

Christ Church ERITH

Sunday 10th May 2026

Sixth of Easter

10.00am Parish Communion (11)

PLEASE take this Pew Sheet home with you after the service. However, please **do NOT take home the Order of Service book**. Please return it to the table at the back of church after the service.

Today's Hymns

Opening: **242** *Immortal, invisible, God only wise*

Gradual: **170** *God is love: let heav'n adore him*

Offertory: **4** *A new commandment*

Communion: **463** *Sweet sacrament divine*

231 *I heard the voice of Jesus say*

352 *Now let us from this table rise*

Hymn during special collection: **336** *Mine eyes have seen the glory*

Closing: **298** *Let there be love shared among us*

The Collect

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.

Reading: Acts 17.22-31

Then Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, ‘Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way. For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, “To an unknown god.” What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. From one ancestor he made all nations to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, so that they would search for God and perhaps grope for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. For “In him we live and move and have our being”; as even some of your own poets have said, “For we too are his offspring.” Since we are God’s offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold, or silver, or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.’

Gospel: John 14.15-21

‘If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you for ever. This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

‘I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who

love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them.'

Post Communion Prayer: God our Father, whose Son Jesus Christ gives the water of eternal life: may we thirst for you, the spring of life and source of goodness, through him who is alive and reigns, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Notices

SPECIAL COLLECTION FOR THE ENERGY BILL - UPDATE: We are pleased to share that the total donations received in April amounted to **£459.75**. Thank you sincerely for your prayers, kindness, and generous giving. We continue to press on together as the body of Christ, trusting and thanking God for His faithful provision. *Revd Anthea*

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING will follow today's service in church. This includes elections for a number of church officers.

ASCENSION DAY – Thursday 14 May 7.30pm: There will be a joint service with St John's, here at Christ Church.

MIDWEEK PRAYER SERVICES: Monday Morning Prayer - at 9am online via Teams. Link is on www.christchurcherith.org.uk and Facebook, and can be shared. **Thursday Morning Prayer** – 9am at Christ Church. **Tuesday Evening Prayer** – 5pm at St John's.

JUNIOR DISCIPLES CLUB for ages 3.5 – 11 years, every Sunday except the first of each month, meet in the Church Hall 10-10.30am, and then join the service.

ELEVATED YOUTH GROUP for ages 12-18 years meet in the Church Hall 7-9pm on the **third and fourth Fridays** of each month.

TODDLER CHURCH continues every **Tuesday at 9.00 – 10.30am** in the church hall.

MESSY CHURCH continues on the third Friday of each month at 3.30 – 5.45pm in the church hall, next date is this **Friday, 15 May**.

St JOHN'S SILVER BIRCH CLUB continues on **Thursday 4 June, 12pm-2.30pm at St John's Community Hall**. Please take a leaflet at the back of church.

GAMES NIGHTS: Come and join us for an evening of fun and games - all ages welcome. The next sessions are at **St Johns Hall this Tuesday, 12 May**, then at **Christ Church Hall on Friday 22 May, both 7pm – 9pm.**

LOVE TO SING: Join us for fun, music and dancing on the third Thursday of each month. Next date is this **Thursday, 14 May at 10.45am – 12.15pm in church (Christ Church)**. This event is in collaboration with *Memory Lane Melodies*, a *Home Instead* programme. Christ Church is collaborating with them in providing the space as part of our outreach.

ALTAR FLOWERS: Most of you know these are sponsored weekly by church members to remember special occasions such as birthdays and anniversaries. Unfortunately, as with everything else, the cost of flowers has risen and although for the past few years I have been able to buy them at £5, the current general price is £7-8. **I am short of sponsors for the next few months and am looking for such people.** As we have choir immediately after service it is not easy for me to talk to and approach people regarding this. I will be around at the Women's Group meeting after the service today with a list of available dates to be filled. If you can't please speak to me then, please ring me on 07958 736781. *Heather*

PENTECOST PILGRIMAGE WALK: Pilgrimage is journey to a holy place. It is an ancient Christian devotion where people carry their own prayers and the prayers of others along that journey to offer at their destination. Following in the footsteps of generations of pilgrims walking from London to Canterbury, we will be holding a pilgrimage on **Saturday 23rd May 2026**. We will meet at **Lesnes Abbey ruins at 10am** where there will be a short act of worship and finish at St John's at approximately 12 noon with another short act of worship and lunch. The total distance is roughly 2.5 miles. This will mostly be on good paths, although some of these will be woodland paths. There are no huge hills along the way, but please note that the route is not entirely flat and does include the set of steps and the footbridge over the railway. There will be two opportunities to join part way along the route:

- The end of the woods at the top of St Augustine's Road at approx. 10:45am
- The junction of Halt Robin Road and Gladeswood Road at approx. 11:15am

Please sign up at the back of church, noting any dietary requirements. For more information, please speak to Rev Amy.

CONFIRMATION SERVICE: Sunday 7th June 4pm at All Saints Belvedere.

CHURCH CLEANING exercises are starting in June.

The rota is out and available at the back of the church for those that put their names forward for these exercises.

If you did not find your name on the rota and you indicated to be part of this group, please contact Francis Egege or the church warden.

Also, if you wish to join the church cleaning exercises, contact Francis Egege or a Churchwarden to add you on the rota.

THE OFFERTORY and GIFT AID: You can pay into the following account by bank transfer: **Account Name:** *Christ Church, Erith.* **Sort Code:** *40-20-25* **Account Number:** *01166395.*

We are also able to take contactless payments using our card machine at the back of church. There is also a collection of cash offertory during the service. If you are a UK taxpayer, please use a **Gift Aid envelope** for your donation, and fill in the details on the printed form on the envelope.

COMMUNITY PRAYERS: This week we pray especially for our **local employers and small businesses**, and for the **Bexley Food Bank**.

TODAY'S second New Testament Lectionary reading is 1 Peter 3.13-22.

Next Week

Readings for the Ascension Day Service at 7.30pm on Thursday 14 May:

Acts 1.1-11 *Gospel:* Luke 24.44-end

Readings for the Service of the Word at 10.00am on Sunday 17 May:

Acts 1.6-14 *Gospel:* John 17.1-11

Contact Details

Vicar: Revd Anthea Harris-Faulkner Tel: 01322 334729
Day off: Wednesday vicar@stjohnandchristchurcherith.org.uk

Assistant Curate: Revd Amy Brown Tel: 07481 194672
Day off: Friday curate@stjohnandchristchurcherith.org.uk

Churchwardens: Natalie Slator and Ben Milton-Cole
churchwarden@christchurcherith.org.uk

Licenced Lay Minister: Funmi Makanju fmakay@aol.com

Church Mobile Contact: 07764 476277

Weddings: Please contact a Churchwarden

Baptisms: Heather Taylor Tel: 07958 736781

Website: www.christchurcherith.org.uk

Contact details of other office holders are available at the back of church.