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Church Link

Easter VI

22 May 2022

No. 112

Almighty God,
your ascended Son has sent us into the world
to preach the good news of your kingdom:
inspire us with your Spirit
and fill our hearts with the fire of your love,
that all who hear your Word
may be drawn to you,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Thy Kingdom Come Prayer, 2022

Sunday Worship (non communion) will be at St Michael's Church in Compton Martin at 10:15am. Evening worship will be at St Bartholomew's, Ubley at 5:00pm.

Thank you to all who attended last Saturday's Christian Aid Bread and Soup Lunch in St Bartholomew's. There was a great sense of fellowship and everyone enjoyed - and joined in - the entertainment.

It's **St Andrew's Fete** tomorrow. Please support us as we raise money for the church and for two worthwhile causes (details of these below). Any last minute donations can be passed to [Penny Crawford](#). Prayers for a little more sunshine would be welcomed.

Sunshine also welcome at the **Ubley Churchyard Working Party, 9:30am - 11:30am, Saturday 21st May**. Ubley is asked to bring gloves, secateurs, bags to take garden waste away, and most importantly rakes, as we hope that the grass will have been cut.

The Queen's Platinum Jubilee will be marked by a service in each of our parishes. St Michael's is holding a short service at 10:15am and St Bartholomew's at 10:30am on 5th June

St Andrew's will also be hosting a **Jubilee Tea Party** on Sunday 5th June, at 3:30pm, preceded by a service (and we hope some celebratory bell-ringing) at 3:00pm - details below.

We look forward to welcoming you soon.

Yours in Fellowship,
Revd. Simon Lewis
Laura Williams

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Worship this Week

Easter VI

Sunday 22nd May

- 10:15am - Sunday Worship, St Michael's, Compton Martin
- 5:00pm - Evening Worship, St Bartholomew's, Ubley

Monday 23rd May

- 8:40am - Morning Prayer, St Bartholomew's, Ubley
- 9:15am - Intercessions Group, St Bartholomew's, Ubley

Tuesday 24th May

- 10:15am - Mini Melodies, a toddler group, St Andrew's Blagdon

Wednesday 25th May

- 8:40am - Morning Prayer, St Michael's, Compton Martin
- 5:00pm - Evensong, St Andrew's, Blagdon

Thursday 26th May

- 8:40am - Morning Prayer, St Andrew's, Blagdon
- 12:00pm - In the Spirit of Iona, online via Zoom

The 10:15am Eucharist on Sunday 29th May will be at St Hugh's, Charterhouse-on-Mendip

Reading and Reflection

Easter VI

Reading: Acts 16:9-15

During the night Paul had a vision: there stood a man of Macedonia pleading with him and saying, 'Come over to Macedonia and help us.' When he had seen the vision, we immediately tried to cross over to Macedonia, being convinced that God had called us to proclaim the good news to them.

The Conversion of Lydia

We set sail from Troas and took a straight course to Samothrace, the following day to Neapolis, and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony. We remained in this city for some days. On the sabbath day we went outside the gate by the river, where we supposed there was a place of prayer; and we sat down and spoke to the women who had gathered there. A certain woman named Lydia, a worshipper of God, was listening to us; she was from the city of Thyatira, a dealer in purple cloth. The Lord opened her heart to listen eagerly to what was said by Paul. When she and her household were baptised, she urged us, saying, 'If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come and stay at my home.' And she prevailed upon us.

A Reflection

Of women in the Bible there are carefully drawn pictures of their place in God's economy; there is Eve, 3 named Mary, and today, we meet another strong woman, Lydia. It is true, we do not know her very well.

For much of the Acts of the Apostles the writer, Luke (of Gospel fame; the physician, the recorder of the early Church) is most often the narrator of what he had been told. This is one of the 'we' passages; he was there, he tells what he witnessed first-hand. So . . .

Lydia is from Thyatira, a city in Asia Minor famous for its textile industry. Because it deals with only the finest linens, purchased by the wealthy and important, the city itself is wealthy; Lydia too is wealthy; she has just moved to Philippi, in Macedonia. She was her own advertisement; dressed in the finest of purple linen; she dresses well to attract those who will buy expensively. Perhaps hers was the trendiest boutique in Philippi. Evidently there is an inward quality that emerges in conversation, a deep longing.

Luke says that she is a worshipper of God; she is a woman of faith who listens carefully to what Paul has to say. Listening is so important; listen carefully to what God is saying. That is how Luke sees it.

This story begins with a vision; to Luke it is a sure sign that God's impulse is being felt. Paul is told to redirect his ministry; he had thought to travel to the familiar region of Asia controlled by the Romans; his plans change now; there is a man in a dream pleading with him to bring the gospel to Macedonia, in Europe.

Paul is a good listener too; he doesn't hesitate. The first city he and his travelling group enter is Macedonia in Philippi; on the Sabbath, they go down to the riverside; there they find people gathered for worship and prayer; that is where they encounter Lydia. Listening to Paul Lydia discovers a new dimension to her life; it will never again be the same; Lydia listens and was changed.

*May God be gracious to us and bless us
and make his face to shine upon us,
that your way may be known upon earth,
your saving power among all nations.*

[Psalm 67:1-2]

And prayer for Sunday

God our redeemer,
you have delivered us from the power of darkness
and brought us into the kingdom of your Son:
grant, that as by his death he has recalled me to life,
so by his continual presence in me he may raise me to eternal joy;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.
Amen.

Online Worship

Easter VI - 22nd May 2022

The Church of England's online worship for the sixth Sunday of Easter will be broadcast at 9:00am on Sunday and will be available on their YouTube channel for viewing.

[Click here to join](#)

Children's Corner

Jesus called us to Love God and to Love one another. This week's Young Church Mag helps us think about what this means and how, with God's help, we can follow Jesus's commandment. It can be downloaded and printed by clicking [this link](#).

Worship in May

Sunday Worship

Sunday 1st May - Easter III
10:15am - Sunday Eucharist, St Andrew's, Blagdon

Sunday 8th May - Easter IV
9:00am - Holy Communion, St Michael's, Compton Martin
10:15am - Sunday Eucharist, St Bartholomew's, Ubley
4:00pm - Messy Church, St Bartholomew's, Ubley

Sunday 15th May - Easter V
10:15am - Sunday Eucharist, St Andrew's, Blagdon

Sunday 22nd May - Easter VI
10:15am - Sunday Eucharist, St Michael's, Compton Martin
5:00pm - Evening Worship, St Bartholomew's, Ubley

Sunday 29th May - Easter VII
10:15am - Sunday Eucharist, St Hugh's, Charterhouse

Weekday Worship

Mondays
8:40am - Morning Prayer, St Bartholomew's, Ubley
9:15am - Intercessions Group, St Bartholomew's, Ubley

Tuesdays
10:00am - Mini Melodies toddler group, St Andrew's, Blagdon

Wednesdays
8:40am - Morning Prayer, St Michael's, Compton Martin
5:00pm - Evensong, St Andrew's, Blagdon

Thursdays
8:40am - Morning Prayer, St Andrew's, Blagdon
12:00pm - In the Spirit of Iona, online via Zoom

Ascension Day - Thursday 24th May
7:00pm - Ascension Day Worship (non-Communion)
St Bartholomew's, Ubley

Worship in June 2022

Sunday 5th June
Pentecost & Jubilee Celebrations
9:00am - Sacred Holy Communion, St Andrew's, Blagdon
10:15am - Jubilee worship, St Michael's, Compton Martin
10:30am - Jubilee worship, St Bartholomew's, Ubley
5:00pm - A Celebration of the reign of Queen Elizabeth followed by tea and cakes in St Andrew's Churchyard, Blagdon

Sunday 12th June
9:00am - Holy Communion, St Michael's, Compton Martin
10:30am - Sunday Eucharist, St Bartholomew's, Ubley
5:00pm - 5:00pm Messy Church @ Eco Hub, St Bartholomew's, Ubley

Sunday 19th June
10:30am - Sunday Eucharist, St Andrew's, Blagdon

Sunday 26th June
10:30am - Sunday Eucharist, St Michael's, Compton Martin
5:00pm - Celtic Worship, St Bartholomew's, Ubley

Weekday Worship

Mondays
8:40am - Morning Prayer, St Bartholomew's, Ubley
9:15am - Intercessions Group, St Bartholomew's, Ubley

Tuesdays
10:00am - Mrs Melodies toddler group, St Andrew's, Blagdon

Wednesdays
8:40am - Morning Prayer, St Michael's, Compton Martin
5:00pm - Evensong, St Andrew's, Blagdon

Thursdays
8:40am - Morning Prayer, St Andrew's, Blagdon
12:00pm - In the Spirit of Iona, online via Zoom

Blagdon Church and Village Fête

Saturday 21 May, 1-4.30pm
Blagdon Court, Blagdon

A traditional village fair including:

- Plants
- Tombs
- Toys
- Tea
- Cakes
- White elephant
- Books
- Bar
- Hot beef rolls
- Children's entertainer
- Grand draw
- Water or wine
- Human fruit machine
- Fizz raffle



In aid of Weston Park, Mercy Ships and St Andrew

St Andrew's Fete will be supporting two charities:




"The foodbank was there when we really needed it, it was an absolute lifeline."

We don't think anyone in our community should have to face going hungry. That's why we provide three days' nutritionally balanced emergency food and support to local people who are referred to us in crisis. We are part of a nationwide network of foodbanks, supported by The Trussell Trust, working to combat poverty and hunger across the UK.

5905 three day emergency food supplies provided in 2021/22

2011 the year that our foodbank opened

66 tons of food distributed in a year



Mercy Ships is a faith-based international development organization that deploys hospital ships to some of the poorest countries in the world, delivering vital, free healthcare to people in desperate need.

Why use hospital ships? [Watch on YouTube](#)

Worldwide, 5 billion people lack access to safe, affordable, timely surgery. Many of them live in developing countries where healthcare infrastructure is limited or nonexistent, or where there's a shortage of trained healthcare providers.

Fortunately, more than 44% of the world's population lives within 100 miles of a coast - which is why Mercy Ships uses modern hospital ships to bring world-class volunteer medical professionals directly to the places they're needed most.

Our ships are the most efficient way to bring a state-of-the-art hospital to regions where clean water, electricity, and medical facilities and personnel are limited or nonexistent. Instead of trying to build the facilities we need to bring life-changing surgeries to parts around the world, we can provide a safe, stable, fully outfitted hospital ship to help change the odds for thousands of people in need.

We also train local healthcare providers and improve medical infrastructure. And we even stock our ships with a supply of vehicles so we can reach remote areas!

YOU ARE ALL INVITED TO

A short thanksgiving for Queen Elizabeth's 70 years as reigning monarch

3:00pm, St Andrew's, Blagdon

followed by a street party with tea and cake in St Andrew's Churchyard

3:30pm - 4:30pm



Volunteers Needed

We are hoping to open St Hugh's on Sunday afternoons through the summer months, from 2-5pm. If you are able to give a few hours of your time to greet visitors and serve tea, please could you contact [Penny Crawford](#) who has kindly agreed to organise a rota: 01761 462418.

Prayer within our Community

We have been asked to pray for:

In the Parish of Blagdon, please pray for Britta and her parents Roger and Kathy, Neil and Margaret and Joyce.

In the Parish of Compton Martin, please pray for Ann and Robert, for Ceinwen and Robert.

Please pray for Alfie Jacobs and his family as they prepare for baptism, and for Toby and Aimee, Harry and Camila as they prepare for marriage.

*O Holy Jesus
most merciful Redeemer,
Friend and Brother,
May I know thee more clearly,
Love thee more dearly,
And follow thee more nearly
Day by day
Amen.*

If you have someone or something that you would like us to pray for, your requests can be passed onto them and included in our prayers. Please click [here](#) to send us your requests.



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