

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

TWELTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

22 AUGUST 2021

CHURCH SERVICES

Christ Church	Parish Communion at 10.30am led by Revd Darren McCallig
Preacher	Revd Darren McCallig
Churchwarden	Helen Coulson
Sidespeople	Debbie Banks, Michael Banks
Reading	Janie McCulloch
Prayers	James MacDonald
Refreshments	Will Stevens, Helen Coulson
Musicians	Stuart Whatton, Catherine Powell

MUSIC

Opening Music	<i>Prelude - no. 1 from Six Miniatures</i> (Arthur Milner)
Hymns	823, 648, 475
Setting	Coulson
Closing Music	<i>Toccata in E minor</i> (Pachelbel)

THE COLLECT FOR THE DAY

God of constant mercy,
who sent your Son to save us:
remind us of your goodness,
increase your grace within us,
that our thankfulness may grow,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

God of all mercy,
in this eucharist you have set aside
our sins and given us your healing:
grant that we who are made whole
in Christ may bring that healing
to this broken world,
in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Message from our Rector, Darren

My dear friends,

Today's first reading, from the Letter of Paul to the Ephesians, is the well-known passage about putting on the 'whole armour of God' (6.11). Clearly, for the Apostle, the Christian spiritual life can be compared to combat – the forces of love and justice pitted against the forces of hatred and injustice. However, as Tom Wright puts it in his commentary on these verses, this 'battle' is primarily focused on 'holding out against attack.' He explains: 'The weapons Paul speaks of are mainly defensive, equipping us to withstand attack and still be standing at the end of the day. The belt, the breastplate, the shoes, the shield and the helmet, are all to enable you to remain safe under attack. Only the sword has a potentially attacking capability.'

But what then of the sword? Wright points out that Paul is probably referring here to some passages in Isaiah where the coming Messiah is portrayed as striking the earth with his words, with a 'mouth like a sharp sword' (Isaiah 49.2). Wright concludes: 'This, then, is what he [Paul] means by being strong "in the Lord": it is because all these things are true of Jesus himself, and because we, his people, find ourselves "in" him, that they can be true of us too.' (Paul for Everyone: The Prison Letters).

God bless,



READING Ephesians 6.10-20

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power. Put on the whole armour of God, so that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For our struggle is not against enemies of blood and flesh, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. Therefore take up the whole armour of God, so that you may be able to withstand on that evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm. Stand therefore, and fasten the belt of truth around your waist, and put on the breastplate of righteousness. As shoes for your feet put on whatever will make you ready to proclaim the gospel of peace. With all of these, take the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. Pray in the Spirit at all times in every prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert and always persevere in supplication for all the saints. Pray also for me, so that when I speak, a message may be given to me to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it boldly, as I must speak.

GOSPEL John 6.56-69

Jesus said 'Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live for ever.' He said these things while he was teaching in the synagogue at Capernaum. When many of his disciples heard it, they said, 'This teaching is difficult; who can accept it?' But Jesus, being aware that his disciples were complaining about it, said to them, 'Does this offend you? Then what if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before? It is the spirit that gives life; the flesh is useless. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life. But among you there are some who do not believe.' For Jesus knew from the first who were the ones that did not believe, and who was the one that would betray him. And he said, 'For this reason I have told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted by the Father.' Because of this many of his disciples turned back and no longer went about with him. So Jesus asked the twelve, 'Do you also wish to go away?' Simon Peter answered him, 'Lord, to whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe and know that you are the Holy One of God.'

HYMNS

Who would true valour see

1 Who would true valour see,
let him come hither;
one here will constant be,
come wind, come weather;
there's no discouragement
shall make him once relent
his first avowed intent
to be a pilgrim.

2 Whoso beset him round
with dismal stories,
do but themselves confound,
his strength the more is.
No lion can him fright:
he'll with a giant fight,
but he will have the right
to be a pilgrim.

3 Hobgoblin nor foul fiend
can daunt his spirit;
he knows he at the end
shall life inherit.
Then, fancies, fly away;
he'll not fear what men say;
he'll labour night and day
to be a pilgrim.

God of grace and God of glory

1 God of grace and God of glory,
on thy people pour thy power;
now fulfil thy church's story;
bring her bud to glorious flower.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
for the facing of this hour.

2 Lo, the hosts of evil round us
scorn thy Christ, assail his ways;
from the fears that long have bound us
free our hearts to faith and praise.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
for the living of these days.

3 Cure thy children's warring madness,
bend our pride to thy control;
shame our wanton selfish gladness,
rich in goods and poor in soul.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
lest we miss thy kingdom's goal.

4 Set our feet on lofty places,
gird our lives that they may be
armoured with all Christlike graces
in the fight till all be free.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
that we fail not earth nor thee.

Forth in the peace of Christ we go

1 Forth in the peace of Christ we go;
Christ to the world with joy we bring;
Christ in our minds, Christ on our lips,
Christ in our hearts, the world's true king.

2 King of our hearts, Christ reigns in us;
kingship with him his servants gain;
with Christ, the Servant-Lord of all,
Christ's world we serve to share Christ's reign.

3 Priests of the world, Christ sends us forth
this world of time to consecrate,
our world of sin by grace to heal,
Christ's world in Christ to re-create.

4 Prophets of Christ, we hear his word:
he claims our minds, to search his ways;
he claims our lips, to speak his truth;
he claims our hearts, to sing his praise.

5 We are his Church, he makes us one:
here is one hearth for all to find;
here is one flock, one Shepherd-King;
here is one faith, one heart, one mind.

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 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: [tps://www.churchofengland.org/resources/call-prayer-nation](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

Music on the Green - Our next concert will be on Wednesday 15 September at 1.15pm and will feature the Diphonon Duo, Michael Iskas and Iñigo Mikeleiz-Berrade. With their unique pairing of viola and accordion, the duo will perform a programme reflecting dances, rhythms and songs from around the world. We very much hope to offer light refreshments. The concert will also be live-streamed on our 'Music on the Green Esher' YouTube channel.

Guildford Gig - Stuart Whatton, our Director of Music, will be performing at Guildford Castle Bandstand this afternoon (2-4pm) with his London Saxophone Choir. Do come along - there's an open invitation to join him for birthday drinks! See Stuart for details.

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/jandrewesh@ 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/esherparish> 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.

Farnham Christian Community Trust - A local charity has two paid work opportunities: an Inter-Church Schools Work Project Leader and a Finance Administrator. For more details please go to <https://www.fcct.support>.

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

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 Please let the Parish Office know if you're going as it may be possible to share cars.

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 interested, please contact the Rector.

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

HELP!

**VOLUNTEERS
NEEDED FOR THE
PARISH OF ESHER
OPEN EVENT**

**Saturday & Sunday
11 & 12 September 2021
12 noon to 5pm**

Over this weekend in September we will be opening our doors to one and all. This coincides with the delayed Esher May Fair on Sunday 12 September and gives us an opportunity to welcome Darren properly and introduce him to our wider community.

We plan to provide entertainment across two afternoons with accompanying tea and cakes – so donations of scones, cakes and biscuits will be most welcome.

To make this event a success, we need as many volunteers as possible to help us set up, bake cakes, serve refreshments and welcome visitors to our church.

To volunteer, please add your name to the sign-up sheets at the back of the church, speak to the duty churchwarden or sidespeople or sign up using our online Doodle poll (https://doodle.com/poll/rqe42upqqx6bn7vm?utm_source=poll&utm_medium=link).

**Thank you in advance for your help
– let's make this a real team effort!**

WELCOME

WEEKEND

PLEASE PRAY FOR

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

RIP Anniversaries: Mary Eccles, Vera Coffee, Doreen Alan, Sami Kathiresan, Irene Coulson, Richard Coulson, Victoria Cobb, Ivy Fairhead, Tim Walter, Felix Palmer

RIP: Lady Sheila Frame, Helen Mary Sketch

BIBLE READINGS FOR THE WEEK AHEAD

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

August		Time	Reading
Monday	23		Proverbs 14.31-15.17; Ps 98; Mark 6.45-end
Tuesday	24	9.00-10.00am	Genesis 28.10-17; Ps 86; John 1.43-end
Wednesday	25	9.00-10.00am	Proverbs 18.10-end; Ps 111; Mark 7.14-23
Thursday	26		Proverbs 20.1-22; Ps 115; Mark 7.24-30
Friday	27		Proverbs 22.1-16; Ps 139; Mark 7.31-end

LOOKING AHEAD

August		Time	Event
Sunday	22	10.30am	Parish Communion, Christ Church
		12.30pm	Interment of Helen Mary Sketch, Christ Church
Tuesday	24	9.00-10.00am	Bible Reflection & Prayer, Zoom
Wednesday	25	9.00-10.00am	Morning Prayer, Zoom
		10.00am-4.00pm	Christ Church open
		7.45pm-8.30pm	Bellringing practice, Christ Church
Thursday	26	All day	Parish Office closed (Aug 27 to Sept 5 inclusive)
Saturday	28	2.00pm	Wedding of Georgia Wallis & Marcus Torr, Christ Church
Sunday	29	9.00am	Holy Communion, St George's
		10.30am	Parish Communion, Christ Church
Tuesday	31	9.00-10.00am	Bible Reflection & Prayer, Zoom

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	