

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

FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS

31 DECEMBER 2017

WELCOME TO OUR SERVICES

If you are new to the parish or worshipping with us for the first time please introduce yourselves to a member of the clergy or one of our churchwardens or sidespeople. This sheet gives some words that will be needed in the services and notices about the life of the church communities. Please do take it home.

THE COLLECT FOR THE DAY

God in Trinity,
eternal unity of perfect love:
gather the nations to be one family,
and draw us into your holy life
through the birth of Emmanuel,
our Lord Jesus Christ.

Amen

TODAY'S SERVICES

10.30am	Parish Communion at Christ Church led by David
Churchwarden	Sandra Argent
Sides	Denise Howells, Fiona Owen
Reading	Samantha Banton
Prayers	Nevin Truesdale
Chalice	Denise Howells

MUSIC

Anthem	<i>Coventry Carol</i> (English traditional)
10.30am	Parish Communion
Hymns	84, 526, 542, 283
Organists	Keith Howell-Jones

READING Isaiah 61.10-62.3

I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations.

For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until her vindication shines out like the dawn, and her salvation like a burning torch. The nations shall see your vindication, and all the kings your glory; and you shall be called by a new name that the mouth of the Lord will give. You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the Lord, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

PSALM 148

- 1 Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise him in the heights!
- 2 Praise him, all his angels; praise him, all his host!
- 3 Praise him, sun and moon; praise him, all you shining stars!
- 4 Praise him, you highest heavens, and you waters above the heavens!
- 5 Let them praise the name of the Lord, for he commanded and they were created.
- 6 He established them for ever and ever; he fixed their bounds, which cannot be passed.
- 7 Praise the Lord from the earth, you sea monsters and all deeps,
- 8 Fire and hail, snow and frost, stormy wind fulfilling his command!
- 9 Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars!
- 10 Wild animals and all cattle, creeping things and flying birds!
- 11 Kings of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the earth!
- 12 Young men and women alike, old and young together!
- 13 Let them praise the name of the Lord, for his name alone is exalted; his glory is above earth and heaven.
- 14 He has raised up a horn for his people, praise for all his faithful, for the people of Israel who are close to him. Praise the Lord!

GOSPEL Luke 2.15-21

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, 'Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.' So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them. After eight days had passed, it was time to circumcise the child; and he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.

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PARISH NOTICES

Thank you - A big thank you for our shared ministry together and a special thank you to our bellringing, flower, coffee, rota volunteers and teams for their wonderful decorations, hospitality, help and organisation over this last year.

Noah's Ark - Noah's will set sail again on Sunday 14 January. Thank you to all our leaders and supporters this year.

Toddlers' Praise - Toddlers' Praise starts again on Tuesday 16 January at 10.30am. Thank you to Jan Sayer and her team this past year.

Music on the Green - The Eos Trio will perform for our lunchtime concert on Wednesday 17 January at 12.30pm. Their programme will include works by Milhaud, Khachaturian and C P E Bach, and should provide a most stimulating start to the New Year. Free entry to include a light lunch. Retiring collection.

Car Parking at Christ Church - The car park barrier will be upgraded in January 2018. All barrier passes currently in circulation will no longer operate beyond this date. Passes will not be replaced unless you are involved in active programmes at Christ Church. This is in an attempt to restrict parking to those who need it most. If you are in absolute need of a replacement pass in January 2018 please email me at sargent@mcguirewoods.com.

Youth Alpha - We are pleased to share with you that we plan to run our first Youth Alpha Course early next year led by Dave and Nate. It will take place at Esher Church School on Sunday evenings. Date to be confirmed. Open to Year 7 and above. Any questions or to register your interest please email Dave or Nate at davewhymark@aol.com and nate.esherparish@gmail.com.

Parish Office - The office is closed 1 to 4 January inclusive.

Happy New Year - May we wish you all a very Happy New Year for 2018.

Please stay for coffee or tea after the service.

PLEASE PRAY FOR

Those who are ill: Mike Simpson

RIP Anniversaries: Ellen Garratt, Phyllis Crabbe, Francis Krejsa, James Bath

BIBLE READINGS FOR THE WEEK AHEAD

Taken from the Church of England Lectionary – readings for Morning Prayer (MP) are said at the times below. All are welcome to join Nate and Stefan in daily prayer at Christ Church.

January		Time	Reading
Monday	1		Genesis 17.1-13; Ps 103; Romans 2.17-end
Tuesday	2		Ruth 1; Ps 18.1-30; Colossians 2.8-end
Wednesday	3		Ruth 2; Ps 127; Colossians 3.1-11
Thursday	4		Ruth 3; Ps 89.1-37; Colossians 3.12-4.1
Friday	5		Ruth 4.1-17; Ps 48; Colossians 4.2-end

LOOKING AHEAD

January		Time	Event
Monday	1	All day	Bank Holiday
Tuesday	2	All day	Parish Office closed 2-4 January inclusive
Friday	12	1.30pm	Funeral: Kathleen Moreton
Tuesday	16	10.30am	Toddlers' Praise
Wednesday	17	12.30pm	Music on the Green lunchtime concert: Eos Trio (clarinet, violin & piano)
		8.00pm	Parochial Church Council (PCC) meeting
Tuesday	23	10.30am	Toddlers' Praise
Thursday	25	10.00am	Fellowship Group

CONTACTS

RECTOR Revd Dr Stefan Collier Tel 01372 462611 Email rector.esher@gmail.com Rector's day off is Monday	PARISH OF ESHER Website www.esherparish.org.uk Twitter www.twitter.com/esherparish Christ Church Open Every day, 9am to 3pm
CURATE Revd Nate Kurz Tel 020 8398 6746 Email nate.esherparish@gmail.com Curate's day off is Friday	PARISH OFFICE Christ Church, Church Street, Esher, Surrey KT10 8QS Tel 01372 462282 Email office@esherparish.org.uk Office Open Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday, 10am to 12am

All main events at Christ Church unless stated otherwise