

PARISH OF ESHER

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

Growing together in Faith, Hope and Love

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

28 APRIL 2024

CHURCH SERVICES	
Holy Communion	Led by Revd Canon Richard Truss at 9am at St George's (SG)
Preacher	Revd Canon Richard Truss
Reading, Prayers	Gerard Harper
Musicians	Theo Tang
Parish Communion	Led by Revd Jonathan Andrew at 10.30am at Christ Church (CC)
Preacher	Revd Jonathan Andrew
Churchwarden	Jane Tyrrell
Sidespeople	Stewart Henderson, Will Stevens
Reading, Prayers	Carol Henderson, Jane Tyrrell
Refreshments	Jennifer Meade, Wendy Tanqueray
Musicians	Stuart Whatton, Oliver Macfarlane, Theo Tang
SERVICE MUSIC	
Opening music	<i>Chorale Improvisation 'O Gott, du frommer Gott'</i> (Karg-Elert)
SG hymns	221 (omit v3), 209, 208 (omit v4)
CC hymns	221, 209, 208 (omit v4)
SG / CC settings	Addington / Coulson
Communion music and anthem	<i>Andante con moto from Sonata no. 5</i> (Mendelssohn) <i>The true and living Bread</i> (David Blackwell)
Closing music	<i>Kleine Praeludium in E minor</i> (Bruhns)
THE COLLECT	
Risen Christ, your wounds declare your love for the world and the wonder of your risen life: give us compassion and courage to risk ourselves for those we serve, to the glory of God the Father. Amen.	
THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER	
Eternal God, whose Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life: grant us to walk in his way, to rejoice in his truth, and to share his risen life; who is alive and reigns, now and for ever. Amen.	

Welcome to the Parish

The Parish of Esher is for everyone.

The two church buildings, Christ Church in Esher and St George's in West End, have been beacons of faith, hope and love in Esher for well over a century.

Generations have come through the doors to celebrate their marriages, welcome their new-borns and grieve their losses – all of it embraced by the beauty of the worship offered in these houses of prayer week in and week out.

On Sundays we explore the riches of the Christian spiritual tradition through words and music, silence and sacrament. Some of us grew up in church and have never left. Some of us grew out of church, but are testing the waters again. Some of us have more questions than answers. All of us belong here.

You can also check-out some of our services on YouTube to get a flavour of what we're about, or just come along some Sunday at 10.30am in Christ Church or at 9.00am in St George's West End.

Whether you join online or in person, we hope you'll find a community committed to a thoughtful Faith, a hard-won Hope, and a generous Love.

You are very welcome.

READING Acts 8.26-end

An angel of the Lord said to Philip, 'Get up and go towards the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.' (This is a wilderness road.) So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, 'Go over to this chariot and join it.' So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, 'Do you understand what you are reading?' He replied, 'How can I, unless someone guides me?' And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this: 'Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter, and like a lamb silent before its shearer, so he does not open his mouth. In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth.' The eunuch asked Philip, 'About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?' Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, 'Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?' He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

GOSPEL John 15.1-8

Jesus said to his disciples: 'I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine-grower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.

ADDITIONAL LECTIONARY TEXTS

PSALM 22.24-30

24 My praise is of him in the great assembly; I will perform my vows in the presence of those who worship him.

25 The poor shall eat and be satisfied, and those who seek the Lord shall praise him: 'May your heart live for ever!'

26 All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord, and all the families of the nations shall bow before him.

27 For kingship belongs to the Lord; he rules over the nations.

28 To him alone all who sleep in the earth bow down in worship; all who go down to the dust fall before him.

29 My soul shall live for him; my descendants shall serve him; they shall be known as the Lord's for ever.

30 They shall come and make known to a people yet unborn the saving deeds that he has done.

READING 1 John 4.7-end

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us. By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Saviour of the world. God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. So we have known and believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgement, because as he is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. We love because he first loved us. Those who say, 'I love God', and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

PARISH NOTICES

Scouts St George's Day Service - It was great to have Christ Church packed with youngsters on Sunday afternoon at the Scouts annual renewal of promises service. Big thank you to Stuart and Revd Dr Mike Branscombe for their invaluable contributions.

Sunday School - This week we'll create a large tree, hanging grapes on the vines and learn about the fruits of the spirit.

Darren - The Rector's Adoption Leave will continue until Tuesday 20 November 2024. We pray that Darren and his wife have the time and space to grow and enjoy their new family. For all enquiries please do contact the Churchwardens or the Parish Office.

Organ exam successes! - Three of our young musicians recently took Associated Board grade exams on the Christ Church organ. The examiner was very impressed and awarded them all distinctions! Congratulations to Theo Tang (Grade 6) and Annabelle & Tom Doolan (Grades 4 & 3 respectively) for this fantastic set of results, including in Theo's case the exceptional achievement of earning full marks (30/30) on his final piece – a rare phenomenon!

Music on the Green - April's concert, featuring the French horn player Henry Ward accompanied by Owen Lee on piano, was the first solo horn recital we've hosted for quite some time and showed off the full capabilities of this beautiful instrument, to the delight of everyone. Our next free lunchtime concert, with light lunch, will be on Wednesday 15 May at 1.15pm

Book Group - Our next meeting in Christ Church will be on Monday 20 May, 4pm, when we'll discuss *South*, Ernest Shackleton's account of his trans-Antarctic expedition of 1913-17, one of the last great adventures of global exploration. To know more please contact Revd Jonathan Andrew – 01372 464380 / jandrewesher@gmail.com

May they rest in peace! - Gill Barnett's funeral service will be on Friday 3 May and Joyce Page's on Monday 13 May. Both will be held in Christ Church at 11 am and all who knew them are very welcome to attend. Please continue to hold Gill, Joyce and their families in your prayers

Patch, the Church Cat - Sadly, Sam and I had to put Patch to sleep recently – she went peacefully in our arms. We want to thank everyone who popped in to see her and to all those that chipped in and helped with spiralling vet bills and medication costs. We cannot describe the pain and cat shaped hole she has left in our lives. Love Sandra & Sam.

Parish Electoral Roll - This year's revision closes this Sunday (28 April) - see details on the church porch. If you'd like to be added to the Electoral Roll, fill in the form available at the back of church and give it to a Church Warden or member of clergy. If you are already on the Electoral Roll but have changed your name or address please advise the Parish Office. The revised Roll will be available for inspection in due course.

Annual Parochial Church Meeting - The APCM will be held in Christ Church on Sunday 19 May after the 10.30am service.

Lent Appeal - The total raised is £3,964 plus Gift Aid. This will go a long way to covering the CCTV cost. Many thanks to everyone for their generosity. It is greatly appreciated. We can now begin to schedule the works.

Holy Communion - The sacrament is distributed by 'simultaneous administration' – the priest touches the communion wafer in to the wine surface before giving it to the communicant.

Fellowship Group - The next meeting will be in Christ Church at 11am on Wednesday 1 May.

Zoom Morning Prayer & Zoffee! - Morning Prayer continues each Thursday at 9.30am.

PARISH OF ESHER
CHRIST CHURCH, ESHER with ST GEORGE'S, WEST END
PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
COMMUNICATIONS

**NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF PARISHIONERS
& ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING 2024**

**Sunday 19 May 2024, 12 noon
Christ Church**

AGENDA

Opening prayers

Annual Meeting of Parishioners for the election of Churchwardens

Annual Parochial Church Meeting:

- Minutes of the May 2023 Annual Parochial Church Meeting and matters arising
- Parish reports
- Appointment of Independent Examiner for 2023
- Election of PCC members for three years
- Appointment of sidespeople
- Any other business

Concluding prayers

PLEASE PRAY FOR

Those who are ill: Elizabeth Arnold, Michael Newbould, Pam & Jim Green, Gilly Barrett, Allen Palmer, George Raine, Katherine S, Keith Howell-Jones, Sebastian, Hazel Harding, John Cheetham

RIP Anniversaries: William Pearson, John Daley, Mary Bedford, Edna Chambers, Ian Dewar, Jemima Warrington

RIP: Gill Barnett, Ann Willig, William Fraser, Joyce Page, Maria Dawn Danclar-Doody

BIBLE READINGS FOR THE WEEK AHEAD

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

April/May	Time	Reading
Monday 29		Numbers 9.15-end, 10.33-end, Ps 71, Luke 4.38-end
Tuesday 30		Numbers 11.1-33, Ps 19, Luke 5.1-11
Wednesday 1		Proverbs 4.10-18, Ps 146, James 1.1-12
Thursday 2	9.30-10.30am	Numbers 13.1-3, 17-end, Ps 57, Luke 5.27-end
Friday 3		Numbers 14.1-25, Ps 138, Luke 6.1-11

LOOKING AHEAD

April	Time	Event
Saturday 27	11.30am	Somerset Bellringers visit, Christ Church
Sunday 28	9am	Holy Communion, St George's Church
	10.30am	Parish Communion, Christ Church
Monday 29	7.15pm	Choir practice, Christ Church
Tuesday 30	8.30am	Esher High School Wedding Lesson, Christ Church
	8pm	Parochial Church Council (PCC) meeting, Christ Church
May	Time	Event
Wednesday 1	11am	Fellowship Group, Christ Church
	7pm	Bellringing practice, Christ Church
Thursday 2	All day	Parish Office closed
	9.30am	Morning Prayer, Zoom
Friday 3	11am	Funeral of Gill Barnett, Christ Church
Saturday 4	2pm	Wedding of Frederica Fuller & Philip Bagguley, Christ Church

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 Darren McCallig On Adoption Leave until 20/11/24. For parish enquiries contact the Churchwardens or the Parish Office.	HONORARY ASSISTANT PRIESTS Revd Jonathan Andrew & Ven David Gerrard
	CHURCHWARDENS Helen Coulson 07506 701454 Jane Tyrrell 07971 698299	CHILDREN & FAMILIES WORKER Kathryn Chapman youth@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 9am to 3.15pm, 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 pewsheet by midday on the preceding Wednesday. Thank you.		