

Dear Friends

As I write this we stand poised at the beginning of the greatest story ever told. The twists and turns in the plot have us experiencing the highest of jubilation with dancing and singing in the streets. Palms, waves and cloaks strewn across the road in welcome. Oh so quickly the mood turns.

The last meal between friends and disciples turns sour as one of them tries to force things to go the way he thought they should and betrays Jesus,

Then the darkest moment of all. Despair, heartbreak, torture, as our Lord is cruelly, nailed to a cross lifted up and dies an horrific death alongside two criminals another given his freedom in the place of Jesus. His family and disciples looking on. Darkness falling across the land and in the hearts and minds of all that shared his life and teaching. Even 2000 + years on we feel that darkness although we know the light does return.

And then the plot twists again as He is Risen from the dead. He has won the victory over death. We are forgiven by His actions. We can celebrate!!

This is not just a story but reality. History or backstory as it is now known.

This happened! And why? Because God so loves us, each and every one of us, that he gave his only Son. That all who believe shall have eternal life.

He calls us to follow Him. Ours is not a call to an easy life for we are not of this world, and the world does not understand.

However we have a Saviour who lives within us and will never let us go.

Alleluia!



Easter Blessings

Lynne

The Church in Hope Street LEP



CHURCH NOTICES

APRIL 2023



"He is not here; He has risen!"

*Remember how He told you while He was still with you in Galilee:
'The Son of Man must be delivered over to the hands of sinners,
be crucified and, on the third day, be raised again.' Luke 24:6-7*

Mission Statement

*Our mission is to help all people understand and respond to the
depth of God's love for them*

Sunday 2nd April

Palm Sunday & St. John Parade Service

Morning Service 10:30am

Lynne le Masonry

Tuesday 4th April

Prayer & Care 9:30am-10:00am *All welcome Heather*

Coffee Morning 10:00am-11:30am

Church

Alec Stride Hall

Thursday 6th April

Maundy Thursday

Afternoon Service 3:00pm

Lynne le Masonry

Friday 7th April

Good Friday

Morning Service 11:00am

Lynne le Masonry & Stephen Morgan

Sunday 9th April

Easter Sunday & Holy Communion

Morning Service 10:30am

Lynne le Masonry

Tuesday 11th April

Prayer & Care 9:15am – 9:45am *All welcome Janet*

Coffee Morning 10:00am – 11:30am

Church

Alec Stride Hall

Sunday 16th April

Morning Service 10:30am

John Ellis

CHURCH MEETING - Monday 17th April at 2:00pm

Everyone is invited to attend this meeting which will be in the Church

Tuesday 18th April

Prayer & Care 9:15am – 9:45am *All welcome Stephen*

Coffee Morning 10:00am – 11:30am

Church

Alec Stride Hall

Sunday 23rd April

Morning Service 10:30am

Margaret Bowerman

Tuesday 25th April

Prayer & Care 9:15am – 9:45am *All welcome Alice*

Coffee Morning 10:00am – 11:30am

Church

Alec Stride Hall

Sunday 30th April

Joined Circuit Service 10:30am Rev Robert Zachar & Lynne le Masonry

*Welcoming visitors from Sittingbourne, Newington & Bearsted Methodist Churches
Followed by light refreshments in the hall*

Dates for your Diary

Taketime is a series of relaxing guided meditations
based on the stories of Jesus and the tradition of St Ignatius

Taketime Together *taketime* is meets on Fridays, 11:15am in Church
Please speak to Margaret for more information

Living with Dementia

Meetings are on 1st 3rd and any 5th Thursdays every month.

Please contact Janet for more information.

Contributions welcome for FOOD BANK & COMMUNITY BUS

Thank you for donating food items - packets, tins etc. and toiletries
for the food bank and the Community Bus.

MESSAGES

BIRTHDAYS

7th April Sid

16th April Eileen

17th April Lily

30th April Marie

Local Arrangement

Sunday 21st May 10:30am

We have a Local Arrangement planned for Sunday 21st May.

Alice's son-in-law, Joe Gregory, has offered to preach and Alice would
welcome offers of readings, poems, hymns and prayers.

There is no particular theme, so we'll see what happens!

*We also have a Local Arrangement on Sunday 9th July – Sea Sunday
An obvious theme, so offers of help with this service too would be welcome*

Thank you

Notices for May should be available from Sunday 23rd April

Please let me know if you would like something included