

PARISH OF ESHER

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

Growing together in Faith, Hope and Love

NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

11 OCTOBER 2026

CHURCH SERVICE

Parish Communion (live streamed)	Led by Revd Jo Winn-Smith at 10.30am at Christ Church (CC)
Preacher	Revd Jo Winn-Smith
Churchwarden	Will Stevens
Sidespeople	Julia Forrest, Charles Hawshaw-Burn
Reading, Prayers	Jill Woolgar, Stephen Lee
Chalice	Bridget Williams, Will Stevens
Musicians	Stuart Whatton, Robert Cunningham
Refreshments	Sue Dunne, Helen Griffin

SERVICE MUSIC

Opening music	<i>Chorale Prelude 'Ein feste Burg ist unser Gott', BuxWV 184 (Buxtehude)</i>
Hymns	806, 455, 541
Setting	Coulson
Post sermon music	Caresse (Satie)
Communion anthem	<i>For the beauty of the earth</i> (Rutter)
Closing music	<i>Toccata in E major, BWV 566</i> (Bach)

COLLECT

Faithful Lord,
whose steadfast love never ceases
and whose mercies never come to an end:
grant us the grace to trust you
and to receive the gifts of your love,
new every morning,
in Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Holy and blessed God,
you have fed us with the body and blood of your Son
and filled us with your Holy Spirit:
may we honour you,
not only with our lips
but in lives dedicated to the service
of Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Message from Jo, our Rector

Dear friends,

As we begin this new season, of having a new Rector, the autumnal mists and mellow fruitfulness, we have the opportunity to look to ourselves and consider our identity as a community founded in Christ Jesus. Our readings today urge us to be rooted in due reverence to the one who invites us to his banqueting table, and to be mindful of how we shape our lives and order our doings. When we have these things in place, then we are in a good position to know to what it is that we invite and encourage others to join.

And we have multiple ways in which we reach out to the local community and offerings in which they might participate. The Chosen is a wonderful way of sharing reflective space with thought-provoking earthy realness about the life of Christ. Focusing on the Sermon the Mount this coming week, reminds us of how God's ways are not our ways, and we all need to be challenged by Jesus' radical teaching on priorities, attitudes, and how we humbly treat one another. And we get the chance to live that out with Music in the Green. It is not just a concert (anyone can do that!). Rather it is where we share generous hospitality, joyful shared experience, and you really can pepper your conversation with the love of God and gently share how your faith makes a difference to your life. Let's dare to see if we can make Esher echo the sentiment that Tertullian saw in the early church: 'See how these Christians love one another!'

Yours, Jo

READING Philippians 4.1-9

My brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved. I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. Yes, and I ask you also, my loyal companion, help these women, for they have struggled beside me in the work of the gospel, together with Clement and the rest of my co-workers, whose names are in the book of life. Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honourable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

Other Lectionary Texts

Exodus 32.1-14

Psalm 106.1-6, 19-23

Isaiah 25.1-9

Psalm 23

GOSPEL Matthew 22.1-14

Once more Jesus spoke to the chief priests and Pharisees in parables, saying: 'The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. Again he sent other slaves, saying, "Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet." But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, while the rest seized his slaves, maltreated them, and killed them. The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. Then he said to his slaves, "The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet." Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad; so the wedding hall was filled with guests. 'But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, and he said to him, "Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?" And he was speechless. Then the king said to the attendants, "Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth." For many are called, but few are chosen.'

PARISH NOTICES

Harvest - Huge thanks to everyone for their donations. Together with Esher Church School we collected a vast quantity of food and groceries for the Lower Green Community Centre Emergency Food Store. Everything has now been delivered and will go to help families who are in great need in the local area.

Sunday School - Sunday is the International Day of the Girl, so we'll be celebrating some of the amazing girls of history and considering what we can do to help girls feel seen and heard.

Youth Group - Our October meeting was all about exploring creative ways to pray using the brilliant Prayer Spaces resources. The children found the physicality of the activities particularly therapeutic. Our next meeting will be on Friday 6 November, 5.30-7pm, at Christ Church.

Christ Church Flowers - Angela Sweet is organising the flower rota for the next few months. Please email or phone her if you feel you could arrange flowers for one nave pedestal. No previous experience necessary. Just enthusiasm! Contact Angela on 07803 502776 or via angelavsweet@gmail.com

'Zoom' Morning Prayer & Zoffee! - Morning Prayer continues each Thursday at 10am.

St George's - Our tin tabernacle is now closed for repairs to the foundations and flooring. We look forward to welcoming everyone back when the work is complete in December.

Harvest Crazy Crafts - Our next crafting show at the Lower Green Community Centre will be on Saturday 10 October, 10am-1pm. Come anytime to make harvest themed creations – paper plate animals/flowers, biscuit decoration! Entry is free, the cafe will be open and kids get a goodie bag. Do look after your children at all times. Please see Kat if you can help.

Book Group - Our next two meetings will be on Monday 12 October and Monday 9 November. For October, we'll read *Theo of Golden*, by Allen Levi: for November, we will read Melanie McDonagh's book *Converts: From Oscar Wilde to Muriel Spark, Why So Many Became Catholic in the 20th Century*.

The Chosen - The next series of this world beating production covering Jesus's ministry will commence at 7.30pm at Christ Church on Tuesday 13 October and then each Tuesday for the following three weeks.

Music on the Green - Following last month's extremely successful piano recital by Theo Tang which raised a record sum of £1432, our next concert on Wednesday 21 October, 1.15pm, will feature the Elmbridge U3A Jazz Band. Come and enjoy tunes from the 40s, 50s and 60s, with classics from Duke Ellington to Cole Porter, bossa and Latin numbers, and hits from the Great American Song Book.

All Souls' Service - We'll mark All Souls' Day at Christ Church on Sunday 1 November, 4.30pm. The Commemoration of the Faithful Departed will be a quiet and gentle service with carefully chosen words and music. We will pray for those who have passed away, naming them and lighting a candle in their memory.

Peace & Contemplation - An hour of reflection on the theme of 'Forgiveness & Reconciliation' on Thursday 12 November, 8pm, at Christ Church. Come and enjoy inspiring readings, golden silence and beautiful music.

PARISH OFFERTORY

To support our mission and ministry one can give cash during the offertory. Donations can also be made via card or the QR code pewcards. Alternatively, one can give via the Parish Giving Scheme: www.parishgiving.org.uk/donors/find-your-parish. For more giving information go to: www.esherparish.org.uk/?q=content/get-involved.

PLEASE PRAY FOR

Those who are ill: Michael Newbould, Gilly Barrett, Jim Green, George Raine, Katherine S, Keith Howell-Jones, John Cheetham, Sebastian, David Gerrard, Katie Clark, Louise Tyzack, Caroline Kerr, Armand Sarkissian, Phoebe Ainsworth, Josh Baines, John Stacey, Paul Nicholls, Gudrun & David Jensen, Myfanwy Tranmer, Christine Steeds

RIP Anniversaries: Patricia Richards, Gladys Thomas, Barbara Pratt, Dan Walter

RIP: Jean-Claude Gazet

BIBLE READINGS FOR THE WEEK AHEAD

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

October	Time	Reading
Monday 12		2 Kings 17.24-end, Ps 98, Philippians 1.1-11
Tuesday 13		2 Kings 18.1-12, Ps 106, Philippians 1.12-end
Wednesday 14		2 Kings 18.13-end, Ps 111, Philippians 2.1-13
Thursday 15	10am	2 Kings 19.1-19, Ps 115, Philippians 2.14-end
Friday 16		2 Kings 19.20-36, Ps 139, Philippians 3.1-4.1

LOOKING AHEAD

October	Time	Event
Saturday 10	10am	Harvest Crazy Crafts, Lower Green Community Centre
Sunday 11	10.30am	Parish Communion, Christ Church
Monday 12	11am	Organ exam, Christ Church
	4pm	Book Group, Christ Church
	7.15pm	Choir practice, Christ Church
Tuesday 13	7.30pm	Screening of The Chosen, Christ Church
Wednesday 14	7.30pm	Bellringing practice
Sunday 18	10.30am	Parish Communion, Christ Church
Monday 19	7.15pm	Choir practice, Christ Church
Tuesday 20	7.30pm	Screening of The Chosen, Christ Church
Wednesday 21	1.15pm	Music on the Green concert: Elmbridge U3A Jazz Band, Christ Church
	7.30pm	Bellringing practice
Thursday 8	All day	Parish Office closed
	10am	Morning Prayer, Zoom

CONTACTS

PARISH OF ESHER Christ Church, Church Street, Esher KT10 8QS what3words location ///frosted.forum.firms St George's Church, West End Lane, Esher, KT10 8LF what3words location ///sugars.hulk.chip Website www.esherparish.org.uk Facebook www.facebook.com/EsherParish YouTube www.youtube.com/esherparish Instagram www.instagram.com/esherparish/	RECTOR Revd Jo Winn-Smith rector@esherparish.org.uk	CHURCHWARDENS Will Stevens 07505 904089 Fraser McGuicken 07342 057763 churchwardens@esherparish.org.uk
	HONORARY ASSISTANT PRIEST Revd Jonathan Andrew 07968 765188 jandrewesher@gmail.com	DEPUTY WARDEN CHRIST CHURCH Sandra Argent 07973 909152 DEPUTY WARDEN ST GEORGE'S Charles Hawkshaw-Burn 07799 895083
	CHILDREN & FAMILIES WORKER Kat Mahale youth@esherparish.org.uk	SAFEGUARDING OFFICER Alison Mohamed safeguarding@esherparish.org.uk
	Parish Office Christ Church, Church Street, Esher KT10 8QS Tel 01372 462282 Email office@esherparish.org.uk Parish Administrator Melanie Williams Office Hours 9.30am to 3.45pm, Monday to Wednesday & Friday Live Streaming Please be aware that all services held at Christ Church are live streamed via our YouTube channel. Please submit information and notices for inclusion in the Sunday pewsheets by 10am on the preceding Tuesday. Thank you.	