

Christ Church ERITH

Sunday 17th May 2026

Seventh of Easter

10.00am Service of the Word (23)

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: **81** *Christ triumphant, ever reigning*

Gradual: **204** *He is Lord, he is Lord*

Offertory: **153** *Give me joy in my heart*

Closing: **235** *I the Lord of sea and sky*

The Collect

**O God the King of glory,
you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ
with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven:
we beseech you, leave us not comfortless,
but send your Holy Spirit to strengthen us
and exalt us to the place where our Saviour Christ is gone before,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.
Amen.**

Reading: Acts 1.6-14

So when they had come together, they asked him, 'Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?' He replied, 'It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.' When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up towards heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, 'Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up towards heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.'

Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day's journey away. When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying, Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

Gospel: John 17.1-11

After Jesus had spoken these words, he looked up to heaven and said, 'Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed. 'I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in

truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.

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*

NEXT SUNDAY there will be an Ecumenical Service at St Johns, starting at **10.30am**. This is a joint service which also involves Queen Street Baptist Church. **There is no service at Christ Church on this day.** The next service at Christ Church is a joint service of Parish Communion (with St Johns) at 10.00am on Sunday 31 May.

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 **Friday 19 June**.

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 **Christ Church Hall on Friday 22 May**, then at **St Johns Hall on Tuesday 9 June, 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, 21 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*

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.

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 this **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.

COMMUNITY PRAYERS: This week we pray especially for the residents of **Elm Grove** and **Elmstead Road**.

TODAY'S second New Testament Lectionary reading is 1 Peter 4.12-14; 5.6-11.

Next Week

Readings for the Ecumenical Service at St Johns, 10.30am on Sunday 24 May:

Acts 2.1-21 *Gospel:* John 20.19-23

Contact Details

Vicar: Revd Anthea Harris-Faulkner Tel: 01322 334729
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Assistant Curate: Revd Amy Brown Tel: 07481 194672
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Churchwardens: Natalie Slator and Ben Milton-Cole
churchwarden@christchurcherith.org.uk

Licensed 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.