



## 26 February Revd Emma Speake

# Lent2021

Watching the latest TV programmes by David Attenborough has worried me: the threat is real, global warming will damage our planet if we don't act immediately.

The implications for the most vulnerable people in the world are severe, and for species of animals like polar bears, who as the planet warms, and the ice caps melt, will lose their natural habitat. What worries me is that I feel powerless to do anything to help. It's massive, and I'm so small. Maybe I feel like the disciples in the story; there was nothing they could do to stop the storm raging all around them. They were just little men, in a big storm. We might feel powerless... but Jesus isn't. Jesus could tame the wildest of seas and still the noisiest of winds. And why? because the God who spoke the world into being is in control and was working in and through Jesus.

If we believe that we are Christ's physical body on earth today, then we need to believe that through the Holy Spirit God works in and through us too. We might not necessarily rebuke the wind and the waves, but in faith, we can collectively calm the storm that is headed towards us, if we act together to prevent the planet from warming further.

In faith, as the people of God entrusted with the precious gift of creation, we can make an incredible difference together: through sacrifice, through the love of our neighbours, and through honouring our creator with better lifestyle choices each day.

So maybe this Lent the question is not 'where is our faith'.... but 'how will we put our faith into action?'

**Revd Emme Speake, St Andrew's, Grange**

"The disciples went and woke Jesus, saying, 'Master, Master, we're going to drown!' He got up and rebuked the wind and the raging waters; the storm subsided, and all was calm. 'Where is your faith?', he asked his disciples. In fear and amazement, they asked one another, 'Who is this? He commands even the winds and the water, and they obey him.'"

*Luke 8:24-25*

## Information Point

Has your Church discovered its Energy Footprint yet? Use the simple Church of England Energy Footprint tool to make the calculation. Follow the link to find out more.

<https://www.churchofengland.org/about/policy-and-thinking/our-views/environment-and-climate-change/about-our-environment/energy-footprint-tool>

## A prayer

Lord Jesus,

We sometimes have problems that seem bigger than we are!  
We sometimes feel too small to make a difference, so we don't do anything at all.  
But we are your church and you fill us with power.

Might we use this power in the small decisions of our days  
To change the world,  
transform ourselves, and build your kingdom.

We pray in the name of the one for whom no storm is too big.

Amen.