



7th May 2023
5th Sunday of Easter

St James' Church
www.stjamesexeter.org Exeter

Rector

Fr Henry Pryse 01392 431297
Day off: Thursday

Assistant Priest

Fr Martin Poolton 01392 477488
Day off: Saturday

Parish Office

Mount Pleasant Road, Exeter. EX4 7AH.
01392 420407. office@stjamesexeter.org
Charity register number: 1128877

Notices

Big Cream Tea

To offer scones/jam and/or a donation towards the cost of the bouncy castle for this free event, please add your name to the list at the back of the church.

Dates Ahead

Thu 18th May
7.00 pm Ascension Day Eucharist

Fri 19th May
2.00 pm Craft Group

Sun 21st May
2.00 pm Big Cream Tea

Fri 26th May
10.30 am Coffee Morning

Collect

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ is the resurrection and the life: raise us, who trust in him, from the death of sin to the life of righteousness, that we may seek those things which are above, where he reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

10.00 am Music

Processional hymn	228	Good Christians All, Rejoice and Sing
Offertory hymn	86	Christ is Made the Sure Foundation
Communion music		Psalm 31: 1 – 5, 7 – 10, 13 – 17a & 19 – 24
National Anthem	214	God Save Our Gracious King (omit verse 3)
Recessional hymn	622	The Church's One Foundation

This Week

Morning Prayer is said at 8.30 am

Online: Mon, Wed

In the church: Tue, Thu, Fri

Mon 8th May John 14: 21 – 26

Public Holiday: No Morning Prayer

7.00 pm Choir practice

Tue 9th May John 14: 27 – 31

Wed 10th May John 15: 1 – 8

12.00 noon Holy Communion

Thu 11th May John 15: 9 – 11

Fri 12th May John 15: 12 – 17

Sat 13th May John 15: 18 – 21

Next Sunday: 14th May

6th Sunday of Easter John 14: 1 – 14

8.00 am Holy Communion

10.00 am Parish Eucharist

6.00 pm Evening Prayer & Benediction

TODAY

**3.30 pm Meet the King of Instruments
Free Organ Concert**

Sharing God's love through worship, fellowship and service

First Reading: Acts 7: 55-60

Standing before the high priest and the council, Stephen, filled with the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. 'Look,' he said, 'I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!' But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, 'Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.' Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, 'Lord, do not hold this sin against them.' When he had said this, he died.

Second Reading: 1 Peter 2: 2-10

Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation – if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good. Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight. Like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For it stands in scripture: 'See, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious; and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.' To you then who believe, he is precious; but for those who do not believe, 'The stone that the builders rejected has become the very head of the corner,' and 'A stone that makes them stumble, and a rock that makes them fall.' They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do. But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvellous light. Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

Gospel Reading: John 14: 1-14

Jesus said to his disciples: 'Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling-places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going.' Thomas said to him, 'Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?' Jesus said to him, 'I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.' Philip said to him, 'Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.' Jesus said to him, 'Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, "Show us the Father"? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.'

Post-Communion Prayer

Eternal God, whose Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life: grant us to walk in his way, to rejoice in his truth, and to share his risen life; who is alive and reigns, now and for ever.

Psalm 31: 1-5, 7-10, 13-17a & 19-24

In you I've taken refuge, Lord;
You are my shelter in distress.

O let me never be ashamed,
But save me in your righteousness.

Lord, turn your ear to hear my cry;
Come quickly to deliver me,
And be my rock and firm defence,
My stronghold and security.

You are my fortress and my rock;
For your name's sake be my sure guide.
Preserve me from the trap that's set;
You are the refuge where I hide.

I will rejoice and take delight
In all the love that you have shown,
For my affliction you have seen;
To you my soul's distress is known.

You have not left me to my foe
Or given me into his hand;
But you have set my feet within
A spacious place where I may stand.

Be merciful to me, O Lord,
For my distress knows no relief;
My eyes grow weak with sorrow's tears,
My soul and body with my grief.

My life in anguish is consumed;
My years pass by with many groans.
Through misery my strength has failed,
And greatly weakened are my bones.

I hear the slander many spread,
And terror stalks me all the way.
Against me enemies conspire;
They plot to take my life away.

But as for me, I trust you, Lord;
I say, "You are my God alone."
My times are ever in your hands;
Save me from foes who hunt me down.

Upon your servant shine your face;
Save me in your unfailing love.
Lord, let me not be put to shame,
For I have cried to God above.

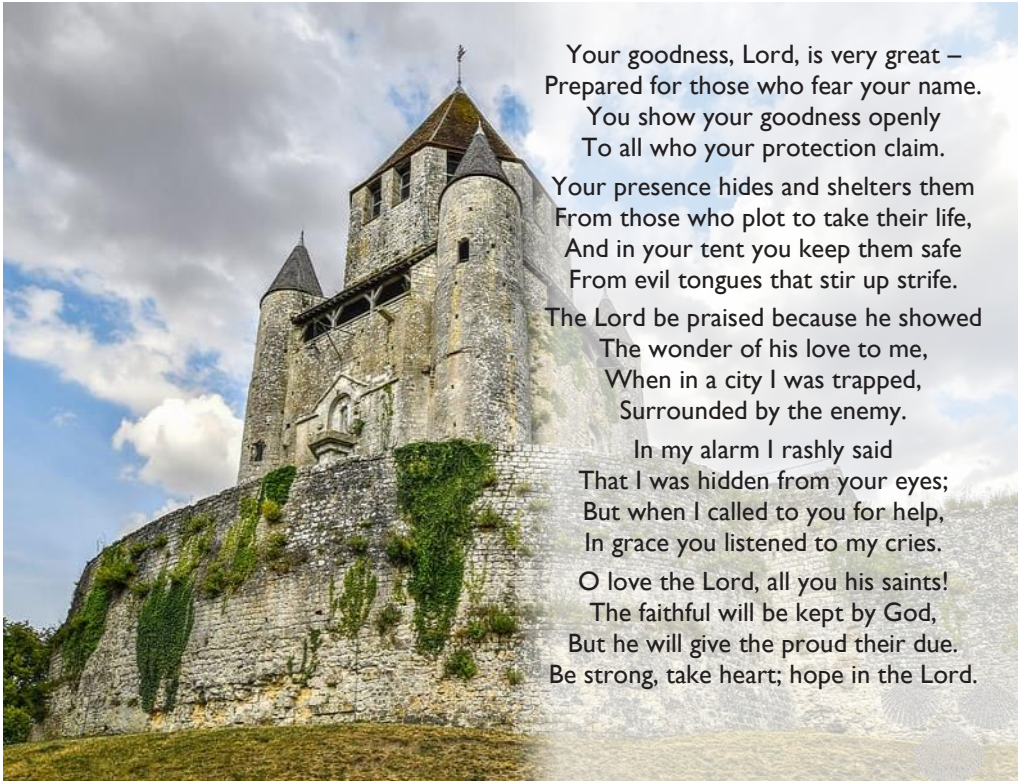
Your goodness, Lord, is very great –
Prepared for those who fear your name.
You show your goodness openly
To all who your protection claim.

Your presence hides and shelters them
From those who plot to take their life,
And in your tent you keep them safe
From evil tongues that stir up strife.

The Lord be praised because he showed
The wonder of his love to me,
When in a city I was trapped,
Surrounded by the enemy.

In my alarm I rashly said
That I was hidden from your eyes;
But when I called to you for help,
In grace you listened to my cries.

O love the Lord, all you his saints!
The faithful will be kept by God,
But he will give the proud their due.
Be strong, take heart; hope in the Lord.





The cherry tree planted in memory of Queen Elizabeth II is in flower and the gardens are looking spectacular. Many thanks for your donations towards the cost of the tree and to all who help to keep our gardens and lawns looking so beautiful.