

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

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

25 APRIL 2021

CHURCH SERVICES

Christ Church	Parish Communion at 10.30am led by Ven David Gerrard
Preacher	Ven David Gerrard
Churchwarden	Will Stevens
Sidespeople	Janie McCulloch
Reader	Stewart Henderson
Prayers	Joan Howell-Jones
Musicians	Stuart Whatton, Nikki Gleed

MUSIC

Opening Music	<i>Ein feste Burg ist unser Gott, BuxWV184 (Buxtehude)</i>
Music & Hymns	A&M 203, 209, 507 (omit v5)
Post Sermon	<i>Chanson de matin (Elgar)</i>
Anthem	<i>Cantate Domino (Pitoni)</i>
Closing Music	<i>Herr Gott, dich loben alle wir (Pachelbel)</i>

THE COLLECT FOR THE DAY

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.

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

My dear friends,

Today's Gospel reading speaks of Jesus as the 'good shepherd'. This beautiful reminder of divine providential care can, by the grace of God, give us the security and confidence to live out our calling as followers of Christ.

For example, Samuel T. Lloyd, former dean of Washington National Cathedral, recounts the story of a retirement lunch he attended for a Texan clergyman who had taken a courageous stand for racial equality in the US.

After many toasts and tributes to his brave ministry, he was asked to say a few words, and when he came to the podium, the Master of Ceremonies said, 'My friend, I just have one question for you. How did you do it? How could you be that bold and brave, how could you time and again go out on a limb by yourself?' He thought about it a minute and then said in the coarse language of a Texan that I will translate slightly, 'Well, every time a tough decision came up, I just said to myself, "The Lord is my Shepherd. What the hell!"'

That's the essence of Easter faith.

Trusting in a 'good shepherd' who loves us and empowers us to live lives of costly compassion and steadfast faith.

God bless,



READING Acts 4.5-12

The next day their rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, 'By what power or by what name did you do this?' Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, 'Rulers of the people and elders, if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead. This Jesus is "the stone that was rejected by you, the builders; it has become the cornerstone." There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved.'

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.

GOSPEL John 10.11-18

'I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away - and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father.'

HYMNS

Good Christians all, rejoice and sing!

Good Christians all, rejoice and sing!

Now is the triumph of our King.

To all the world glad news we bring:

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

The Lord of Life is risen for ay:

bring flowers of song to strew his way;

let all the world rejoice and say:

Praise we in songs of victory

that Love, that Life, which cannot die,

and sing with hearts uplifted high:

Thy name we bless, O risen Lord,

and sing to-day with one accord

the life laid down, the life restored:

Love's redeeming work is done

Love's redeeming work is done;

fought the fight, the battle won:

lo, our Sun's eclipse is o'er,

lo, he sets in blood no more.

Vain the stone, the watch, the seal;

Christ has burst the gates of hell;

death in vain forbids his rise;

Christ has opened paradise.

Lives again our glorious King;

where, O death, is now thy sting?

Dying once, he all doth save;

where thy victory, O grave?

Soar we now where Christ has led,

following our exalted Head;

made like him, like him we rise;

ours the cross, the grave, the skies.

Hail the Lord of earth and heaven!

Praise to thee by both be given:

thee we greet triumphant now;

hail, the Resurrection Thou!

We have a gospel to proclaim

We have a gospel to proclaim,

good news for all throughout the earth;

the gospel of a Saviour's name:

we sing his glory, tell his worth.

Tell of his birth at Bethlehem,

not in a royal house or hall

but in a stable dark and dim,

the Word made flesh, a light for all.

Tell of his death at Calvary,

hated by those he came to save,

in lonely suffering on the cross;

for all he loved his life he gave.

Tell of that glorious Easter morn:

empty the tomb, for he was free.

he broke the power of death and hell

that we might share his victory.

Now we rejoice to name him King:

Jesus is Lord of all the earth.

This gospel-message we proclaim:

We sing his glory, tell his worth.

PARISH COVID INFORMATION

Parish Covid-19 (Coronavirus) Update -

We are very happy to have Christ Church open again for in-person public worship for our Eastertide services. It is hoped that public worship will continue, and that services will recommence at St George's, West End in May. Please contact the Parish Office nearer the time for further information. Christ Church will also open for private prayer on Wednesdays, 10am to 4pm.

Help & the Parish Office - The office will continue to work remotely. If you need support, do please let us know via the office email and telephone. For 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 Sandra Argent on 07973 909152. Many thanks.

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).

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)

'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>

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 Pewsheet with you.
- Please ensure the sidespeople have your details for 'Track & Trace' purposes.
- Individuals, households and support bubbles are asked not to 'mingle with others' before, during, or after the service.
- Sadly, congregational singing is still not permitted - Choir members will raise their beautiful voices on our behalf.
- 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.
- Face coverings/masks are required by law. 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.
- To make an act of 'Spiritual Communion' use the prayer in the Order of Service.
- Sadly, we cannot offer coffee and we're asked to not stay inside after the service.
- 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

HRH The Duke of Edinburgh - We pray that God will comfort Her Majesty and the Royal Family. May His Royal Highness rest in peace and rise in glory.

Books of Condolence - To send a message of condolence to the Royal Family there are online books on the Royal Family's website at www.royal.uk and the Church of England website at www.churchofengland.org.

The Revd Canon Christopher Scott - We are very sorry to tell you that Christopher Scott has sadly died. Christopher was our Rector from 1987 to 1998 before moving to Bude where he stayed after his retirement. We hold Christopher, Linda and their children in our prayers. The funeral will take place at 11am on Friday 30 April and will likely be live-streamed. If you would like the details please contact the Parish Office.

Zoom Bible Reflection & Prayer - All are welcome to join this informal Zoom gathering at 9am on Tuesday mornings. Contact the Parish Office for details.

'Zoom' Morning Prayer & Zoffee! - Zoom Morning Prayer is on Wednesdays at 9am. However, please note that there will be no gathering on Wednesday 28 April.

Lent Appeal Update - Many thanks to all who have contributed to this year's Lent Appeal. We have raised £3340, which will go a long way towards supporting students in our local schools who lack the IT facilities needed to access their learning and post-lockdown coursework and homework.

Thank you again for your generosity and consideration for these students.

Book Group - The next Zoom meeting will be at 5pm on Tuesday 4 May. To join, contact Revd Jonathan Andrew on 01372 479776 or jandrewesher@hotmail.com.

APCM - Our Annual Parochial Church Meeting will be held on Sunday 23 May, after the morning service in Christ Church.

Leave - Darren will be on leave until Tuesday 4 May. Contact details for other clergy and parish officers are on the parish website.

Parish Electoral Roll - This will be revised from 18 April to 2 May inclusive. If you'd like to be added to the Electoral Roll, application forms may be obtained from the Parish Office and must be returned by Sunday 2 May. If you are on the Electoral Roll but have changed your name or address in the past three years, please advise the Parish Office.

Heart Stones - Here's an idea: paint a stone or pebble with something close to your heart. It could be words of encouragement and hope. It could be something or someone who helped you. It could be a prayer offered for those in need. Then, whilst out, drop by Christ Church and add your 'Heart Stone' to the growing line around the building. Who knows we might encircle the church with beautiful expressions of faith, hope and love!

Parish Giving - Thank you so much for your ongoing generosity to the Parish of Esher. If you're in a position to do so, please consider supporting our mission and ministry. You can donate today or via JustGiving at <https://www.justgiving.com/esherparish>. Or to donate to our Parish bank account, please contact the Parish Office or Parish Treasurer for details and Gift Aid forms.

Music on the Green - To watch the April concert, featuring Duo Kottos, the UK's premier guitar and cello duo, please go to our 'MOTG Esher' YouTube Channel (<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCs60Nys0liNK3Y10JOnMu1w>) Donations welcome at www.justgiving.com/campaign/MOTG

PLEASE PRAY FOR

Those who are ill: Yasmin Ingram, Stuart Williams, Maureen O'Brien, Viola Mason, Jaeseok Yang, Headley Williams, Betty Walker, Geoff Walker, Elizabeth Arnold, Sue Lynn, Shireen Sahni, Stewart Henderson, The Revd Graham Shaw

RIP Anniversaries: Ollie Gobat, Joyce Simms, Martin Moreton, William Pearson John Daley

RIP: His Royal Highness Prince Philip The Duke of Edinburgh,
Revd Canon Christopher Scott, David Moore, Jennie Seller

BIBLE READINGS FOR THE WEEK AHEAD

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

April		Time	Reading
Monday	26		Isaiah 62.6-10; Ps 148; Acts 12.25-13.13
Tuesday	27	9.00-10.00am	Deuteronomy 9.23-10.5; Ps 48; Ephesians 4.17-end
Wednesday	28		Deuteronomy 10.12-end; Ps 135; Ephesians 5.1-14
Thursday	29		Deuteronomy 11.8-end; Ps 118; Ephesians 5.15-end
Friday	30		Deuteronomy 12.1-14; Ps 33; Ephesians 6.1-9

LOOKING AHEAD

April		Time	Event
Sunday	25	10.30am	Parish Communion, Christ Church
		6.00pm	Live streamed Youth Worship Service, YouTube
		6.30pm	Youth Group Meeting, Zoom
Monday	26	7.15pm	Choir practice, Christ Church
Tuesday	27	9.00-10.00am	Bible Reflection & Prayer, Zoom
Wednesday	28	10.00am-4.00pm	Christ Church open for private prayer
Thursday	29	All day	Parish Office closed
May		Time	Event
Sunday	2	10.30am	All Age Service, Christ Church
		6.00pm	Live streamed Youth Worship Service, YouTube
		6.30pm	Youth Group Meeting, Zoom
Monday	3	All day	Early May Bank Holiday
Tuesday	4	9.00-10.00am	Bible Reflection & Prayer, Zoom
		5.00pm	Book Group, 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
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