

# 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*

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

29 APRIL 2018

## WELCOME TO OUR SERVICES

If you are new to the parish or worshipping with us for the first time please introduce yourselves to a member of the clergy or one of our churchwardens or sidespeople. This sheet gives some words that will be needed in the services and notices about the life of the church communities. Please do take it home.

## TODAY'S SERVICES

<b>8.00am</b>	<b>Holy Communion</b> at Christ Church led by Stefan
<b>10.30am</b>	<b>Parish Communion</b> at Christ Church led by Nate and Stefan
Churchwarden	Will Stevens
Sides	Sue Dunne, Hannah Emerson, Pam Stark, David Stark
Reading	Pam Stark
Prayers	Colin Martin
Chalice	David Stark
<b>MUSIC</b>	
Anthem	The True and Living Bread <i>(David Blackwell)</i>
<b>10.30am</b>	<b>Parish Communion</b>
Hymns	601, 209, 422, 818
Organists	Stuart Whatton

## THE COLLECT FOR THE DAY

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**

## READING Acts 8.26-end

Then 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.

## **PSALM 22.25-end**

25 From you comes my praise in the great congregation; my vows I will pay before those who fear him.

26 The poor shall eat and be satisfied; those who seek him shall praise the Lord. May your hearts live for ever!

27 All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord; and all the families of the nations shall worship before him.

28 For dominion belongs to the Lord, and he rules over the nations.

29 To him, indeed, shall all who sleep in the earth bow down; before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, and I shall live for him.

30 Posterity will serve him; future generations will be told about the Lord,

31 and proclaim his deliverance to a people yet unborn, saying that he has done it.

## **GOSPEL John 15.1-8**

'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.

## **COMMUNITY PRAYERS**

*May we encourage you to pray, please.*

- for our children undertaking youth alpha and engaged in our youth group
- for the development of vocations in our parish
- for people with a passion and vision for engaging with our community during the week
- for the leadership of the church; wisdom, discernment, courage and passion to lead the community in joining in with God's mission in Esher
- for the spiritual and numerical growth of our two church communities
- for the governors of our two church schools
- for the development of small, relevant groups in our parish and an associated culture that will help make disciples of Jesus Christ
- for the development of a communities prayer life

## PARISH NOTICES

**The Bible Course** - New to the bible or want to go deeper? The eight session Bible Course is for you. It will begin on Tuesday 5 June, 7.30pm to 9pm at Christ Church, and will continue every Tuesday until Tuesday 24 July. The course will show how the key books, famous characters and epic events form one BIG story, from Genesis to Revelation. The course also provides tools and skills that help apply the Bible to everyday life. Register at <https://www.esherparish.org.uk/?q=content/bible-course>.

**Apologetics Sermon Series** - Throughout June and July we will be undertaking a nine week sermon series on Apologetics. Exploring questions such as - Is there a God? Why does God allow pain and suffering? Who is Jesus? Is Christianity the only faith? Is there a conflict between science and religion? Please pick up a flyer and see the website for more details.

**General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)** - Many of you will have received an email about GDPR regulations coming into force on 25 May. Please do action as soon as possible. If you haven't and would like the parish to be able to communicate with you, receive the parish e-newsletter, please do visit <https://www.esherparish.org.uk/?q=content/general-data-protection-regulation-gdpr> and complete the secure registration form, for without your specific consent we are not able to communicate with you after 25 May. Thank you.

**Royal Wedding** - You are invited to celebrate the marriage of Prince Harry to Ms. Meghan Markle at Christ Church on the 'Big Screen' on Saturday 19 May from 11am. Come and join us for a truly British family celebration with 'bring and share' lunch, children's games and live coverage of the Royal Wedding. Suggested donation of £2.50 per adult on the door, children free. Please RSVP and sign up, email [rebecca.warner@gmail.com](mailto:rebecca.warner@gmail.com) or contact the office.

**Esher May Fair** - Sunday 20 May is the day of the Esher May Fair and we hope to open up Christ Church as usual to sell tea, coffee and cakes and hope to host other activities!! We will be looking for willing volunteers to help with serving the tea and coffee but also need people to commit to baking cakes for us to sell. If anybody wishes to help with these events please sign up in church or contact the Parish Office.

**Thy Kingdom Come Festival of Prayer** - Guildford Cathedral will be hosting a Festival of Prayer on Sunday 20 May, 4pm - 8pm. It will be transformed into a beacon of prayer and worship including Taize Worship at 4pm, Prayer Stations (Hopeweavers, The Red Rope, Eden People, Coptic Church, Healing Guildford) and Messy Church at 5pm and Contemporary Worship at 5pm. If you are going please register on the Thy Kingdom Come events page on [www.cofeguildford.org.uk](http://www.cofeguildford.org.uk).

*Please stay for coffee or tea after the service.*

## PLEASE PRAY FOR

**Those who are ill:** Mike Simpson, Claire Trepess

**RIP Anniversaries:** William Pearson, John Daley, Mary Bedford, Edna Chambers, Alastair Ward

**RIP:** Rosemary Kerrison

## BIBLE READINGS FOR THE WEEK AHEAD

*Taken from the Church of England Lectionary - readings for Morning Prayer (MP) are said at the times below. All are welcome to join Nate and Stefan in daily prayer at Christ Church.*

April/May		Time	Reading
Monday	30	9.00-9.30am	Numbers 9.15-end, 10.33-end; Ps 145; Luke 4.38-end
Tuesday	1	9.00-9.30am	Proverbs 4.10-18; Ps 146; James 1.1-12
Wednesday	2	9.00-9.30am	Numbers 12; Ps 30; Luke 5.12-26
Thursday	3	9.00-9.30am	Numbers 13.1-3, 17-end; Ps 78.1-39; Luke 5.27-end
Friday	4	9.00-9.30am	Numbers 14.1-25; Ps 138; Luke 6.1-11

## LOOKING AHEAD

April		Time	Event
Sunday	29	5.30pm	Voyagers, Esher Church School
		5.30pm	Youth Alpha, Esher Church School
Monday	30	12.15pm	Parish Office closed
May		Time	Event
Tuesday	1	10.30am	Toddlers' Praise
		8.00pm	Post Alpha Home Group, Christ Church
Monday	7	All day	Early May Bank Holiday
Tuesday	8	10.30am	Toddlers' Praise
		10.30am	Communion Service, Arbrook House Care Home
		8.00pm	Post Alpha Home Group, Member's home
Wednesday	9	2.30pm	Communion Service, Moore Place Care Home
Thursday	10	10.00am	Fellowship Group
Saturday	12	Midday	Wedding: Victoria Grant & James MacDonald
Sunday	13	5.30pm	Pioneers, Esher Church School
Monday	14	1.30pm	Wedding: Elizabeth Williams & James Sole
Tuesday	15	10.30am	Toddlers' Praise
		8.00pm	Post Alpha Home Group, Member's home

## CONTACTS

<b>RECTOR</b> Revd Dr Stefan Collier <b>Tel</b> 01372 462611 <b>Email</b> rector.esher@gmail.com <b>Rector's day off is Monday</b>	<b>PARISH OF ESHER</b> <b>Website</b> www.esherparish.org.uk <b>Twitter</b> www.twitter.com/esherparish <b>Christ Church Open</b> Every day, 9am to 3pm
<b>CURATE</b> Revd Nate Kurz <b>Tel</b> 020 8398 6746 <b>Email</b> nate.esherparish@gmail.com <b>Curate's day off is Friday</b>	<b>PARISH OFFICE</b> Christ Church, Church Street, Esher, Surrey KT10 8QS <b>Tel</b> 01372 462282 <b>Email</b> office@esherparish.org.uk <b>Office Open</b> Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday, 10am to 12am

***All main events at Christ Church unless stated otherwise***