

PARISH OF ESHER

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

Growing together in Faith, Hope and Love

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

8 MAY 2022

CHURCH SERVICES

Holy Communion	Led by Revd Darren McCallig at 9am at St George's (SG)
Preacher	Revd Darren McCallig
Reading & Prayers	Joan Howell-Jones
Musician	Keith Howell-Jones
Parish Communion	Led by Revd Darren McCallig at 10.30am at Christ Church (CC)
Preacher	Revd Darren McCallig
Churchwarden	Will Stevens
Sidespeople	Volunteers required
Reading & Prayers	Jennifer Meade, Jane Tyrrell
Refreshments	Jane Tyrrell, Volunteer required
Musicians	Oliver Macfarlane, Stuart Whatton

SERVICE MUSIC

Opening music	<i>Freu dich sehr, O meine Seele</i> (Karg-Elert)
SG & CC hymns	194, 203, 208 (omit v4)
Setting	Coulson
CC anthem	<i>The strife is o'er (Ley)</i>
Closing music	<i>Dialogue from Messe pour les Paroisses</i> (Couperin)

THE COLLECT

Risen Christ,
faithful shepherd of your Father's sheep:
teach us to hear your voice
and to follow your command,
that all your people may be gathered into one flock,
to the glory of God the Father.

Amen.

THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Merciful Father,
you gave your Son Jesus Christ
to be the good shepherd,
and in his love for us to lay down his life and rise again:
keep us always under his protection,
and give us grace to follow in his steps;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Message from our Rector, Darren

Today's extraordinary reading from the Acts of the Apostles is a stunning example of God's power to bring new hope, and new life, to those in despair. The text also gives us an insight into an early Christian community where a woman – who's also a widow – is described as a 'disciple'. Scholars tell us that this is, in fact, the only use in the New Testament of the feminine form (*mathētria* v. 36) of the Greek word for disciple (*mathētēs*). And what a remarkable woman Tabitha was.

Although confined to the margins by her culture's attitude towards her gender and her widowhood she, nevertheless, devoted herself to making a difference to those in need. Her raising from the dead can, therefore, be read as a sign of how such lives of costly compassion are central to the new reality of God's reign.

Theologian Joseph S. Harvard comments: 'Have you ever met Tabitha? I have known her in every church I have ever served. She has no wealth or power except her deep and abiding commitment to give expression to God's compassion for those in need. She is tenacious about practicing her faith by serving others ... Tabitha is still alive in almost every church I know.'
(Feasting on the Word)

God bless.



READING Acts 9.36-end

Now in Joppa there was a disciple whose name was Tabitha, which in Greek is Dorcas. She was devoted to good works and acts of charity. At that time she became ill and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in a room upstairs. Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, who heard that Peter was there, sent two men to him with the request, 'Please come to us without delay.' So Peter got up and went with them; and when he arrived, they took him to the room upstairs. All the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing tunics and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was with them. Peter put all of them outside, and then he knelt down and prayed. He turned to the body and said, 'Tabitha, get up.' Then she opened her eyes, and seeing Peter, she sat up. He gave her his hand and helped her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he showed her to be alive. This became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. Meanwhile he stayed in Joppa for some time with a certain Simon, a tanner.

GOSPEL John 10.22-30

At that time the festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon. So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, 'How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly.' Jesus answered, 'I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name testify to me; but you do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep. My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. What my Father has given me is greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father's hand. The Father and I are one.'

TODAY'S OTHER LECTIONARY TEXTS

PSALM 23

- 1 The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.
- 2 He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters;
- 3 he restores my soul. He leads me in right paths for his name's sake.
- 4 Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff – they comfort me.
- 5 You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.
- 6 Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord my whole life long.

READING Revelation 7.9-end

After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. They cried out in a loud voice, saying, 'Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!' And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshipped God, singing, 'Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honour and power and might be to our God for ever and ever! Amen.' Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, 'Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?' I said to him, 'Sir, you are the one that knows.' Then he said to me, 'These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. For this reason they are before the throne of God, and worship him day and night within his temple, and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them. They will hunger no more, and thirst no more; the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat; for the Lamb at the centre of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.'

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 be open for private prayer every day.

Communion

In line with Church of England guidance those who wish to make an act of Spiritual Communion can use this prayer.

*Thanks be to you, Lord Jesus Christ,
for all the benefits you have given me,
for all the pains and insults you have borne for me.
Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally,
I ask you to come spiritually into my heart.
O most merciful redeemer, friend and brother,
may I know you more clearly,
love you more dearly,
and follow you more nearly, day by day.*

Amen. after the Prayer of St Richard of Chichester

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 (01372 461088 or rector@esherparish.org.uk) or a churchwarden - Helen Coulson on 07506 701454 or Jane Tyrrell on 07971 698299. Many thanks.

ST GEORGE'S SERVICE NOTES

Welcome! It's great to be together for Sunday worship. A few things to remember. Please take the Pewsheets home with you.

- 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.
- Communion will be in one kind only (consecrated bread) with the priest wearing a face covering for distribution. Please stay in your seats and the priest will come to you. Before receiving the bread each person should apply hand sanitiser from their own personal bottle (we have some available if you have forgotten to bring yours).
- To make an act of 'Spiritual Communion' please use the prayer opposite.
- Coffee will not be served in St George's for the time being, but we do hope you will join us after the service in the West End Sports & Social Club so we can chat and socialise as we have always done.
- 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.

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 be open for private prayer every day.

Communion

In line with Church of England guidance those who wish to make an act of Spiritual Communion can use this prayer.

*Thanks be to you, Lord Jesus Christ,
for all the benefits you have given me,
for all the pains and insults you have borne for me.
Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally,
I ask you to come spiritually into my heart.
O most merciful redeemer, friend and brother,
may I know you more clearly,
love you more dearly,
and follow you more nearly, day by day.*

Amen. after the Prayer of St Richard of Chichester

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 (01372 461088 or rector@esherparish.org.uk) or a churchwarden - Helen Coulson on 07506 701454 or Jane Tyrrell on 07971 698299. Many thanks.

CHRIST CHURCH SERVICE NOTES

Welcome! It's great to be together for Sunday worship. A few things to remember. Please take the Pewsheets home with you.

- Please note the designated socially-distanced zone, front and centre in the church. In this area every other row of pews is closed and we ask you, please, to wear a face covering (unless exempt).
- In the rest of the church all pews are open and we encourage you, please, to wear a face covering.
- 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' please use the prayer opposite.
- 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 for coming!

PARISH NOTICES

Parish Electoral Roll - This will be revised from 8 May to 13 May inclusive (see full details on the notice in the church porch). If you would like to be added to the Electoral Roll, application forms may be obtained from the Parish Office and must be returned by Friday 13 May. If you are already on the Electoral Roll but have changed your name or address please advise the Parish Office.

Annual Parochial Church Meeting - The APCM will be held on Sunday 29 May after the 10.30am service in Christ Church. All those on the electoral roll can attend.

Parish Contactless Giving - We are now pleased to have an operational digital collection plate in Christ Church which takes contactless and chip and pin payments. Donations can be made via the collection plate or cash today or alternatively online by searching 'Give a Little Parish of Esher' or via: <https://givealittle.co/campaigns/d9f42eab-78e6-4ce8-880b-215b3f77c260>. Or to donate to our Parish bank account, please contact the Parish Office or Parish Treasurer for details and Gift Aid forms.

Foodbank at Christ Church - The Christ Church foodbank operation supports those in need in our Parish, particularly in Lower Green. We are grateful to the volunteers who have offered to help. We plan to open every Wednesday from 10.30am to 12pm.

'Zoom' Morning Prayer & Zoffee! - Morning Prayer continues on Wednesdays at 9am, except Wednesday 11 May. If interested please contact the Parish Office for details.

Fellowship Group - The next meeting will be in Christ Church on Wednesday 8 June, 11am.

Leave - The Rector will be away on leave from Monday 9 May to Tuesday 17 May (inclusive). There will be no Zoom Morning Prayer on Wednesday 11 May.

Thanksgiving Service & Supper - It was wonderful to see so many parishioners from Christ Church and St. George's at our Thanksgiving Service & Supper last Sunday. What a wonderful evening it was and a great opportunity to reflect on the amazing work all our volunteers do to enable our buildings to operate and our services and outreach to happen. We had the opportunity to thank some very dedicated individuals who have given many years of devoted service in their roles but due to Covid we were not able to thank them in person. Thank you to everyone who helped with the supper afterwards – helping to make it a lovely evening and a good opportunity to some spend time together. Helen & Jane

Sunday School - Our wonderful Sunday School is now back in action. However, for it to continue to thrive we need some volunteers to help. It's great fun and the children are amazing! Please contact the Rector if you'd like to be involved. Degrees in theology are not needed – just a love of being with little ones as they learn and grow.

'Come for Coffee' mornings - Due to major gas repair works in the West End area and essential roof maintenance works planned for St George's we are sadly suspending the coffee mornings at St George's until further notice. Currently the next coffee morning will be on Wednesday 25 May at Christ Church.

Parish Book Group - Our next meeting will be on Tuesday 10 May, 4.30pm, at Christ Church. Juliet Philip will lead our discussion on 'Purple Hibiscus' by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie. The novel is set in Nigeria and Juliet will bring something of her own experience of a childhood in Africa. For information contact Jonathan Andrew - 01372 464380 or jandrewesh@gmail.com.

PARISH NOTICES

Ukraine Charity Gala Concert - Guest artists from Ukraine will perform a selection of folk music and classical favourites in aid of the Emergency Relief Appeal, at Christ Church on Saturday 21 May at 5pm. See posters or the Parish website for details or book via www.ticketsource.co.uk/Parish-of-Esher.

Ukraine Donations - We are collecting urgently needed supplies for refugees and those affected by the war in Ukraine. If you have any of the items listed below, please leave at the back of Christ Church, which is now open every day. They will be delivered to our nearest drop-off point – a Ukrainian restaurant called Prosperity in Twickenham. Note clothes are not needed. Donations must be clean, organised and labelled if mixed. Sturdy packaging is essential. Many thanks for your kindness in these dark hours.

- large/medium sized backpacks
- camping mats, sleeping bags, torches
- warm blankets, all sizes
- thermal/base layer clothing, warm socks
- non-perishable/dry/canned food
- baby food/milk, bottles, wet wipes, nappies
- protein/energy bars, sweets
- non-perishable pet food
- painkillers (ibuprofen/paracetamol etc)
- cold/flu medicine (lemsips etc)
- wound dressings/gauze, non-woven plasters
- first aid medical kits, medical gloves, scissors
- disinfectants, antiseptics
- hot water bottles, insulated flasks
- feminine sanitary products
- power banks, cables (for charging mobiles)

Prayer & Action Group - A new Emly Deanery group will meet on Wednesday 11 May, 8-9pm, at St Nicholas Church, Thames Ditton. Refreshments from 7.30pm. For information and to book call or email - 0208 398 5513 / mu@stchristopherschurch.org.uk.

Hosting Ukrainian families - The Diocese of Guildford is now working as a partner with the charity Citizens UK (www.citizensuk.org) to help with offering accommodation to refugees fleeing from the conflict in Ukraine. If anyone is hosting or considering hosting a Ukrainian family please do visit this page <https://www.cofeguildford.org.uk/i-am-resources/interested-in-supporting-ukraine>, where you can find more information and register your interest to host, in partnership with Citizens UK. This will help the Diocese provide support in the best way possible.

Music on the Green - Our next lunchtime concert, at 1.15pm on Wednesday 18 May, will feature an organ recital by Christopher Herrick, former sub-organist of Westminster Abbey. Please do contact the Parish Office to be added to our MOTG email list.

Parking in Esher - With the introduction of Sunday parking charges in Elmbridge we have negotiated some car parking permits for use on Sunday mornings, 10-12.30pm. Anyone who needs to park in Esher for coming to church regularly can request one from the Parish Office. Permits will be issued on a first come first served basis with names assigned to each one. Lost permits will not be replaced and unused ones should be returned it to the office to let someone else benefit. These permits will run until August when the charges are being reviewed. If the charges continue new permits will be issued.

Platinum Jubilee - We're making plans to mark the Queen's Platinum Jubilee over the long Jubilee weekend (Thursday 2 - Sunday 5 June). This will include a Festal Evensong on the Sunday, 7pm, including the premiere of a new choir anthem we've commissioned for the occasion. Please save the date and look out for more Jubilee information.

Parish of Esher events



Charity Gala Concert for Ukraine

Christ Church, Esher
Saturday 21 May 2022
5pm

The Ukrainian Cultural Association in the UK presents a concert of music and poetry in aid of Ukrainian humanitarian relief.

Alexander Ilvakhin *baritone* + Rozanna Madylus *mezzo soprano*
Marcella Riordan *actress* + Alla Sirenko *pianist, composer, event producer*

Popular Ukrainian songs and original compositions by Alla Sirenko will be performed, along with well known operatic arias and Ukrainian and English poetry. The buffet supper, kindly sponsored by Mama Olga's Kitchen enterprise, will include some traditional Ukrainian and Italian dishes. Additional donations welcome towards Ukrainian humanitarian relief via www.ucauk.com.

Individual ticket £25 Family ticket £45 two adults, up to three children

Book tickets via www.ticketsource.co.uk/Parish-of-Esher
Christ Church, Church Street, Esher, Surrey KT10 8QS
office@esherparish.org.uk + www.esherparish.org.uk



PLEASE PRAY FOR

Those who are ill: Yasmin Ingram, Stuart Williams, Maureen O'Brien, Betty Walker, Geoff Walker, Elizabeth Arnold, Sue Lynn, Stewart Henderson, Gilly Barrett, Albie Mewse, Michael Newbould, Allen Palmer, Malcolm Sayer, Stuart Whatton

RIP Anniversaries: Ronald Durrant, Sue Adler, Elisabeth Hughes, Gertrud Frenzel, Edward Haliday, Martin Collis, Peggy Notley, Jimmy McKay, David Fermont

RIP: Peter David Whicheloe, James Willig, Michelle Hammond, Pamela Paine, Audrey Simons, Leanne Barrett, Catherine Wishaw, Dorothy Christie

BIBLE READINGS FOR THE WEEK AHEAD

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

	May	Time	Reading
Monday	9		Exodus 32.1-14; Ps 44; Luke 2.41-end
Tuesday	10		Exodus 32.15-34; Ps 48; Luke 3.1-14
Wednesday	11		Exodus 33; Ps 135; Luke 3.15-22
Thursday	12		Exodus 34.1-10, 27-end; Ps 118; Luke 4.1-13
Friday	13		Exodus 35.20-36.7; Ps 33; Luke 4.14-30

LOOKING AHEAD

	May	Time	Event
Sunday	8	9.00am	Holy Communion, St George's
		10.30am	Parish Communion, Christ Church
Monday	9	7.15pm	Choir practice, Christ Church
Tuesday	10	4.30pm	Book Group, Christ Church
Wednesday	11	9.00-10.00am	Morning Prayer, Zoom
		10.30-12am	Foodbank distribution, Christ Church
		7.00pm	Bellringing practice, Christ Church
Thursday	12	All day	Parish Office closed
Sunday	15	9.00am	Holy Communion, St George's
		10.30am	Parish Communion, Christ Church
Monday	16	7.15pm	Choir practice, Christ Church
Wednesday	18	9.00-10.00am	Morning Prayer, Zoom
		10.30-12am	Foodbank distribution, Christ Church
		1.15pm	Music on the Green lunchtime concert: Christopher Herrick, organ
		7.00pm	Bellringing practice, Christ Church

CONTACTS

PARISH OF ESHER Website www.esherparish.org.uk Facebook www.facebook.com/EsherParish SoundCloud soundcloud.com/esherparish	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	