



Welcome to St Botolph's Church

Jesus said "If anyone is thirsty,
let them come to me and drink"

Sunday 9th August 2026

We gather to worship

Let us worship God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

The Lord be with you: **and also with you.**

God calls us out of the dark and into the light.

We come to seek God's face and hear his voice.

Christ meets us in our doubts and on our stormy seas.

We lift our eyes to Jesus and place our trust in him.

The Holy Spirit moves among us right now.

Open our hearts, Lord, to worship you in spirit and in truth.

Hymn All people that on earth do dwell (*Tune: Old Hundredth*)

All people that on Earth do dwell,
Sing to the Lord with cheerful voice;
Him serve with fear, his praise forthtell;
Come ye before him and rejoice.

The Lord, ye know, is God indeed;
Without our aid he did us make;
We are his folk, he doth us feed,
And for his sheep he doth us take.

O enter then his gates with praise,
Approach with joy his courts unto;
Praise, laud, and bless his name always,
For it is seemly so to do.

For why? The Lord our God is good;
His mercy is forever sure;
His truth at all times firmly stood,
And shall from age to age endure.

We ask for God's forgiveness

In God's holy presence let us examine the words of our mouths, the deeds of our bodies, and the desires of our minds, confessing our sins to him:

When we are quick to criticise others, but slow to praise them ...

Lord, have mercy.

When we bear grudges, and find it hard to forgive ...

Christ, have mercy.

When we think we alone are right, and impose our views on others ...

Lord, have mercy.

When we let evil go unchallenged, and are afraid to speak the truth ...

Christ, have mercy.

When we are preoccupied with ourselves, and give little attention to others ... **Lord, have mercy.**

When we trust in material things, more than God's unfailing love ...

Christ, have mercy.

May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Blessed is the Lord - **for he has heard the voice of our prayer;**
Therefore shall our hearts dance for joy - **and in our song we will praise our God.**

Psalms 105:1-5

Give praise to the Lord, proclaim his name; make known among the nations what he has done.

Sing to him, sing praise to him; tell of all his wonderful acts.

Glory in his holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.

Look to the Lord and his strength; seek his face always.

Remember the wonders he has done, his miracles, and the judgments he pronounced.

Praise the Lord!

Hymn God is working his purpose out (Tune: Benson)

God is working this purpose out,
as year succeeds to year;
God is working this purpose out,
and the time is drawing near;
nearer and nearer draws the time,
the time that shall surely be:
when the earth shall be filled with the glory of God
as the waters cover the sea.

From utmost east to utmost west,
where human feet have trod,
by the mouth of many messengers
goes forth the voice of God:
“Give ear to me, ye continents,
ye isles, give ear to me,
that the earth may be filled with the glory of God
as the waters cover the sea.”

Let us go forth in the strength of God,
with the banner of Christ unfurled,
that the light of the glorious gospel of truth
may shine throughout the world.
Let us all fight with sorrow and sin
to set the captives free,
that the earth may be filled with the glory of God
as the waters cover the sea.

All we can do is nothing worth
unless God blesses the deed.
Vainly we hope for the harvest-tide
till God gives life to the seed.
Yet nearer and nearer draws the time,
the time that shall surely be,
when the earth shall be filled with the glory of God
as the waters cover the sea.

New Testament Reading Romans 10:5-15, read by David Branson

Moses writes this about the righteousness that is by the law: 'The person who does these things will live by them.' But the righteousness that is by faith says: 'Do not say in your heart, "Who will ascend into heaven?"' (that is, to bring Christ down) or "Who will descend into the deep?"' (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). But what does it say? 'The word is near you; it is in your mouth and in your heart,' that is, the message concerning faith that we proclaim: if you declare with your mouth, 'Jesus is Lord,' and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you profess your faith and are saved. As Scripture says, 'Anyone who believes in him will never be put to shame.' For there is no difference between Jew and Gentile – the same Lord is Lord of all and richly blesses all who call on him, for, 'Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.'

How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? And how can anyone preach unless they are sent? As it is written: 'How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!'

This is the Word of the Lord: **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn We have a gospel to proclaim (Tune: Fulda)

We have a gospel to proclaim,
good news for all throughout the earth;
the gospel of a Saviour's name:
we sing his glory, tell his worth.

Tell of his birth at Bethlehem,
not in a royal house or hall
but in a stable dark and dim:
the Word made flesh, a light for all.

Tell of his death at Calvary,
hated by those he came to save;

in lonely suffering on the cross
for all he loved, his life he gave.

Tell of that glorious Easter morn:
empty the tomb, for he was free;
he broke the power of death and hell
that we might share his victory.

Tell of his reign at God's right hand
by all creation glorified;
he sends his Spirit on his church
to live for him, the Lamb who died.

Now we rejoice to name him King:
Jesus is Lord of all the earth;
this gospel-message we proclaim:
we sing his glory, tell his worth.

Gospel Matthew 14:22-33, *read by David Branson*

Immediately Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead of him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowd. After he had dismissed them, he went up on a mountainside by himself to pray. Later that night, he was there alone, and the boat was already a considerable distance from land, buffeted by the waves because the wind was against it. Shortly before dawn Jesus went out to them, walking on the lake. When the disciples saw him walking on the lake, they were terrified. 'It's a ghost,' they said, and cried out in fear. But Jesus immediately said to them: 'Take courage! It is I. Don't be afraid.'

'Lord, if it's you,' Peter replied, 'tell me to come to you on the water.'
'Come,' he said.

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

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

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

This is the Word of the Lord: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon Stepping out of the boat

Followed by a short period of silence for personal reflection

Meditation "Into the storm" by Eddie Askew, *read by Toni Joyce*

Remaining seated we sing (twice through – tune: Helen Lemmel)

Turn your eyes upon Jesus,
Look full in His wonderful face,
And the things of earth will grow strangely dim,
In the light of His glory and grace,
In the light of His glory and grace.

We confirm our faith in the Triune God

We believe in God, the great Maker, whose love overflows to create the whole universe, the earth, and every living thing.

We believe in Jesus Christ, God with us, who came to share our life, heal our brokenness, die on the cross, and rise again to bring us new hope.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the living wind of God, who moves among us, binds us together in love, and gives us peace.

Intercessions, *ending with The Lord's Prayer led by Philip Elwell*

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.

Hymn **O praise ye the Lord** (Tune: *Laudate Dominum*)

O praise ye the Lord! Praise him in the height;
rejoice in his word, ye angels of light;

ye heavens adore him by whom ye were made,
and worship before him, in brightness arrayed.

O praise ye the Lord! Praise him upon earth,
in tuneful accord, ye sons of new birth;
praise him who hath brought you his grace from above,
praise him who hath taught you to sing of his love.

O praise ye the Lord, all things that give sound;
each jubilant chord re-echo around;
loud organs, his glory forth tell in deep tone,
and, sweet harp, the story of what he hath done.

O praise ye the Lord! Thanksgiving and song
to him be outpoured all ages along:
for love in creation, for heaven restored,
for grace of salvation, O praise ye the Lord!

Sending Out

Living God, you have taught us that faith without works is dead, so temper our faith with love and hope that we follow Christ and give ourselves freely to people in their need; then the lives we live may honour you for ever. Amen.

We sing (tune: Tallis Canon)

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Amen.**

May the love of God surround us, the passion of Jesus inspire us, and the wisdom of the Spirit guide our thoughts and actions. **Amen.**

Closing Voluntary: 3rd movement from Piano Sonata in A minor KV 310 by Mozart

Please stay for refreshments in the hall (at the end of the corridor)

GIVING

If you would like to make a one-off donation or support the work of St Botolph's Church regularly, the easiest and best way to do so is through the Parish Giving Scheme.

www.parishgiving.org.uk/donors/find-your-parish/colchester-st-botolph-colchester/

And if you pay tax, please ask for a Gift Aid form.

SAFETY AND SAFEGUARDING

St Botolph's is a public space. Please note that CCTV operates throughout the building, and we kindly ask that you do not leave your valuables unattended.

Do you have a concern about a child or an adult at risk?

You can report your concern to the St Botolph's Parish Safeguarding Officer:
Emily Gooch - 01206 542307- stbotolphssafeguarding@outlook.com

Or you can report your concern to the Diocesan Safeguarding Team:
01245 294444 - safeguarding@chelmsford.anglican.org

If you believe a child or adult is in immediate danger, please call the emergency services on 999 right away.

SUNDAY SERVICES

16th August at 10.30am - Morning Worship

23rd August at 10.30am - Holy Communion

30th August at 10.30am - Joint service at Castle Methodist

6th September at 10.30am - Morning Worship

STAY IN TOUCH

Visit our website or call the parish office for more information

www.stbotolphs.org

01206 542307