

Reflection for Easter 7

Prayers in times of change

God of Yesterday, We knew you then: your promises; your words; your walking among us. But yesterday is gone. And so, today, we are in need of change. Change and change us. Help us to see life now not through yesterday's stories but through today's.

Amen

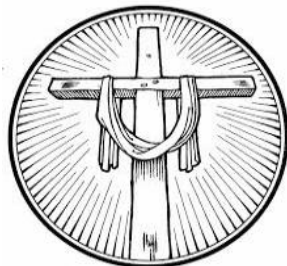
God of Endings, What we thought would not end has ended. And we find ourselves here wondering where we are and how we got here and where to go from here.

Be with us, here, at the end. Help us place our feet on this ground help us lick our wounds, help us look up and around. Help us believe the story of today. Because you know all about the endings of today. and you are not afraid.

Amen.

Corrymeela Community

Rev Sarah



Codes for the Zoom worship at 10.30

These are codes for Sundays from 11.04.21 until the end of June

Meeting ID: 843 1587 4178

Passcode: 180903

Telephone numbers (as previously) 0203 051 2874, 0203 481 5237, 0203 481 5240, 0131 460 1196

NEXT SUNDAY 23.05.2021 Pentecost

SERVICES 10.30am by Zoom, 12 noon in Church

READINGS



OT	Acts 2: 1-21
NT	Romans 8: 22-27
Gospel	John 15: 26-27; & 16: 4b-15

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St Thomas, Exeter

Sunday 16th May 2021

7th Sunday of Easter

10am by Zoom (phone-in available)

12 noon Mass in Church

Revised pewsheets—please use this one!

We have our **APCM this week**, immediately following the Zoom worship, so please note the earlier start at **10 o'clock**. Similar to last year, this will be a 'bare bones' meeting. I will look in more detail at the Staff Report during the 12 noon Mass. Start time for Pentecost Sunday is as previously: 10.30am

The period from Ascension to Pentecost has recently focussed on the project **Thy Kingdom Come**. We are distributing hard copies of a workbook consisting of Bible readings, reflections, prayers and a space for your own writing. Please do use these if they are helpful—you will be part of a global movement. More online info at <https://www.thykingdomcome.global/>

We also have a 'prayer room' to fill with our worship on **Friday 21/05 12-1**. I shall send out a link to this when I receive it, but it would be good to note in diaries.

Lines from an **Ascension-tide** hymn:

Spirit of God, on the waste and the darkness/hov'ring in power as creation began,/drawing forth beauty from clay and from chaos,/breathing God's life in the nostrils of man.

Fr David



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**

Acts 1: 15-17, 21-26

In those days Peter stood up among the believers (together the crowd numbered about one hundred and twenty people) and said, 'Friends, the scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit through David foretold concerning Judas, who became a guide for those who arrested Jesus—for he was numbered among us and was allotted his share in this ministry.' So one of the men who have accompanied us throughout the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, beginning from the baptism of John until the day when he was taken up from us—one of these must become a witness with us to his resurrection.' So they proposed two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was also known as Justus, and Matthias. Then they prayed and said, 'Lord, you know everyone's heart. Show us which one of these two you have chosen to take the place in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own place.' And they cast lots for them, and the lot fell on Matthias; and he was added to the eleven apostles.

1 John 5: 9-13

If we receive human testimony, the testimony of God is greater; for this is the testimony of God that he has testified to his Son. Those who believe in the Son of God have the testimony in their hearts. Those who do not believe in God have made him a liar by not believing in the testimony that God has given concerning his Son. And this is the testi-

mony: God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life. I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life.

John 17: 6-19

Jesus said, '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. While I was with them, I protected them in your name that you have given me. I guarded them, and not one of them was lost except the one destined to be lost, so that the scripture might be fulfilled. But now I am coming to you, and I speak these things in the world so that they may have my joy made complete in themselves. I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. I am not asking you to take them out of the world, but I ask you to protect them from the evil one. They do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. As you have sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world.⁹ And for their sakes I sanctify myself, so that they also may be sanctified in truth.

Post Communion

Eternal God, giver of love and power, your Son Jesus Christ has sent us into all the world to preach the gospel of his kingdom: confirm us in this mission, and help us to live the good news we proclaim; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

NOTICES

Knit and Natter *Update for May 2021*

We are still in agreement that these cold east winds are preventing us meeting in the park. We are keeping a close eye on The Roadmap and will see how we may meet after 17th May. In the meanwhile, we shall continue with the regular Thursday Zoom, from 11.15am to 11.55am, to which all are welcome. All details from Jenny on 01392 498725.

Annual Meeting Sunday 16 May at 10.30am after the service, by Zoom, talk in Church.

House Group. Tuesday evenings. Please contact Ian Totterdell for Zoom details.

Community Larder The Community Larder will be collecting on **Tuesdays only** from 10am-12noon. The collecting point is in the Church Hall. Judith Southam has **homemade chutneys for sale** The jars are labelled with a full list of ingredients. All proceeds will be given to the Community Larder. Please continue to be generous.

200 Club If you would like to join the 200 Club please see Andrew Withers. The draw recently took place and the winners are:

January: Helena Withers & Dan Wright
February: Ian Totterdell & Christine Sturman
March: Nigel Byott & Trevor Smith
April: June Farmer & Phil Baker