

### **Newsletter and Notices**

# Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2021 Sixth Sunday of Easter



# 8am Holy Communion, in Church 10am Service of the Word, in Church & via Zoom

You are welcome to share in our worship in the following ways:

1. Come to Church All are welcome! Remember to bring your order of service.

#### 2. Join with Zoom on your computer

When you are signed in you can 'Join a Meeting'. Meeting ID **846** 662 9590, Passcode **834900** 

#### 3. Join with Audio Zoom via phone

a) Call 0131 460 1196 b) Enter Meeting ID: 846 662 9590 followed by #

c) You may be asked to enter Participant ID: press #

d) Enter Meeting Passcode: 834900 followed by #

You will be muted automatically when you join the 'meeting' (service).

Whether or not you might like to do this, let's be aware of the prayerful communion in God's Spirit that we all share, wherever we are, whether or not we are able to talk, video-call or communicate with one another.

## A Psalm for today, Psalm 98 Refrain: The Lord has made known his salvation.

Sing to the Lord a new song,

for he has done marvellous things.

His own right hand and his holy arm

have won for him the victory. [R]

The Lord has made known his salvation;

his deliverance has he openly shown in the sight of the nations.

He has remembered his mercy and faithfulness towards the house of Israel,

and all the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God. **[R]**Sound praises to the Lord, all the earth;

break into singing and make music.

Make music to the Lord with the lyre, with the lyre and the voice of melody.

With trumpets and the sound of the horn sound praises before the Lord, the King. [R]

Let the sea thunder and all that fills it, the world and all that dwell upon it.



Singing in the churchyard after the 10am service

Let the rivers clap their hands and let the hills ring out together before the Lord, for he comes to judge the earth.

In righteousness shall he judge the world and the peoples with equity. [R]

#### Collect for The Sixth Sunday of Easter

God our redeemer, you have delivered us from the power of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of your Son: grant, that as by his death he has recalled us to life, so by his continual presence in us he may raise us to eternal joy; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

#### Gospel for The Sixth Sunday of Easter, John 15. 9-17

'As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete. 'This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.'

### A song for today

You might like to listen, and sing along, to this version of the song *A New Commandment* (attributed to Roy Crabtree, text from John 13. 34-35), available on YouTube here.

**Our Children & Young People –** Whilst it's not practical for our families to meet on Sunday, do explore the links on our <u>Children & Young People</u> page: have you seen the brand new video with a fabulous worship song: Oh Wow! (Awesome God) – from *Cheeky Pandas*, who feature at the ever-popular Christian Festival Spring Harvest? There's also a link to a **fun-filled 11 part TV series for kids** made in collaboration with those *Pandas*!

- There's a <u>printable sheet</u> which offers a prayer/activities that will help young people get to know the person of Jesus. This week's is based on today's Gospel reading.
- In these 50 days when we celebrate Easter, we remember some of the things Jesus said; so you might like to share in this week's **Godly Story**, 'Abide in Love'. It's a fantastic visual version of the scriptures, with wondering questions for families to share together. The video's <a href="https://example.com/html/>here.">here.</a>
- You might like to have input into / join the **Families Minister Working Group** (see other page) .
- **Tiny Tots** is back, in a new and excting way and **Bridge Youth** is meeting online: see other page for details on both.



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Prayers for our Community in Church and via Zoom, Saturday 8th May 9:30am – A half hour session of informal prayer (ID 458 034 0358 / Code 435609). All welcome.

Alpha Youth Series, Sunday 9th May, 7:30-9pm - Our ninth and final session and the topic for the evening will be - 'Church: What About the Church?' We'll look at why the church is important and ways we can continue to be a community dedicated to Jesus and spreading and sharing the Good News of the Gospel. Join via Zoom (ID: 869 9900 8274, contact Al Evans for Passcode at bridgeyouthchurch@gmail.com).

Christian Aid Week, 10th-16th May - This year Christian Aid is focusing on the climate crisis: raising funds to help families struggling in drought conditions, to access sufficient water to survive and thrive. We'll be distributing 'Delivery Only' envelopes to highlight the campaign, encouraging people to donate online/by phone. A Red Bucket will also be in church at the 10am Sunday service on Sunday 16th May. Please see our website for more details on how to donate, for the Quiztian Aid online quiz (8th May) and for the Song of the Prophets: A Requiem for the Climate (9th June) Thank you.

Holy Communion, Wednesday 12th May, 10am - On Wednesday we will have a service of Holy Communion, in church and via Derwyn's Zoom. You can also dial in by phone; instructions on previous page. (ID 846 662 9590, Passcode 834900).

'All new' Tiny Tots, Wednesday 12th May, 11 for 11:15am - Following the success of our recent launch we're delighted to be meeting each week once again - offering a new style of worship for babies/toddlers and their parents / carers. Social distancing measures and Covid precautions will be in place.

Light up the world with prayer, 13th-23rd May - Join in with the global prayer movement 'Thy Kingdom Come' which invites Christians around the world to pray, in the period between Ascension and Pentecost, that more people will come to know God's love for them through Jesus Christ. There are many resources on the national website here and we'll be sharing on our social media pages short daily prayers by leaders from different traditions within Churches Together in Hertfordshire/Bedfordshire.

A note for your calendar for Ascension Day, Thursday 13th May - We'll be celebrating with an Ascension Day Communion with Music at 7:30pm, also on Zoom.

APCM, 23<sup>rd</sup> May after 10am service – We invite nominations for PCC members and Churchwarden elections, please note that the nomination forms are in church and completed forms should go to Christine Solway, via the Parish Office. The APCM documentation is published on the website from the PCC page. Please note that the finance documents will be added after approval at the PCC meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> May.

**Zoom prayer with June on Mondays –** A support chat and prayer room each week. I you're interested in joining, do call her for more details (771756).

The church is open for personal prayer from 11am to 1pm every day An opportunity to spend some comforting time in prayer, peace and reflection. Piano music is played on Tuesdays 11-11:30am and on Fridays 12-12.30pm. Prayer between 11-11.30am on Wednesdays will have Tiny Tots alongside.

Notes from Open Forum to discuss music and worship - The notes from the recent forum are available on our website's Music Page. We hope a subsequent step soon will be face-to-face discussion, but it was good to start talking. One outcome we're hoping for is the recommencement (and re-imagining) of the Director of Music appointment process.

Holiday Bible Week 2021 'Eyewitness', 2<sup>nd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> August – The committee continues to meet online to pray and plan for HBW 2021. We are sad that we cannot hold HBW in person this year for all the safety of all involved. HOWEVER - we are feeling very hopeful as plan for an online virtual HBW with entertaining games, crafts, songs and teaching for children of our town! Keep your eyes peeled for the registration forms!

Could you offer your talents as a steward for a maximum of two hours once a week? We have been blessed with wonderful stewarding support for nearly a year now. Whilst current restrictions are in place we still need stewards and would love to continue to open the church each day. Everybody who visits is very grateful for the church being open for prayer. Could you assist? Please contact Rosemary if you're interested: 758389

CSG Red Bucket Appeal for St Vincent volcano eruption - The Diocese of the Windward Islands (where St Vincent is situated) has been our companion diocese for over 20 years. Bishop Alan has sent a request to churches for prayers and donations, "There are many needs associated with the impact of the eruption on the island including the displacement 20,000 people. Many of these are in emergency shelters, some of which are provided by the Diocese. There will be substantial needs for rebuilding and renewal in the months and years to come". The red bucket will be in church on 9th and 23rd May. For donation by bank transfer rather than cash/cheque (to St Michael's PCC Missions) click here.

The Stations of the Cross and the Stations of Easter – The reflections are available as an A5 printout on the prayer page of our website until Ascension Day in case you'd like to revisit them.

More details of all services and events are available on the Calendar page on our website. Do follow us on Social Media too, for regular updates.

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