

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

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

20 SEPTEMBER 2020

CHURCH SERVICE

Christ Church	Parish Communion at 10.30am led by Revd Darren McCallig
Churchwarden	Sandra Argent
Sides	Karen Harris, Jane Tyrrell
Preacher	Revd Darren McCallig
Reading	David Stark
Prayers	Joan Howell-Jones
Musicians	Stuart Whatton, Diana Johns

MUSIC

Opening Organ Voluntary	<i>Adagio from Concerto in A minor, BWV 593 (Bach/Vivaldi)</i>
Choir Anthem	<i>Brother James's Air</i> (arr. Gordon Jacob)
Communion Music	<i>Andante from Sonata in C, K.545</i> (Mozart)
Closing Organ Voluntary	<i>Prelude to Sonata VI: Grave-Allegro</i> (Corelli)

THE COLLECT FOR THE DAY

Lord God,
defend your Church from all false
teaching and give to your people
knowledge of your truth,
that we may enjoy eternal life
in Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Keep, O Lord, your Church,
with your perpetual mercy;
and, because without you our
human frailty cannot but fall,
keep us ever by your help from all things
hurtful, and lead us to all things
profitable to our salvation;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen

Message from our Rector, Darren

My dear friends,

Preacher and author Barbara Brown Taylor says that today's Gospel - the Parable of the Labourers in the Vineyard - 'is a little like cod liver oil: You know Jesus is right, you know it must be good for you, but that does not make it any easier to swallow.'! She goes on to say that one of the keys to interpreting this story - in which each worker gets the same pay regardless of how many hours they have put-in - is to remember that God is not fair (as we usually understand that word); rather God is generous:

'Depending on where you are in line that can sound like powerful good news, because if God is not fair, then there is a chance we will get paid more than we are worth, that we will get more than we deserve, that we will make it through the doors even though we are last in line - not because of who we are but because of who God is.' (Seeds of Heaven).

God bless,



READING Jonah 3.10-end of 4

When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it. But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. He prayed to the Lord and said, 'O Lord! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and ready to relent from punishing. And now, O Lord, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live.' And the Lord said, 'Is it right for you to be angry?' Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city, and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city. The Lord God appointed a bush, and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort; so Jonah was very happy about the bush. But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, 'It is better for me to die than to live.' But God said to Jonah, 'Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?' And he said, 'Yes, angry enough to die.' Then the Lord said, 'You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labour and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand people who do not know their right hand from their left, and also many animals?'

GOSPEL Matthew 20.1-16

Jesus said 'For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire labourers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the labourers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the market-place; and he said to them, "You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right." So they went. When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, "Why are you standing here idle all day?" They said to him, "Because no one has hired us." He said to them, "You also go into the vineyard." When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, "Call the labourers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first." When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, "These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat." But he replied to one of them, "Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?" So the last will be first, and the first will be last.'

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 that public worship at St George's has started again with fortnightly 9am services. Regular worshippers have been advised how this works. If you would like to know more please contact the Parish Office. St George's will now 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.

CHRIST CHURCH 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.

PARISH NOTICES

Harvest Services - We will be holding two services - one at Christ Church on Sunday 4 October at 10.30am with the second one at St George's on Sunday 11 October at 9am.

Pet Service - We have decided, regretfully, to postpone the Pet Service at St George's until next Spring. It was proving too difficult to work out how best to organise it within the current COVID restrictions.

Annual Parochial Church Meeting - Our delayed APCM will take place on Sunday 18 October after the Christ Church service.

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.

Zoom Bible Reflection & Prayer - At 9am on Tuesday mornings, there is 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 Zoom gathering which finishes about 10am. For the Zoom details contact the Parish Office (office@esherparish.org.uk).

'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 for the Zoom sign-in details.

Gift Aid - To be eligible for Gift Aid, the donor, who's claiming the Gift Aid against tax they have paid, should clearly write their name, address and the date. An envelope with more than one name or no address or date will not be eligible for Gift Aid.

Music on the Green - Last Wednesday we relaunched our lunchtime recital series with a magnificent piano recital by the young Lithuanian pianist Rokas Valuntonis. You can still listen to Rokas's recital on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/EsherParish>. It will be on our MOTG YouTube channel soon. Online donations are gratefully received at <https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/MOTG>. Our next concert will be on Wednesday 21 October, when we will welcome the Flauguissimo Duo, a husband and wife team performing on baroque flute and theorbo.

Macmillan Coffee Morning - Whilst we are unable to hold a regular coffee morning event as we did last year we plan to arrange a virtual one on Zoom. More details to follow.

Book Group - We're planning to start a Parish Book Group, with 'The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry' by Rachel Joyce being the first book for discussion. The current idea is that the group would meet for an hour every two weeks at teatime (say 4pm on Tuesdays) on Zoom. This may change depending on what works best for people. To get us going, we have free copies of the Rachel Joyce book to give away; so if it sounds your sort of thing, please contact Revd Jonathan Andrew on 01372 479776 / jandrewesher@hotmail.com

Donations - Many thanks for your ongoing generosity to the Parish of Esher. Like many parishes our income has fallen in recent months. Please consider supporting our mission and ministry and 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: Patrick Handyside, Peter Lindow

RIP: Justin Gray, David MacDonald, Doris Wright, Raymond Stenning

BIBLE READINGS FOR THE WEEK AHEAD

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

September		Time	Reading
Monday	21		1 Kings 19.15-end; Ps 49; 2 Timothy 3.14-end
Tuesday	22	9.00-10.00am	1 Kings 8.63-9.9; Ps 36; Acts 16.25-end
Wednesday	23	8.50-9.30am	1 Kings 10.1-25; Ps 34; Acts 17.1-15
Thursday	24		1 Kings 11.1-13; Ps 37; Acts 17.16-end
Friday	25		1 Kings 11.26-end; Ps 31; Acts 18.1-21

LOOKING AHEAD

September		Time	Event
Monday	21	7.15-8.30pm	Choir rehearsal, Christ Church
Tuesday	22	9.00-10.00am	Bible Reflection & Prayer, Zoom
Wednesday	23	8.50-10.00am	Morning Prayer & Zoffee!, Zoom
		10.00am	Fellowship Group, Christ Church
		2.00pm	Funeral of Doris Wright, Christ Church
Sunday	27	9.00am	Holy Communion, St George's
		10.30am	Parish Communion, Christ Church
Monday	28	7.15-8.30pm	Choir rehearsal, Christ Church
Tuesday	29	9.00-10.00am	Bible Reflection & Prayer, Zoom
Wednesday	30	8.50-10.00am	Morning Prayer & Zoffee!, Zoom
October		Time	Event
Sunday	4	10.30am	All Age Harvest Service, Christ Church
Monday	5	7.15-8.30pm	Choir rehearsal, Christ Church
Tuesday	6	9.00-10.00am	Bible Reflection & Prayer, Zoom
Wednesday	7	8.50-10.00am	Morning Prayer & Zoffee!, Zoom

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	