

PARISH OF ESHER

CHRIST CHURCH, ESHER with ST GEORGE'S, WEST END

SHARING THE POWER OF GOD'S LOVE IN ESHER

Reconciling - Sustaining - Guiding - Healing

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

13 SEPTEMBER 2020

CHURCH SERVICES

St George's	Sung Communion at 9am led by Revd Darren McCallig
Preacher	Revd Darren McCallig
Reading & Prayers	Stephen Lee
Musician	Keith Howell-Jones
Christ Church	Parish Communion at 10.30am led by Revd Darren McCallig
Churchwarden	Helen Coulson
Sides	Will Stevens, Janie McCulloch
Preacher	Revd Darren McCallig
Reading	Carol Henderson
Prayers	Helen Coulson
Musicians	Stuart Whatton, Alex Coutts

MUSIC

Opening Organ Voluntary	<i>Pastorale</i> (Charles Wesley Jr)
Choir Anthem	<i>Ave Verum</i> (Mozart)
Communion Music	<i>Tierce en taille, from Messe pour les paroisses</i> (Couperin)
Closing Organ Voluntary	<i>Postlude in C</i> (Henry Smart)

THE COLLECT FOR THE DAY

Merciful God,
your Son came to save us
and bore our sins on the cross:
may we trust in your mercy
and know your love,
rejoicing in the righteousness
that is ours through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Lord God, the source of truth and love,
keep us faithful to the apostles' teaching
and fellowship, united in prayer
and the breaking of bread,
and one in joy and simplicity of heart,
in Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen

Message from our Rector, Darren

My dear friends,

In today's Gospel Jesus tells Peter we must forgive 'not seven times, but ... seventy-seven times' - a figure of speech which suggests an infinite number. Commenting on the passage, Samuel T Lloyd, addresses some common misunderstandings about forgiveness. For example, forgiving 'doesn't mean staying in a destructive situation. The struggle to forgive also calls us to refuse to be wounded continually, either by an unjust government, or an abusive spouse, or a destructive relationship.' Neither does forgiveness 'mean there shouldn't be punishment or consequences or restitution.' He goes on:

'Forgiveness has its own clear message: "I am furious at you for what you have done. It has hurt me and continues to. But, I refuse to stay trapped in my rage. I am going to forgive you because I know that you are more than what you have done to me .. I want to let go of this, and begin again with a clean slate, and leave the rest in God's hands."' (Soundings for the Journey).

God bless,



READING Genesis 50.15-21

Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, 'What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?' So they approached Joseph, saying, 'Your father gave this instruction before he died, "Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you." Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father.' Joseph wept when they spoke to him. Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, 'We are here as your slaves.' But Joseph said to them, 'Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones.' In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

PSALM 103.8-13

8 The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.
9 He will not always accuse, nor will he keep his anger for ever.
10 He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities.
11 For as the heavens are high above the earth, so great is his steadfast love towards those who fear him;
12 as far as the east is from the west, so far he removes our transgressions from us.
13 As a father has compassion for his children, so the Lord has compassion for those who fear him.

GOSPEL Matthew 18.21-35

Then Peter came and said to him, 'Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?' Jesus said to him, 'Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times. 'For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, "Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything." And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow-slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, "Pay what you owe." Then his fellow-slave fell down and pleaded with him, "Have patience with me, and I will pay you." But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he should pay the debt. When his fellow-slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, "You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow-slave, as I had mercy on you?" And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he should pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.'

PARISH COVID INFORMATION

Parish Covid-19 (Coronavirus) Update -

In line with the latest COVID-19 guidance from the Government and the Diocese, Sunday morning public worship has resumed with a Parish Communion at Christ Church on Sundays, at 10.30am. We are also pleased to announce we have devised a way in which services at St George's have starting again in September. Regular worshippers have been advised how this will work. If you have not been contacted but would like to know more please contact the Parish Office.

Please note that now services are about to resume at St George's it will remain closed during the week. Christ Church will continue to open for private prayer on Wednesdays, 9am-6pm. In both church buildings there are safety guidelines to be followed and social distancing to be maintained. Please read the instructions upon entering. Thank you.

Help & the Parish Office - The office is working remotely and is closed. If you need support, do let us know via the Parish Office email and telephone. For urgent enquiries please contact the Rector, the Revd Darren McCallig (rector@esherparish.org.uk or 01372 461088) or a churchwarden - Helen Coulson on 07506 701454 or Sandra Argent on 07973 909152. For music or 'MOTG' enquiries, contact our Director of Music, Stuart Whatton, on 07816 011621 or fullorgan@cantab.net. Many thanks.

Daily Hope Helpline 0800 804 8044 -

This is a new free initiative launched by the Church of England and Lambeth Palace with help from Holy Trinity Claygate. Following a greeting from the Archbishop of Canterbury, a list of options includes a short talk exploring a traditional hymn, hymns on a loop, the Church of England's weekly service and morning/evening prayers.

CHRIST CHURCH SERVICE NOTES

Welcome! It's great to be back together for Sunday worship. A few things to remember:

- Please take the Order of Service and the Pewsheets with you. We'll follow the same Order almost every week, so do re-use it.
- Please ensure the sidespeople have your details for 'Track & Trace' purposes.
- The toilet (at the back of the church) is open, but please use only if necessary.
- Our service will be live-streamed on our Parish Facebook page. The camera is angled so that only the priest and those speaking from the lectern can be seen.
- Face coverings/masks are now required by law in places of worship. Exemptions are: those leading worship; children under 11; those unable to put on/wear a face mask because of a physical or mental illness or disability; those for whom wearing a mask will cause severe distress; and anyone assisting someone who relies on lip reading to communicate.
- Communion will be in one kind only (consecrated bread) with the priest wearing a face covering for distribution. Please come 'up' the centre aisle and use the hand sanitiser before receiving. Please return to your seat 'down' the side aisles.
- If you prefer to make an act of 'Spiritual Communion' please use the prayer in the Order of Service, on page 10.
- Sadly, we cannot offer coffee and we're asked to not stay inside. But, chatting outside in small groups is encouraged!
- Just as we asked you to use the hand sanitiser on the way in, please use it again on the way out.

It's wonderful to have you here - thank you for coming.

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ST GEORGE'S SERVICE NOTES

Welcome! It's great to be back together for Sunday worship. A few things to remember:

- Please take the Order of Service and the Pewsheets with you. We'll follow the same Order almost every week, so do re-use it.
- Face coverings/masks are now required by law in places of worship. Exemptions are: those leading worship; children under 11; those unable to put on/wear a face mask because of a physical or mental illness or disability; those for whom wearing a mask will cause severe distress; and anyone assisting someone who relies on lip reading to communicate.
- Communion will be in one kind only (consecrated bread) with the priest wearing a face covering for distribution. Please stay in your seats and the priest will come to you. Before receiving the bread each person should apply hand sanitiser from their own personal bottle (we have some available if you have forgotten to bring yours).'
- If you prefer to make an act of 'Spiritual Communion' please use the prayer in the Order of Service, on page 10.
- Sadly, we are asked to not stay inside after the service. But, chatting outside in small groups is encouraged!
- Just as we asked you to use the hand sanitiser on the way in, please use it again on the way out.

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PARISH NOTICES

Harvest Services - We will be holding two services - one at Christ Church on Sunday 4 October at 10.30am with the second one at St George's on Sunday 11 October at 9am.

Pet Service - We have decided, regretfully, to postpone the Pet Service at St George's until next Spring. It was proving too difficult to work out how best to organise it within the current COVID restrictions.

Annual Parochial Church Meeting - Our delayed APCM will take place on Sunday 18 October after the Christ Church service.

Electoral Roll - In April 2019 we completely reviewed our Electoral Roll. You may find you're not on the roll now. If you would like to add your name to the roll, please contact the Parish Office for a form. Thank you.

Zoom Bible Reflection & Prayer - At 9am on Tuesday mornings, one of our Occasional Preachers leads a time of Bible reflection and prayer. It includes a discussion of the day's lectionary reading, followed by shared prayer. All are welcome to join this informal weekly Zoom gathering which finishes about 10am. For the Zoom sign-in details contact the Parish Office (office@esherparish.org.uk).

'Zoom' Morning Prayer & Zoffee! - At 9am, every Wednesday, our Rector, Darren, leads a Morning Prayer service on Zoom. Install Zoom (zoom.us) on your computer or device. Zoom prayers will be followed by coffee time (Zoffee!) finishing at 10am. All are welcome to join. Contact the Parish Office for the Zoom sign-in details.

Gift Aid - To be eligible for Gift Aid, the donor, who's claiming the Gift Aid against tax they have paid, should clearly write their name, address and the date. An envelope with more than one name or no address or date will not be eligible for Gift Aid.

Music on the Green - We are delighted to announce the resumption of our lunchtime concerts on Wednesday 16 September with a piano recital by the young Lithuanian pianist Rokas Valuntonis, with a programme including Chopin, Schumann, Mozart and CPE Bach. This will take place at Christ Church at 1.10 pm - all are welcome (normal COVID restrictions apply) - and our intention is to livestream it online for those unable to attend in person. Fuller details to follow.

Book Group - We're planning to start a Parish Book Group, with 'The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry' by Rachel Joyce being the first book for discussion. The current idea is that the group would meet for an hour every two weeks at teatime (say 4pm on Tuesdays) on Zoom. This may change depending on what works best for people. To get us going, we have free copies of the Rachel Joyce book to give away; so if it sounds your sort of thing, please contact Revd Jonathan Andrew on 01372 479776 / jandrewsher@hotmail.com

'Especially, now' - Stewart Henderson's new book of poetry has just been published by Plover Books and been hailed by playwright Willy Russell as 'a dazzlingly defiant collection - both gloriously now and timeless'. Order - for £6.99, plus £2.50 P&P - from Stewart's website, www.stewart-henderson.com, or ask the poet directly, as he has copies in his car!

Donations - Many thanks for your ongoing generosity to the Parish of Esher. Like many parishes our income has fallen in recent months. Please consider supporting our mission and ministry and go to our JustGiving page at - <https://www.justgiving.com/esherparish>. There will be a retiring collection after the service today. You can make payments to the parish bank account too - contact the Parish Office for details and for GA forms.

PLEASE PRAY FOR

Those who are ill: Jackie Hinton, Yasmin Ingram, Stuart Williams, Maureen O'Brien, Viola Mason, Helena Miller

RIP Anniversaries: Patrick Handyside, Peter Lindow

RIP: Justin Gray, David Macdonald, Doris Wright, Sarah Tweedle

BIBLE READINGS FOR THE WEEK AHEAD

Taken from the Church of England Lectionary – readings for Morning Prayer are given below.

September		Time	Reading
Monday	14		Genesis 3.1-15; Ps 2; John 12.27-36a
Tuesday	15	9.00-10.00am	1 Kings 1.32-2.4, 2.10-12; Ps 5; Acts 13.44-14.7
Wednesday	16	8.50-9.30am	1 Kings 3; Ps 119.1-32; Acts 14.8-end
Thursday	17		1 Kings 4.29-5.12; Ps 15; Acts 15.1-21
Friday	18		1 Kings 6.1,11-28; Ps 19; Acts 15.22-35

LOOKING AHEAD

September		Time	Event
Sunday	13	9.00am	Sung Communion, St George's
		10.30am	Parish Communion, Christ Church
Monday	14	7.15-8.45pm	Choir rehearsal, Christ Church
Tuesday	15	9.00-10.00am	Bible Reflection & Prayer, Zoom
Wednesday	16	8.50-10.00am	Morning Prayer & Zoffeel, Zoom
		1.10pm	Music on the Green lunchtime concert, Rokas Valuntonis (piano)
Sunday	20	10.30am	Parish Communion
Monday	21	7.15-8.45pm	Choir rehearsal, Christ Church
Tuesday	22	9.00-10.00am	Bible Reflection & Prayer, Zoom
Wednesday	24	8.50-10.00am	Morning Prayer & Zoffeel, Zoom
Sunday	27	9.00am	Sung Communion, St George's
		10.30am	Parish Communion, Christ Church

CONTACTS

PARISH OF ESHER Website www.esherparish.org.uk Twitter www.twitter.com/esherparish Christ Church open Wednesday, 9am to 6pm	RECTOR Rev'd Darren McCallig Tel 01372 461088 Email rector@esherparish.org.uk Rector's day off is Monday
PARISH OFFICE Christ Church, Church Street, Esher, Surrey KT10 8QS Tel 01372 462282 Email office@esherparish.org.uk	