayer
Bread for the children, justice joy peace
Sunrise to sunset Your kingdom increase
Shelter for fragile lives, cures for their ills
Work for the craftsmen, trade for their skills
Land for the dispossessed, rights for the weak.
Voices to plead the cause of those who can't
speak

**God of the poor, friend of the weak
Give us compassion we pray
Melt our cold hearts, let tears fall like rain
Come change our love from a spark to a flame**

Refuge from cruel wars, havens from fear
Cities for sanctu'ry, freedoms to share
Peace to the killing fields,
scorched earth to green.
Christ for the bitterness, His cross for the pain
Rest for the ravaged earth, oceans and streams.
Plundered and poisoned, our future our dreams
Lord, end our madness, carelessness greed
Make us content with the things that we need

Lighten our darkness, breathe on this flame
Until Your justice burns brightly again
Until the nations learn of Your ways
Seek Your salvation and bring You their praise

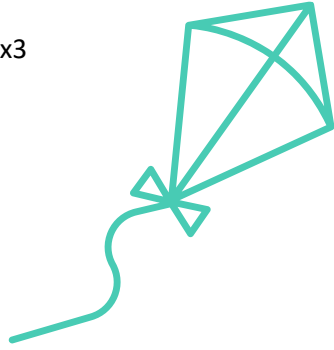
This Little Light of Mine

Stephen M. Lee

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine x3
Let it shine, Let it shine, Let it shine

Everywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine x3
Let it shine, Let it shine, Let it shine.

Amen x5



Build Your Kingdom Here

Chris Llewellyn/Gareth Gilkeson/William Herron

Come set Your rule and reign
In our hearts again
Increase in us we pray
Unveil why we're made
Come set our hearts ablaze with hope
Like wildfire in our very souls
Holy Spirit come invade us now
We are Your church
We need Your pow'r in us

We seek Your kingdom first
We hunger and we thirst
Refuse to waste our lives
For You're our joy and prize
To see the captives' hearts released
The hurt the sick the poor at peace
We lay down our lives for heaven's cause
We are Your church
We pray revive this earth

Build Your kingdom here
Let the darkness fear
Show Your mighty hand
Heal our streets and land
Set Your church on fire
Win this nation back
Change the atmosphere
Build Your kingdom here we pray

Unleash Your kingdom's pow'r
Reaching the near and far
No force of hell can stop
Your beauty changing hearts
You made us for much more than this
Awake the kingdom seed in us
Fill us with the strength and love of Christ

We are Your church
We are the hope on earth

“Your Kingdom come on earth as it is in heaven”

Matthew 6:10

“The Kingdom of God does not come in such a way as to be seen. No one will say “Look here it is!” or ‘There it is!’, because the Kingdom of God is within you.”

Luke 17:20-21

Please support our Festival

This festival is community led, only made possible thanks to the generosity of others. It costs around £12 per person to make this weekend happen. So if you are able, please donate today. Thank you!



What next?

If you have been inspired by what you have seen or heard at the Festival, have more questions than answers or just want to find out more then we invite you to keep exploring at your local church this Christmas.

Discover what’s next at stroudchurches.org

What did you think?

We’d love to hear from you about your festival experience. Scan the code to complete our short feedback survey. Thank you.



@FOWStroud

Reg Charity: 1115733



Ignition
A SPARK OF LIFE