

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

TWELTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

30 AUGUST 2020

CHURCH SERVICE

Service	Parish Communion led by Rev'd Darren McCallig
Churchwarden	Will Stevens
Sides	Jane Tyrrell, Janie McCulloch
Reading	Margaret Dane
Preacher	Rev'd Darren McCallig
Prayers	Peter Bedford
Musicians	Catherine Powell, Stuart Whatton, Oliver Macfarlane

MUSIC

Communion Music	<i>How beautiful are the feet</i> (Handel) <i>I serve a risen Saviour</i> (Ackley)
Closing Organ Voluntary	<i>First movement from Organ Sonata no. 2</i> (Mendelssohn)

Virtual Anthem

Faire is the heaven, Sir William Harris (1883-1973)

Performed by Glenbard West Madrigal Singers, Chicago

www.youtube.com/watch?v=MugckLAq0HI

A Hymne of Heavenly Beauty by Edmund Spenser (1552-99)

Faire is the heaven where happy souls have place,

In full enjoyment of felicitie,

Whence they do still behold the glorious face

Of the divine, eternall Majestie;

Yet farre more faire be those bright Cherubins

Which all with golden wings are overdight,

And those eternall burning Seraphins,

Which from their faces dart out fiery light;

Yet fairer than they both, and much more bright,

Be the Angels and Archangels which attend

On God's owne person, without rest or end.

These then in faire each other farre excelling

As to the Highest they approach more neare,

Yet is that Highest farre beyond all telling

Fairer than all the rest which there appeare,

Though all their beauties joynd together were:

How then can mortal tongue hope to expresse

The image of such endlesse perfectnesse?

THE COLLECT FOR THE DAY

God of constant mercy,

who sent your Son to save us: remind us

of your goodness, increase your grace

within us, that our thankfulness may grow,

through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

God of all mercy, in this eucharist you have

set aside our sins and given us your healing:

grant that we who are made whole in Christ

may bring that healing to this broken world,

in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Message from our Rector, Darren

My dear friends,

In today's Gospel reading Jesus speaks of

taking up our cross and following him. It is -

according to Barbara Brown Taylor - 'one of

those passages most of us could do without.

We prefer passages like "Come to me, all ye

who labour and are heavy laden, and I will

give you rest" ... comfortable passages, safe

passages, passages that provide some cushion

in a sharp and often frightening world.'

However, she continues, 'There is a certain

amount of pain involved in being human, and

a good bit more involved in being fully human,

fully alive especially in a world that counts on

our fear of death and uses it to keep us in line.

Jesus' enemies counted on his fear of death

to shut him up and shut him down, but they

were wrong. He may have been afraid, but

he did not let his fear stop him. He did not

get stuck on the suffering and death part.

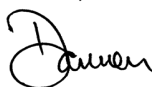
He saw something beyond them, something

as wide and glittering as the sea, worth every

risk required to reach it, and he did not stop

until he got there.' (The Seeds of Heaven).

God bless,



READING Jeremiah 15.15-21

O Lord, you know; remember me and visit me, and bring down retribution for me on my persecutors. In your forbearance do not take me away; know that on your account I suffer insult. Your words were found, and I ate them, and your words became to me a joy and the delight of my heart; for I am called by your name, O Lord, God of hosts. I did not sit in the company of merry-makers, nor did I rejoice; under the weight of your hand I sat alone, for you had filled me with indignation. Why is my pain unceasing, my wound incurable, refusing to be healed? Truly, you are to me like a deceitful brook, like waters that fail. Therefore, thus says the Lord: If you turn back, I will take you back, and you shall stand before me. If you utter what is precious, and not what is worthless, you shall serve as my mouth. It is they who will turn to you, not you who will turn to them. And I will make you to this people a fortified wall of bronze; they will fight against you, but they shall not prevail over you, for I am with you to save you and deliver you, says the Lord. I will deliver you out of the hand of the wicked, and redeem you from the grasp of the ruthless.

PSALM 26.1-8

1 Vindicate me, O Lord, for I have walked in my integrity, and I have trusted in the Lord without wavering.
2 Prove me, O Lord, and try me; test my heart and mind.
3 For your steadfast love is before my eyes, and I walk in faithfulness to you.
4 I do not sit with the worthless, nor do I consort with hypocrites;

5 I hate the company of evildoers, and will not sit with the wicked.

6 I wash my hands in innocence, and go around your altar, O Lord,

7 singing aloud a song of thanksgiving, and telling all your wondrous deeds.

8 O Lord, I love the house in which you dwell, and the place where your glory abides.

GOSPEL Matthew 16.21-end

From that time on, Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, 'God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you.' But he turned and said to Peter, 'Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling-block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.' Then Jesus told his disciples, 'If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life? For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom.'

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 can start 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.

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.

Blessing our Bags - Our All Age Communion service on Sunday 6 September will include a special 'Blessing of the Backpacks'.

Beginning a new year at school or college can be a challenging time and so we want to pray for God's blessing on the year ahead, and give thanks for all those who support us in our learning and growing. All in full-time education - from nursery school to university - can bring their bags to the 10.30am service so they can be blessed for the year ahead. If your 'new term' involves a briefcase rather than a backpack, please also bring it along to be blessed. We'll have specially designed bag-tags for everyone who brings their bag along to the service. We hope it will remind them that - as the tags puts it - 'God's got your back!'

'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 (office@esherparish.org.uk) for the Zoom sign-in details.

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).

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.

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, Grieg and Mozart. This will take place at Christ Church at 1.10 pm - all are welcome (normal COVID restrictions apply) - and hopefully will be livestreamed online for those who cannot attend in person. Fuller details to follow.

Book Group - We're looking to start a new Parish Book Group, with 'The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry' by Rachel Joyce being the first volume. The group will meet on Zoom (at least initially), with dates and times agreed by those interested. To get us going, we have free copies of the Rachel Joyce book to give away; so if it sounds like your sort of thing, please get in touch with Revd Jonathan Andrew on 01372 479776 or at jandrewesher@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'. The book can be ordered from Stewart and Carol's website - www.stewart-henderson.com - for £6.99, plus £2.50 P&P. Or you could 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. If you're in a position to do so, please consider supporting our mission and ministry. To donate please 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: John Meek, Jennifer McKerracher, Roger Simmons, David Melliar-Smith, Gerald Creagh-Brown, Eleanor Poet

BIBLE READINGS FOR THE WEEK AHEAD

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

Aug/Sept	Time	Reading
Monday 31		2 Samuel 11; Ps 98; Acts 8.26-end
Tuesday 1	9.00-10.00am	2 Samuel 12.1-25; Ps 106; Acts 9.1-19a
Wednesday 2	8.50-9.30am	2 Samuel 15.1-12; Ps 111; Acts 9.19b-31
Thursday 3		2 Samuel 15.13-end; Ps 115; Acts 9.32-end
Friday 4		2 Samuel 16.1-14; Ps 139; Acts 10.1-16

LOOKING AHEAD

August	Time	Event
Monday 31	All day	Late Summer Bank Holiday No choir meeting
September	Time	Event
Tuesday 1	9.00-10.00am	Bible Reflection & Prayer, Zoom
Wednesday 2	8.50-10.00am	Morning Prayer & Zoffee!, Zoom
	8.00pm	Parochial Church Council (PCC) Meeting, Zoom
Sunday 6	10.30am	'Blessing our Bags' All Age Communion
Monday 7	7.30-8.45pm	Choir rehearsals resume at Christ Church
Tuesday 8	9.00-10.00am	Bible Reflection & Prayer, Zoom
Wednesday 9	8.50-10.00am	Morning Prayer & Zoffee!, Zoom
Sunday 13	10.30am	Parish Communion

CONTACTS

PARISH OF ESHER Website www.esherparish.org.uk Twitter www.twitter.com/esherparish Christ Church open Wednesday, 9am to 6pm	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	