

Sunday 22nd May 2022
Sixth Sunday of Easter

10.00 a.m. Family Communion and Finn's Baptism

4.00 p.m. Tea-time Church

Collect for Today

Risen Christ, by the lakeside you renewed your call to your disciples: help your Church to obey your command and draw the nations to the fire of your love, to the glory of God the Father. **Amen**

Service Readings

Acts 16:9-15 (*p.132*), Revelation 21:10, 22-22:5 (*p.257*) and John 14:23-29 (*p.106*)

Please pray for

... Pauline Coulter, Jo & David Garrick, Alan Humphreys and Yvonne Quittenton.

... the family and friends of Isobel Cleave, Surrey Swayne and Elsie Attewell whose anniversary of death is at this time.

... those who live and work in Old Court Road, Old Palace Road and Orchard Road.

... our Mission partners, the Koens Family, visiting friends and family in the States.

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.**

Dear Friends

Today we will be witnessing the baptism of Finn Smalley and it is a delight to welcome the friends and family of his parents, Phil and Jo.

As Finn sets out on his journey with Jesus, one of the Bible passages today tells us of another journey that was far from straightforward. St Paul, the missionary extraordinaire, was travelling through Asia Minor establishing churches as he went. He no doubt had a plan of where he was going but, in various ways, God prompted him to take a different route. The result: he ended up on a different continent entirely – Europe.

The first city where he stopped was Philippi, a Roman colony in Northern Greece, where he met a very wealthy businesswoman called Lydia. She dealt in purple cloth, an exclusive and expensive material due to the heavy cost of producing the purple dye.

Although she knew about God and worshipped him, she clearly had not heard about Jesus and what belief in him could offer. Paul explained his message to her and her friends and the writer then simply says: “the Lord opened her heart”.

Lydia responded to Paul’s message about Jesus and was baptised, together with all her household.

Martyn

Mission Focus for May: Christian Aid

Everyone is equal in the sight of God. For over 75 years, this truth has inspired Christian Aid to stand together in solidarity with our most marginalised global neighbours, of all faiths and none. Poverty is an outrage against humanity. It robs people of their dignity and lets injustice thrive. Christian Aid seeks to eradicate extreme poverty by tackling its root causes. Together with people living in poverty, they amplify their voices to speak truth to those in power and create lasting change. Please pray for a successful Christian Aid Week with wide reaching publicity and good fund-raising. Also pray for beneficiaries of the aid that their lives will be transformed.

Notices

Welcome to family and friends of Finn Smalley – who is being baptised at our 10am service this morning.

Welcome to Thomas and Helen whose banns are being read for the first time today.

Tea time church at 4pm today – we'll be hearing the story of Lydia, and her baptism in a river. Do come and join us!

A big 'thank-you' to everyone who washed cars, had their car washed, and who baked and ate cakes at our Car Wash & Cake Sale yesterday. Christian Aid will truly value the generous donations.

Work morning – next Saturday morning we'll be gathering together to do lots of odd jobs around the church and field. Do join us for any time you can spare between 9.30am-1.30pm. Coffee and cake provided!

Vicarage Garden lunches are back! Please let Beverly know if you'd like to come for lunch on either Wednesday 8th June or Thursday 16th June, 12.30-2.30pm. Anyone is welcome to come along for food, fellowship and to enjoy some time together. (If wet we'll meet in the Vicarage).

Tea-time church will be hosting a Teddy Bears' Picnic – 4pm Sunday 29th May on the field (in church if wet). Suitable for families with pre-school age children but everyone is welcome. Bring a picnic and your teddy!

Confirmation classes – we're planning to run a confirmation course this term ahead of a deanery confirmation service in September. The course will run for 6 sessions from 19th June to 24th July, 2.30-3.30pm in the Reading Room. If you would be interested in attending this 6-week course with a view to being confirmed, please let Beverly or Andy Wells know.

Calling anyone interested in our young people - the youth group needs you! From September the youth group will be meeting once a month and needs volunteers who are willing to help run the group. We meet from 5.30-7.30pm on a Sunday evening for games, food and a short discussion. It is very relaxed and fun. Anyone interested please contact Jeanette.

Library & Book Stall coordinator needed – if you have some spare time and would like to take and promote and develop our library (day to day admin not included) please let Beverly know.

Ascension Day – we'll be holding a communion service at 9.15am this Thursday. All welcome. We'll be serving coffee and cake afterwards.

'Thy Kingdom Come' starts this Thursday. It's nine days set aside for prayer between Ascension and Pentecost. During these nine days, we'll be able to enjoy a labyrinth in the Garden of Remembrance and some prayer stations in the chapel.

Diary for the Coming Week

Morning prayer Mon to Weds 9.15am in church and on Zoom.

Holy Communion on Thursday at 9.15am (followed by coffee and cake)

Mon 23 rd	Barnabas Group, 4.30pm, 26 Manor Way
Tues 24 th	Vision Group Chairs Meeting, 2.00pm, Vicarage Central Team (Beverly, Henrietta, Robin, Trish), 5.15pm, Zoom
Weds 25 th	Tea-time Church Planning, 2.30pm, Vicarage
Thurs 26 th	<i>Ascension Day and the start of 'Thy Kingdom Come'</i> Holy Communion, 9.15am, Church followed by coffee and cake
Fri 27 th	Toddler Group, 9.30am, Church Friday Group, 3.00pm, Reading Room
Sat 28 th	Work Morning, 9.30am-1.30pm Band Get-together, 4.00pm, Church
Sun 29 th	Family Communion, 10.00am Tea-time Church 'Teddy Bears' Picnic', 4.00pm, Field (or church if wet)

Daily Readings for the coming week

Mon 23 rd	Ps. 65, Numbers 16:1-35, Luke 6:27-38
Tues 24 th	Ps. 126, Numbers 16:36-end, Luke 6:39-end
Weds 25 th	Ps. 132, Numbers 17:1-11, Luke 7:1-10
Thurs 26 th	Ps. 110, Isaiah 52:7-end, Hebrews 7:11-25,26-end
Fri 27 th	Ps. 81, Numbers 20:1-13, Luke 7:11-17
Sat 28 th	Ps. 47, Numbers 21:4-9, Luke 7:18-35

Service Readings for Sunday 29th May: 7th of Easter

Acts 16:16-34, Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21 and John 17:20-26

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