



**Weekly Newsletter for
The Benefice of Evesham, All Saints
with Norton & Lenchwick, St Egwin**

Readings and Notices for
Sunday 30th March 2025
Mothering Sunday



SERVICES AND EVENTS FOR TODAY

Time	Service/Event	Church/Venue	Details
8.00 am	Holy Communion	All Saints	President & Preacher: Revd Caroline Green
10.00 am	Parish Communion	All Saints	President & Preacher: Revd Canon John Green

Service book: Mothering Sunday

Music setting: Archer

Sides: Roberta Matthews, Sara Greedy

Readers: John Inwood,
Roberta Matthews

Intercessions: Rosie Grove

Coffee: Rosie Grove, Rebecca Whiting.

Hymn

All people that on earth do dwell,
sing to the Lord with cheerful voice.
Him serve with mirth, his praise forth
tell,
come ye before him and rejoice.

Know that the Lord is God indeed;
without our aid he did us make;
we are his folk, he doth us feed,
and for his sheep he doth us take.

Oh, enter then his gates with praise,
approach with joy his courts unto:
praise, laud, and bless his name always,
for it is seemly so to do.

For why? the Lord our God is good,
his mercy is for ever sure;
his truth at all times firmly stood,
and shall from age to age endure.

Collect

God our redeemer, who prepared the
Blessed Virgin Mary to be the mother
of your Son: grant that, as she looked
for his coming as our saviour, so we
may be ready to greet him when he
comes again as our judge; who is alive
and reigns with you, in the unity of the
Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. .

Amen

**First reading – a reading from the
book of Exodus**

Now a man from the house of Levi
went and married a Levite woman. The
woman conceived and bore a son; and
when she saw that he was a fine baby,
she hid him for three months. When

she could hide him no longer she got a papyrus basket for him, and plastered it with bitumen and pitch; she put the child in it and placed it among the reeds on the bank of the river. His sister stood at a distance, to see what would happen to him.

The daughter of Pharaoh came down to bathe at the river, while her attendants walked beside the river. She saw the basket among the reeds and sent her maid to bring it. When she opened it, she saw the child. He was crying, and she took pity on him. 'This must be one of the Hebrews' children,' she said. Then his sister said to Pharaoh's daughter, 'Shall I go and get you a nurse from the Hebrew women to nurse the child for you?' Pharaoh's daughter said to her, 'Yes.' So the girl went and called the child's mother. Pharaoh's daughter said to her, 'Take this child and nurse it for me, and I will give you your wages.' So the woman took the child and nursed it. When the child grew up, she brought him to Pharaoh's daughter, and she took him as her son. She named him Moses, 'because', she said, 'I drew him out of the water.'

Exodus 2.1-10

Second Reading – a reading from the second letter of Paul to the Corinthians

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and the God of all consolation, who consoles us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to console those who are in any affliction with the consolation with which we ourselves are consoled by God. For just as the sufferings of

Christ are abundant for us, so also our consolation is abundant through Christ. If we are being afflicted, it is for your consolation and salvation; if we are being consoled, it is for your consolation, which you experience when you patiently endure the same sufferings that we are also suffering. Our hope for you is unshaken; for we know that as you share in our sufferings, so also you share in our consolation.

2 Corinthians 1.3-7

Hymn

Mothering God, you gave me birth
in the bright morning of this world.
Creator, source of every breath,
you are my rain, my wind, my sun.

Mothering Christ, you took my form,
offering me your food of light,
grain of life, and grape of love,
your very body for my peace.

Mothering Spirit, nurturing one,
in arms of patience hold me close,
so that in faith I root and grow,
until I flower, until I know.

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, 'Greetings, favoured one! The Lord is with you.' But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to

her, 'Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favour with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob for ever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.' Mary said to the angel, 'How can this be, since I am a virgin?' The angel said to her, 'The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God.' Then Mary said, 'Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.' Then the angel departed from her. *Luke 1:26-38*

Poem: Annunciation

by Denise Levertov

*'Hail, space for the uncontained God'
From the Agathistos Hymn Greece. VIc*

We know the scene: the room, variously furnished,
almost always a lectern, a book; always the tall lily.
Arrived on solemn grandeur of great wings.
the angelic ambassador, standing or hovering,
whom she acknowledges, a guest.

But we are told of meek obedience. No one mentions courage.

The engendering Spirit
did not enter her without consent.
God waited.

She was free
to accept or to refuse, choice
integral to humanness.

Aren't 'there annunciations
of one sort or another
in most lives?

Some unwillingly undertake great destinies,
enact them in sullen pride,
uncomprehending.

More often
those moments
when roads of light and storm
open from darkness in a man or woman,
are turned away from
in dread, in a wave of weakness, in
despair
and with relief.

Ordinary lives continue.
God does not smite them.
But the gates close the pathway
vanishes.

She had been a child who played, ate,
slept
like any other child - but unlike others,
wept only for pity, laughed
in joy not triumph.
Compassion and intelligence
fused in her, indivisible.
Called to a destiny more momentous
than any in all of Time,
she did not quail,
only asked
a simple, 'How can this be?'

and gravely, courteously,
took to heart the angel's reply,
perceiving instantly
the astounding ministry she was
offered:

to bear in her womb
Infinite weight and lightness; to carry
in hidden, finite inwardness.
nine months of Eternity; to contain
in slender vase of being,
the sum of power –
in narrow flesh,
the sum of light.

Then bring to birth,
push out into air, a Man-child
needing, like any other,
milk and love –
but who was God.

*From: The Siream & the Sapphire:
Selected Poems on Religious Themes*

Offertory Hymn

Oh, for a closer walk with God,
a calm and heavenly frame,
a light to shine upon the road
that leads me to the Lamb!

Where is the blessedness I knew
when first I saw the Lord?
Where is the soul-refreshing view
of Jesus and his word?

What peaceful hours I once enjoyed!
How sweet their memory still!
But they have left an aching void
the world can never fill.

Return, O Holy Dove! return,
sweet messenger of rest!
I hate the sins that made thee mourn,
and drove thee from my breast.

The dearest idol I have known,
whate'er that idol be,
help me to tear it from thy throne,
and worship only thee.

So shall my walk be close with God,
calm and serene my frame;
so purer light shall mark the road
that leads me to the Lamb.

Hymn

Bread of heaven, on thee we feed,
for thy flesh is meat indeed;
ever may our souls be fed
with this true and living bread;
day by day with strength supplied
through the life of him who died.

Vine of heaven, thy blood supplies
this blest cup of sacrifice;
Lord, thy wounds our healing give,
to thy cross we look and live:
Jesus may we ever be
grafted, rooted, built in thee.

Post Communion Prayer

Lord God, whose blessed Son our
Saviour gave his back to the smiters and
did not hide his face from shame: give us
grace to endure the sufferings of this
present time with sure confidence in the
glory that shall be revealed; through
Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Hymn

Now thank we all our God,
with heart and hands and voices,
who wondrous things hath done,
in whom his world rejoices;
who from our mother's arms
hath blessed us on our way
with countless gifts of love,
and still is ours today.

O may this bounteous God
through all our life be near us,
with ever joyful hearts
and blessed peace to cheer us;
and keep us in his grace,
and guide us when perplexed,
and free us from all ills
in this world and the next.

All praise and thanks to God
the Father now be given,
the Son, and him who reigns
with them in highest heaven,
the one eternal God,
whom earth and heaven adore,
for thus it was, is now,
and shall be evermore.

Notices

Electoral Roll

This year we have to renew our electoral roll. This involves anyone who is on, or wishes to be on, needing to complete a form. There are copies of the form at the back of church but it would be really helpful if you could complete one online if possible—if we have an email address for you, you will receive a notification containing the form. Alternatively, go to the Church website and use the link.

Weekly Intercessions for week beginning 30th March 2025

Those who are sick, particularly this week we mention:

Carole Vizer, Ann Linehan, Doreen Tyler, Carol Sheehan, Jean Whitehouse, Jim Jarvis, Peggy Greedy, John Liggitt.

Those who have recently died:

Joyce Ruff, Robert Haines

Year's Mind: Barbara Harris, Pauline McLaren-Humphrey, Thomas Wilkinson, Jeanette Hopkins, Jo Morgan, Leslie Tanner, Clifford Hall

Lent Course

The Lent course continues tomorrow at 7pm, All Saints, focussing on living with what we have been given, accepting the ups and downs.

Thanks

Our thanks go to Jayne and Rosie for doing the flower posies for today.

Luba

Please keep Luba in your prayers as she heads off for more translating work with the MOD, this time in Kiev. She flies into Poland and then is being driven to Kiev to work. She won't have any contact with the UK for three months but will be able to contact family and friends living in Ukraine. She leaves her partner Ian and brother Roman and his wife here. MOD will contact them if anything happens.

Services and Events for the week ahead

Monday 31st March

- 10.00 am Contemplative Worship, in All Saints,
led by Revd Dr Prajna Lad
- 6.30 pm Yellow Scarf in Church House Lounge
- 7.00 pm Lent course, in All Saints.

Tuesday 1st April

- 10.30 am Finance meeting, Church House

Wednesday 2nd April

- 9.30 am Stay and Play in All Saints
- 10.00 am Yellow Scarf in Church House Lounge
- 10.30 am Holy Communion at Greenhill Park Care Home.
President: Revd Caroline Green
- 7.00 pm PCC meeting, All Saints.

Thursday 3rd April

- 10.00 am Holy Communion in All Saints
President & Preacher: Revd Andy Green
Followed by coffee in church

Friday 4th April

- 2.00 pm Tea Service in All Saints
- 7.00 pm Quiz night, in All Saints

Sunday 6th April

- 8.00 am Holy Communion in All Saints
President & Preacher: Revd Caroline Green
- 10.00 am Service of Worship in St Egwin's. Led by Lee Fisher
- 10.00 am Holy Communion in All Saints
President & Preacher: Revd Caroline Green
Sides: Amy Hall-Cook, David Hall
Readers: Amy Hall-Cook, Jim Jarvis
Intercessions: Amanda Palmer
Coffee: Pam & Jim Osborne
- 12.00 noon Prince Henry's High School Bring & Sing Rehearsal, in All Saints.
- 7.00 pm Bring & Sing performance in All Saints

SERVICES FOR HOLY WEEK 2025

Monday 14 th Tuesday 15 th and Wednesday 16 th April	10.00 am 7.00 pm	Contemplative Worship <i>(Monday only)</i> Compline <i>(Mon, Tues, Weds)</i>	All Saints, Evesham St Andrews, Hampton
Maundy Thursday, 17 th April	10.00 am 7.00 pm	Said Eucharist Commemoration of the Last supper <i>using a rite from the Iona Community involving light refreshments</i>	All Saints Evesham All Saints Evesham
Good Friday 18 th April	9.30 am 11.00 am	Stations of the Cross Walk of Witness <i>(led by Churches Together)</i>	All Saints, Evesham Starting from the bottom of Bridge Street
Holy Saturday 19 th April	2.00 pm	Service of Worship for Holy Saturday	All Saints, Evesham
Easter Sunday 20 th April	6.00 am 8.00 am 10.00 am 10.00 am	Sunrise Service <i>followed by a light breakfast in Church House</i> Holy Communion <i>(said service)</i> Holy Communion <i>(with hymns)</i> Holy Communion <i>(with hymns)</i>	Abbey archway in the park All Saints, Evesham All Saints, Evesham St Egwin's, Norton

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