

# PARISH OF ESHER

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

*Growing together in Faith, Hope and Love*

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

5 SEPTEMBER 2021

## CHURCH SERVICES

Christ Church	Parish Communion at 10.30am led by Revd Jonathan Andrew
Preacher	Revd Jonathan Andrew
Churchwarden	Sandra Argent
Sidespeople	Debbie Banks, Michael Banks
Reading	Will Stevens
Prayers	James Macdonald
Refreshments	Sandra Argent, Will Stevens
Musicians	Stuart Whatton, Oliver Macfarlane

## MUSIC

Opening Music	<i>Chorale Improvisation 'God of heaven and earth' (Karg-Elert)</i>
Hymns	742, 522, 669
Setting	Coulson
Anthem	<i>Bread is blessed and broken (John Bell)</i>
Closing Music	<i>Menuet from Suite Gothique (Boëllmann)</i>

## THE COLLECT FOR THE DAY

Merciful God,  
your Son came to save us  
and bore our sins on the cross:  
may we trust in your mercy  
and know your love,  
rejoicing in the righteousness  
that is ours through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

## POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Lord God,  
the source of truth and love,  
keep us faithful to the apostles' teaching  
and fellowship, united in prayer  
and the breaking of bread,  
and one in joy and simplicity of heart,  
in Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

## Message from our Rector, Darren

My dear friends,

Today's Gospel reading has strong resonances with the sacrament of Baptism. As the former Dean of Saint Alban's, Jeffrey John, explained in his book 'The Meaning in the Miracles', the words and actions of Jesus as recorded in Mark 7. 24-37 are repeated in some denomination's Baptismal liturgies:

'In the modern Roman Catholic rite of baptism, the priest touches the ears and the mouth of the newly baptised person, and says, "The Lord Jesus made the deaf hear and the dumb speak. May he soon touch your ears to receive his word, and your mouth to proclaim his faith, to the praise and glory of God the Father." In the older Roman rite the priest was directed to use his own saliva to touch the ears and mouth, and to shout the words "Ephphatha! Be opened!" into each ear as he did so.'

We may be relieved to hear that the Church of England liturgy does not include these gestures! However, such actions express a gracious truth of the Christian faith: 'Before we can hear the word of God, we need God himself to open our ears to do so. Our natural state is not one of readiness to hear the message; rather it is the opposite. Only those who – by God's grace – have ears to hear can hear.' (The Meaning in the Miracles).

God bless,



## READING James 2.1-10, 14-17

My brothers and sisters, do you with your acts of favouritism really believe in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ? For if a person with gold rings and in fine clothes comes into your assembly, and if a poor person in dirty clothes also comes in, and if you take notice of the one wearing the fine clothes and say, 'Have a seat here, please', while to the one who is poor you say, 'Stand there', or, 'Sit at my feet', have you not made distinctions among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts? Listen, my beloved brothers and sisters. Has not God chosen the poor in the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom that he has promised to those who love him? But you have dishonoured the poor. Is it not the rich who oppress you? Is it not they who drag you into court? Is it not they who blaspheme the excellent name that was invoked over you? You do well if you really fulfil the royal law according to the scripture, 'You shall love your neighbour as yourself.' But if you show partiality, you commit sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it.

What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but do not have works? Can faith save you? If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food, and one of you says to them, 'Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill', and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.

## GOSEL Mark 7.24-end

From there he set out and went away to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice, but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet. Now the woman was a Gentile, of Syrophenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. He said to her, 'Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs.' But she answered him, 'Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs.' Then he said to her, 'For saying that, you may go – the demon has left your daughter.' So she went home, found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone. Then he returned from the region of Tyre, and went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him. He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, 'Ephphatha', that is, 'Be opened.' And immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. Then Jesus ordered them to tell no one; but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. They were astounded beyond measure, saying, 'He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak.'

## HYMNS

### O for a thousand tongues to sing

1 O for a thousand tongues to sing  
my dear Redeemer's praise,  
the glories of my God and King,  
the triumphs of his grace!

2 Jesus! the name that charms our fears,  
that bids our sorrows cease;  
'tis music in the sinner's ears,  
'tis life and health and peace.

3 He breaks the power of cancelled sin,  
he sets the prisoner free:  
his blood can make the foulest clean;  
his blood availed for me.

4 He speaks; and, listening to his voice,  
new life the dead receive,  
the mournful broken hearts rejoice,  
the humble poor believe.

5 Hear him, ye deaf; his praise, ye dumb,  
your loosened tongues employ;  
ye blind, behold your Saviour come;  
and leap, ye lame, for joy!

6 My gracious Master and my God,  
assist me to proclaim  
and spread through all the earth abroad  
the honours of thy name.

### We cannot measure how you heal

1 We cannot measure how you heal  
or answer every sufferer's prayer,  
yet we believe your grace responds  
where faith and doubt unite to care.  
Your hands, though bloodied on the cross,  
survive to hold and heal and warn,  
to carry all through death to life  
and cradle children yet unborn.

2 The pain that will not go away,  
the guilt that clings from things long past,  
the fear of what the future holds  
are present as if meant to last.  
But present too is love which tends  
the hurt we never hoped to find,  
the private agonies inside,  
the memories that haunt the mind.

3 So some have come who need your help  
and some have come to make amends  
as hands which shaped and saved the world  
are present in the touch of friends.  
Lord, let your Spirit meet us here  
to mend the body, mind, and soul,  
to disentangle peace from pain  
and make your broken people whole.

### I heard the voice of Jesus say

1 I heard the voice of Jesus say,  
'Come unto me and rest;  
lay down, thou weary one, lay down  
thy head upon my breast':  
I came to Jesus as I was,  
weary and worn and sad;  
I found in him a resting-place,  
and he has made me glad.

2 I heard the voice of Jesus say,  
'Behold, I freely give  
the living water, thirsty one;  
stoop down and drink and live':  
I came to Jesus, and I drank  
of that life-giving stream;  
my thirst was quenched, my soul revived,  
and now I live in him.

3 I heard the voice of Jesus say,  
'I am this dark world's light;  
look unto me, thy morn shall rise,  
and all thy day be bright':  
I looked to Jesus, and I found  
in him my star, my sun;  
and in that light of life I'll walk  
till travelling days are done.

## PARISH COVID INFORMATION

### Parish Covid-19 (Coronavirus) Update -

We are very happy to have Christ Church and Saint George's West End open again for in-person public worship. Christ Church will also open for private prayer most Wednesdays, 10am to 4pm.

**'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>

### 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).

**Help & the Parish Office** - The office is now manned however if you do need any help please make contact via the office email and telephone initially. For all urgent enquiries contact the Rector, the Revd Darren McCallig ([rector@esherparish.org.uk](mailto:rector@esherparish.org.uk) or 01372 461088) or a churchwarden - Helen Coulson on 07506 701454 or Jane Tyrrell on 07971 698299. Many thanks.

**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: <https://www.churchofengland.org/resources/call-prayer-nation>

## CHRIST CHURCH SERVICE NOTES

Welcome! It's great to be together for Sunday worship.

A few things to remember:

- Please take the Pewsheets with you.
- Every other pew will continue to be closed. However, please feel free to sit with friends if you wish.
- We will continue to keep a list of those in attendance. Please be assured that this information is held securely.
- We ask, please, that you continue to wear a face covering, bearing in mind that masks primarily provide protection to others. 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.
- We are delighted to be able to sing again as a congregation.
- 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.
- 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.
- Refreshments will be served after the service. This will be outside, weather permitting.
- 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!

## PARISH NOTICES

**'Blessing our Bags'** - A favourite service with all ages and an opportunity to have your school bag, briefcase or laptop bag blessed for the year ahead. Do come along to Christ Church on Sunday 12 September at 10.30am.

**Afghan Refugees** - The Home Office has asked the Church of England to help in the search for accommodation for Afghans who are seeking asylum in this country. Most of these people worked for the UK government which is the primary reason for their needing to flee. If you feel you might be able to help please contact the Diocese of Guildford Asylum Seeker Adviser, The Revd Diane Peters, at [diane.peters@cofeguildford.org.uk](mailto:diane.peters@cofeguildford.org.uk)

**Music on the Green** - Our next concert will be on Wednesday 15 September at 1.15pm and will feature the Diphonon Duo, Michael Iskas on viola and Iñigo Mikeleiz-Berrade on accordion. We hope to offer a light lunch. The concert will also be live-streamed on our 'Music on the Green Esher' YouTube channel.

**Book Group** - For its next session the group will be reading 'Fate & Faith', a novel by our very own William Wood in which he explores tragedy, love, comradeship and common humanity during the Second World War. For more information contact Jonathan Andrew via 01372 479776/[jandrewesher@gmail.com](mailto:jandrewesher@gmail.com).

**Parish Giving** - Thank you so much for your ongoing support. If you're able to, you can donate today or via JustGiving at <https://www.justgiving.com/eshherparish> or on our Give A Little fundraising page at <https://givealittle.co/campaigns/d9f42eab-78e6-4ce8-880b-215b3f77c260>. To donate to our Parish bank account, please contact the Parish Office for details and Gift Aid forms.

**'Zoom' Bible Reflection & Prayer** - The Group meets at 9am on Tuesday mornings. Contact the Parish Office for Zoom details.

**Esher Church School** - Would you like some community involvement with your local church school? ECS is looking for a trustee with a background linked to health and safety management or facilities management. This voluntary role would involve a termly visit to school, a follow-up report and termly attendance at governing body meetings. If you're interested, please contact the Rector.

**Archbishop Justin Welby** - The Archbishop will be visiting the Guildford Diocese in late September. 'An Evening with Justin Welby' will be held on Friday 24 September at 8pm at the Lakeside Centre, Camberley. The event, envisaged primarily for existing church members, will be an opportunity to hear the Archbishop speak on the future of the local church and engage in an extended Q&A session. It will also be a time of support, encouragement and thanksgiving for all that parishes have been doing during the pandemic. Free tickets can be booked via: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/an-evening-with-justin-welby-tickets-160856571335>

The Archbishop will also be visiting each deanery for a 'Big Questions Event', to which guests can be invited and questions about life and faith can be put to the Archbishop with no question being 'off limits'. The 'Big Questions Event' for our (Emly) Deanery will be held at Esher High School on Saturday 25 September at 5.30pm. Further details on all events and links for booking free tickets please go to: [www.cofeguildford.org.uk/JustinWelby](http://www.cofeguildford.org.uk/JustinWelby) Please let the Parish Office know if you're going as it may be possible to share cars.

**'Zoom' Morning Prayer & Zoffee!** - Morning Prayer continues at 9am every Wednesday. Please ask the Parish Office for details.

## PLEASE PRAY FOR

Those who are ill: Yasmin Ingram, Stuart Williams, Maureen O'Brien, Jaeseok Yang, Betty Walker, Geoff Walker, Elizabeth Arnold, Sue Lynn, Hugh Miller, Stewart Henderson, Graham Woolgar

RIP Anniversaries: Eleanor Poet, Michael Whitney, Alan Parry

RIP: Viola Mason

## BIBLE READINGS FOR THE WEEK AHEAD

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

September		Time	Reading
Monday	6		Wisdom 1; Ps 1; Mark 9.38-end
Tuesday	7	9.00-10.00am	Wisdom 2; Ps 5; Mark 10.1-16
Wednesday	8	9.00-10.00am	Wisdom 3.1-9; Ps 119.1-32; Mark 10.17-31
Thursday	9		Wisdom 4.7-end; Ps 15; Mark 10.32-34
Friday	10		Wisdom 5.1-16; Ps 19; Mark 10.35-45

## LOOKING AHEAD

September		Time	Event
Sunday	5	10.30am	Parish Communion, Christ Church
Monday	6	7.15pm	Choir practice, Christ Church
Tuesday	7	9.00-10.00am	Bible Reflection & Prayer, Zoom
		4.30pm	Book Group, Christ Church
Wednesday	8	9.00-10.00am	Morning Prayer, Zoom
		10.00am-4.00pm	Christ Church open
		7.45pm-8.30pm	Bellringing practice, Christ Church
Thursday	9	All day	Parish Office closed
Saturday	11	Midday	Weekend Welcome Open Event, Christ Church
Sunday	12	10.30am	'Blessing our Bags' All Age Eucharist Service, Christ Church
		Midday	Weekend Welcome Open Event, Christ Church
Monday	13	7.15pm	Choir practice, Christ Church
Tuesday	14	9.00-10.00am	Bible Reflection & Prayer, Zoom
		4.30pm	Book Group, Christ Church

## CONTACTS

PARISH OF ESHER Website <a href="http://www.esherparish.org.uk">www.esherparish.org.uk</a> Facebook <a href="http://www.facebook.com/EsherParish">www.facebook.com/EsherParish</a> SoundCloud <a href="http://soundcloud.com/esherparish">soundcloud.com/esherparish</a>	RECTOR Revd Darren McCallig Tel 01372 461088 Email <a href="mailto:rector@esherparish.org.uk">rector@esherparish.org.uk</a> Rector's day off is Monday
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