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# Church Link

Easter VII  
29 May 2022

No. 113

Eternal God, giver of love and power,  
your Son Jesus Christ has sent us into all the world  
to preach the gospel of his kingdom:  
confirm us in this mission,  
and help us to live the good news we proclaim;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

Postcommunion Prayer, Easter VII

Eco Hub will be hosting the Big Nature Count in all our parish churchyards on Sunday 12th June, 3-5pm. This event, aimed at all local families, is designed to help us understand the role of our churchyards as havens for plants and wildlife. There will be activities and refreshments and at St Bartholomew's Ubley, Messy Church will be joining in. Please see poster below and pass on to your friends and neighbours.

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 - poster below.

Sunday Worship will be at St Hugh's, Charterhouse at 10:15am, where an announcement will be made.

We look forward to welcoming you soon.

Yours in Fellowship,  
Revd. Simon Lewis  
Laura Williams

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## Worship this Week - Sunday after Ascension

Easter VII

Sunday 29th May

- 10:15am - Sunday Worship, St Hugh's, Charterhouse

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

Please note: Holy Communion on Sunday 5th June will be at St Andrew's, Blagdon at 9:00am

## Reading and Reflection

Ascension

### Theme: Ascension

**Reading:** John 17:20-26'I ask not only on behalf of these, but also on behalf of those who will believe in me through their word, that they may all be one. As you, Father, are in me and I am in you, may they also be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. The glory that you have given me I have given them, so that they may be one, as we are one, I in them and you in me, that they may become completely one, so that the world may know that you have sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me. Father, I desire that those also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory, which you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world.

'Righteous Father, the world does not know you, but I know you; and these know that you have sent me. I made your name known to them, and I will make it known, so that the love with which you have loved me may be in them, and I in them.'

### A Reflection

The scene is The Upper Room; supper is over. Judas has left the room to betray Jesus. In John, Jesus has spoken at length about what was to happen to him; the disciples listen as now he prays.

We hear in chapters 13 to 17 of John the farewell discourse. Now, at the end, Jesus is not instructing his followers in mission or evangelism; he is praying not only for his disciples but for all who do not believe in him. He is not exhorting, encouraging, demanding; no, not that; he prays 'that they may be one'.

It is not easy for anyone to cope with the experience as intimate as being the subject of prayer. If Jesus were instructing his disciples - and by extension us - we would cope by 'doing' or 'ignoring' but, now we hear ourselves prayed for; no action is required. Jesus prays that those who follow him may be drawn into the life of God, Father (The Creators), Son (The Word), and Holy Spirit (The Spirit). We belong just there.

If that thought is too difficult think back to the very beginning of the Gospel where John says that we are given power to become children of God' (John 1:12). When the risen Jesus meets Mary Magdalene on Easter Day, he tells her to say to the disciples that he is 'ascending to my Father, and your Father'.

In his gospel John describes those who oppose Jesus as 'the world'. But, he says, it is for love of 'the world' that God sent the Son. Now, as his ministry ends, Jesus prays not only for his own but also for that world; for unity and love between those given to him, "so that the world may believe that you have sent me". Nothing less than the reconciliation of all things is in view.

Light dawns for the righteous,  
and joy for the upright in heart.

[Psalm 97:11]

### And prayer for Sunday

Grant, I pray, almighty God,  
that as I believe your only-begotten Son our Lord Jesus Christ  
to have ascended into the heavens,  
so I in heart and mind may also ascend  
and with him continually dwell;  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.  
Amen.

## Online Worship

Easter VII - 29th May 2022

The Church of England's online worship for the Seventh 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

This week's Young Church Mag looks at the Ascension of Jesus. It can be downloaded and printed by clicking [this link](#).

### Worship in June 2022

**Sunday 5th June**  
Pentecost & Jubilee Celebrations  
9:00am - Said Holy Communion, St Andrew's, Blagdon  
10:15am - Jubilee worship, St Michael's, Compton Martin  
10:30am - Jubilee worship, St Bartholomew's, Ubley  
3:00pm - 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  
3:00pm - 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 - 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

**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**

### ECO FAMILY HUB EVENT

www.beneficeofblagdon.co.uk/ecohub

## The Big Nature Count

Sunday 12th June, 3 - 5pm

Become a nature detective!  
Children's activities, including mini-beast hunts and wildflower treasure trails  
Squash and biscuits

In Ubley, Messy Church will be taking part in THE BIG NATURE COUNT and will gather for refreshments and informal worship at 4:30pm

In the churchyards of St Bartholomew's, Ubley, St Michael's, Compton Martin and St Andrew's, Blagdon



## 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 [Barry 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 Jacqui and Stewart, Kimberly and Joshua and Shauna and Al as they prepare for marriage.

May the road rise up to meet you.  
May the wind be always at your back;  
May the sun shine warm upon your face;  
the rains fall soft upon your fields  
and until we meet again,  
may God hold you in the hollow of His hand.

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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