

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

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

9 MAY 2021

CHURCH SERVICES

St George's	Holy Communion at 9.00am led by Revd Darren McCallig
Preacher	Revd Darren McCallig
Reading & Prayers	Peter Bedford
Musician	Keith Howell-Jones
Christ Church	Parish Communion at 10.30am led by Revd Darren McCallig
Preacher	Revd Darren McCallig
Churchwarden	Helen Coulson
Sidespeople	Will Stevens
Reading	James MacDonald
Prayers	David Stark
Musicians	Stuart Whatton, Oliver Macfarlane

MUSIC

Opening Music	<i>Adagio from Fantasia in F minor, K.594 (Mozart)</i>
Music & Hymns	207 (omit v2), 199, 222
Anthem	<i>The strife is o'er (Ley)</i>
Closing Music	<i>Chorale Improvisation 'Lobe den Herren, O meine Seele' (Karg-Elert)</i>

THE COLLECT FOR THE DAY

Risen Christ,
by the lakeside
you renewed your call to your disciples:
help your Church to obey your command
and draw the nations to the fire of your love,
to the glory of God the Father.
Amen.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

God our Father,
whose Son Jesus Christ
gives the water of eternal life:
may we thirst for you,
the spring of life and source of goodness,
through him who is alive and reigns,
now and for ever.
Amen.

Message from our Rector, Darren

My dear friends,

Today's Gospel reading, from the fifteenth chapter of the Gospel according to John, centres on Jesus's 'New Commandment': 'Love one another as I have loved you' (John 15.12). It's a beautiful reminder of the essence of the Christian spiritual life - modelling in our lives the unconditional love of God as seen in the life of Jesus. It is also a reminder that self-giving, self-sacrificing love is both the content of God's self-revelation in Christ and also the motive force behind that self-revelation.

One person who experienced this love in a dramatic and memorable way was the fourteenth century anchorite and mystic Julian of Norwich. After fervently praying for a greater understanding of Christ's passion, she received a series of divine revelations. In one of the very first books in the English language known to have been authored by a woman, she wrote of these 'showings' which assured her of God's unwavering love:

Would you learn to see clearly your Lord's meaning in this thing? Learn it well: Love was his meaning. Who showed it to you? Love .. Why did he show it to you? For Love .. Thus I was taught that Love was our Lord's meaning. (Revelations of Divine Love)

May we live in that Love.

God bless,


READING Acts 10.44-end

While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, 'Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?' So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

PSALM 98

1 O sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done marvellous things. His right hand and his holy arm have gained him victory.

2 The Lord has made known his victory; he has revealed his vindication in the sight of the nations.

3 He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel. All the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

4 Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises.

5 Sing praises to the Lord with the lyre, with the lyre and the sound of melody.

6 With trumpets and the sound of the horn make a joyful noise before the King, the Lord.

7 Let the sea roar, and all that fills it; the world and those who live in it.

8 Let the floods clap their hands; let the hills sing together for joy

9 at the presence of the Lord, for he is coming to judge the earth. He will judge the world with righteousness, and the peoples with equity.

GOSPEL John 15.9-17

Jesus said, 'As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete. This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.'

HYMNS

Jesus lives! thy terrors now

Jesus lives! thy terrors now
can, O death, no more appal us;
Jesus lives! by this we know
thou, O grave, canst not enthrall us.

Alleluia

Jesus lives! for us he died;
then, alone to Jesus living,
pure in heart may we abide,
glory to our Saviour giving.

Alleluia

Jesus lives! our hearts know well
naught from us his love shall sever;
life nor death nor powers of hell
tear us from his keeping ever.

Alleluia

Jesus lives! to him the throne
over all the world is given:
may we go where he is gone,
rest and reign with him in heaven.

Alleluia

Christ is alive!

Christ is alive! Let Christians sing.
The cross stands empty to the sky.
Let streets and homes with praises ring.
Love, drowned in death, shall never die.

Christ is alive! No longer bound
to distant years in Palestine,
but saving, healing, here and now,
and touching every place and time.

In every insult, rift and war,
where colour, scorn or wealth divide,
Christ suffers still, yet loves the more,
and lives, where even hope has died.

Women and men, in age and youth,
can feel the Spirit, hear the call,
and find the way, the life, the truth,
revealed in Jesus, freed for all.

Christ is alive, and comes to bring
good news to this and every age,
till earth and sky and ocean ring
with joy, with justice, love and praise.

You shall go out with joy

You shall go out with joy
and come again in peace;
the mountains and the hills
shall sing and never cease;
the Son of God is ris'n again,
his love has conquered death's domain.

The trees in every field
shall clap their hands, and say
'Come shout aloud, and help
us celebrate this day!'

Jesus, the King, has burst the grave,
and lives once more to heal and save.

The Word, like rain or snow,
has come down from above,
and now reveals to all
God's purposes of love;
the Word made flesh, once dead, now lives,
new life to all he freely gives.

The myrtle for the briar,
the cypress for the thorn,
shall rise to tell the world
of its awaking dawn.

Jesus, the Life, the Truth, the Way,
has ushered in God's great new day.

PARISH COVID INFORMATION

Parish Covid-19 (Coronavirus) Update -

We are very happy to have Christ Church open again for in-person public worship for our Eastertide services. It is hoped that public worship will continue, and that services will recommence at St George's, West End in May. Please contact the Parish Office nearer the time for further information. Christ Church will also open for private prayer on Wednesdays, 10am to 4pm.

Help & the Parish Office - The office will continue to work remotely. If you need support, do please let us know via the office email and telephone. For urgent enquiries 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. Many thanks.

Daily Hope Helpline 0800 804 8044 -

Daily Hope offers music, prayers and reflections as well as full worship services from the Church of England at the end of a telephone line 24 hours a day. A Church of England initiative (in partnership with Holy Trinity Claygate, and Faith in Later Life).

Call to the Nation - The Archbishops of Canterbury and York, Justin Welby and Stephen Cottrell, invite us to pray each day at 6pm to remember those who have died from COVID-19. For more details go to: [tps://www.churchofengland.org/resources/call-prayer-nation](https://www.churchofengland.org/resources/call-prayer-nation)

'Time to Pray' App – This app presents everything you need, with variations for the day of the week and the season of the Church's year. To download the app go to <https://www.chpublishing.co.uk/apps/time-to-pray>

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.
- Please ensure the sidespeople have your details for 'Track & Trace' purposes.
- Individuals, households and support bubbles are asked not to 'mingle with others' before, during, or after the service.
- Sadly, congregational singing is still not permitted - Choir members will raise their beautiful voices on our behalf.
- The toilet (at the back of the church) is open, but please use only if necessary.
- The service will be live streamed on the Parish YouTube channel.
- Face coverings/masks are required by law. 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.
- To make an act of 'Spiritual Communion' use the prayer in the Order of Service.
- Sadly, we cannot offer coffee and we're asked to not stay inside after the service.
- Just as you used the hand sanitiser on the way in, please use it again on the way out.

It's wonderful to have you here - thank you!

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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 required by law. 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).'
- To make an act of 'Spiritual Communion' use the prayer in the Order of Service.
- 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.

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

PARISH NOTICES

Heart Stones - Here's an idea: paint a stone or pebble with something close to your heart. It could be words of hope and encouragement. It could be something or someone who helped you. It could be a prayer offered for those in need. Then, whilst out, drop by Christ Church and add your 'Heart Stone' to the growing line around the building. Who knows we might encircle the church with beautiful expressions of faith, hope and love!

Fellowship Group - Our next meeting will be at 10am on Wednesday 12 May on Zoom. All are welcome. Please contact the Parish Office if you're interested.

'Zoom' Bible Reflection & Prayer - All are welcome to join this informal Zoom gathering at 9am on Tuesday mornings. Contact the Parish Office for details.

'Zoom' Morning Prayer & Zoffee! - Morning Prayer continues on Wednesdays at 9am. Contact the Parish Office for details.

Book Group - The next meeting will be on Tuesday 1 June at 4.30pm, on Zoom. This month the group has chosen to read the critically acclaimed 'Never let me go' by Kazuo Ishiguro. If you are interested, please contact Revd Jonathan Andrew on jandrewesher@hotmail.com or 01372 479776 - he'll be delighted to tell you more.

Lent Appeal - Many thanks to all those who donated to this year's Lent Appeal in aid of IT support for local school students. The final total raised is now £5,590. Thank you.

Music on the Green - Our next concert will be on Wednesday 19 May at 1.15pm and will feature the Fibonacci String Quartet - watch this space for updates. To watch the April concert go to our 'MOTG Esher' YouTube Channel. Donations welcome.

Annual Parochial Church Meeting - Our APCM will take place on Sunday 23 May after the Christ Church service. Sadly, we cannot offer refreshments, so do please consider bringing something with you.

Helping the Parish - Have you considered standing for election to the Parochial Church Council at this year's Annual Parochial Church Meeting? There's always a need for enthusiastic and committed folks to step-up and play their part in the leadership of the parish. You don't have to be a theologian, a saint or an expert on church matters (though it's OK if you're one or all of them!) All that's needed is a desire to work alongside others in promoting the overall wellbeing, practical as well as spiritual, of the parish and all its people. Please speak to our churchwardens, Sandra Argent or Helen Coulson, current members, or the Rector, Darren, to find out more.

Annual Report 2020 - Our report will soon be emailed to all those on the Electoral Roll.

Electoral Roll - The Roll has been revised in preparation for our APCM and is available for inspection on the church noticeboards. or can be requested from the Parish Office.

Parish Giving - Thank you so much for your ongoing generosity to the Parish of Esher. If you're in a position to do so, please consider supporting our mission and ministry. You can donate today or via JustGiving at <https://www.justgiving.com/esherparish>. Or to donate to our Parish bank account, please contact the Parish Office or Parish Treasurer for details and Gift Aid forms.

Dying Matters Awareness Week - A chance to open up the conversation around death, dying and bereavement. It runs 10-16 May. See www.dyingmatters.org for details of online and local events.

PLEASE PRAY FOR

Those who are ill: Yasmin Ingram, Stuart Williams, Maureen O'Brien, Viola Mason, Jaeseok Yang, Headley Williams, Betty Walker, Geoff Walker, Elizabeth Arnold, Sue Lynn, Shireen Sahni, Stewart Henderson

RIP Anniversaries: Sue Adler, Elisabeth Hughes, Gertrud Frenzel, Edward Haliday, Martin Collis, Peggy Notley, Jimmy McKay, David Fermont

RIP: Jennie Seller, The Revd Graham Shaw

BIBLE READINGS FOR THE WEEK AHEAD

Readings for Morning Prayer taken from the Church of England Lectionary:

	May	Time	Reading
Monday	10		Deuteronomy 26; Ps 65; 1 Peter 4.1-11
Tuesday	11	9.00-10.00am	Deuteronomy 28.1-14; Ps 126; 1 Peter 4.12-end
Wednesday	12	9.00-10.00am	Deuteronomy 28.58-end; Ps 132; 1 Peter 5
Thursday	13		Isaiah 52.7; Ps 110; Hebrews 7.26-end
Friday	14		1 Samuel 2.27-35; Ps 16; Acts 2.37-end

LOOKING AHEAD

	May	Time	Event
Sunday	9	9.00am	Holy Communion, St George's
		10.30am	Parish Communion, Christ Church
		6.00pm	Live streamed Youth Worship Service, YouTube
		6.30pm	Youth Group Meeting, Zoom
Monday	10	7.15pm	No choir practice
Tuesday	11	9.00-10.00am	Bible Reflection & Prayer, Zoom
Wednesday	12	9.00-10.00am	Morning Prayer, Zoom
		10.00am	Fellowship Group
		10.00am-4.00pm	Christ Church closed
Thursday	13	All day	Parish Office closed
		6.45pm	Choir practice, Christ Church
		8.00pm	Ascension Day Service, Christ Church
Sunday	16	10.30am	Parish Communion, Christ Church
		6.00pm	Live streamed Youth Worship Service, YouTube
		6.30pm	Youth Group Meeting, Zoom

CONTACTS

PARISH OF ESHER Website www.esherparish.org.uk Facebook www.facebook.com/EsherParish SoundCloud soundcloud.com/esherparish	RECTOR Revd 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	