



Though I am absent in body, yet I am with you in spirit, rejoicing to see your good order and the firmness of your faith in Christ. Colossians 2.5

Zoom Worship

8am-8:30am Morning Prayer

10am-10:30am Service of the Word

When you are signed in you can 'Join a Meeting' (Meeting ID **846 662 9590**, password **834900**).

Whether or not you might like to do this, let's be aware of the prayerful communion in God's Spirit that we all share, wherever we are, whether or not we are able to talk, video-conference or communicate with one another.

I mention you always in my prayers, asking that somehow by God's will, I may succeed in coming to you. For I long to see you, that I may impart some spiritual gift to strengthen you, that is, that we may be mutually encouraged by each other's faith. Romans 1.9-11.

This comes with my prayers and blessing, Derwyn

There are a number of Zoom meetings scheduled for fellowship and conversation, after the 10am worship session.

If you'd like to join one, please enter one of the codes below at 10:30/10:45am:

June 822 740 0814 (716922) • Derek 927 480 8728 (889123) • Rob 841 818 2500 (645756)

Bridge Youth Worship is at 5:30pm today, 3rd May on Zoom – "We're unable to celebrate communion during lockdown but the rest of our worship will be as close to normal as possible (music, prayer, and video - including one from an A-lister!) If you can join us we'd love to worship with you on the subject of Hope, which I think we could all use at the moment." Al. Meeting ID: 633 408 9648, password: Worship20

Collect for Fourth Sunday of Easter

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.

Psalms for Fourth Sunday of Easter, Psalm 23

Refrain: I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever

The Lord is my shepherd; therefore can I lack nothing.
He makes me lie down in green pastures and leads me beside still waters. **[R]**
He shall refresh my soul and guide me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.
Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me. **[R]**
You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me;
you have anointed my head with oil and my cup shall be full.
Surely goodness and loving mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever. **[R]**

Gospel for Fourth Sunday of Easter, John 10. 1-11

'Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.' Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them. So again Jesus said to them, 'Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly. 'I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.

Hymn – You might like to listen and sing along to a version of *The King of Love my shepherd is* (to the tune Dominus Regit Me by John Bacchus Dykes), [via this link](#).

Children's resources –

With this week's newsletter on the website we attach a copy of '[Look](#)'. Each week the Gospel story is explained in age appropriate language. A prayer and a variety of activities that will engage the children are included, to help each child get to know the person of Jesus.

Or perhaps try a Godly Story? They're fantastic visual versions of the scriptures. This week, the story of the Good Shepherd and the gate, with wondering questions for families to think and talk about together. Find it on YouTube at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=feUrMDor1w>

Have no anxiety about anything, but with prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. Philippians 4.6

It has been heartening to learn how many people are praying in this current testing season, and how many people are so deeply appreciative of and grateful for prayer. As another layer of the praying life of the church we have set up a simple Prayer Chain. The idea is simple: a chain of people to whom a prayer request can be made through its coordinator. The coordinator receives the request and prays accordingly before passing it on to a member of the chain who does likewise, until the prayer returns to the coordinator after a number of days being prayed for by a variety of people. If you'd like the Prayer Chain to pray for some concern which is on your heart, please make your prayer request to the coordinator, Diane Pettitt: 461845 / diane.pettitt@hotmail.com Requests are strictly confidential to the Prayer Chain, who will simply pray as asked and a request will not lead to any further contact or action Do keep praying in all the ways that connect you to Jesus. If a request to the Prayer Chain would help, don't hesitate to make it. **And the peace of God, which passes all understanding, will keep your hearts and minds in Jesus Christ our Lord. Philippians 4.7**



Newsletter and Notices

Sunday 3rd May 2020 Fourth Sunday of Easter



We're thinking about running an online Alpha Course via Zoom – from week beginning Monday 4th May. We're considering 7pm for about an hour but the day and time would be flexible depending on interest. If you'd like to find out more, please contact the Parish Office, with any preferences for days/times.

Daily Hope free phone line – The Archbishop of Canterbury has launched a free national phone line as a simple new way to bring worship and prayer into people's homes while church buildings are closed because of the coronavirus. *Daily Hope* offers music, prayers and reflections as well as full worship services from the Church of England at the end of a telephone line. The line – which is available 24 hours a day on **0800 804 8044** – has been set up particularly with those unable to join online church services during the period of restrictions in mind.

BISHOP'S STORTFORD FOOD BANK

HOW TO DONATE:

Put items into boxes near check-outs at Waitrose, Tesco at Lancaster Way or Sainsburys or when doing shopping.

Please don't be put off donating if the box seems full – people are being so generous; sometimes it's difficult for our van to keep up, but every item is desperately needed

Food Bank at the Methodist Church (Monday and Tuesday only, 10am-2pm)

To avoid unnecessary contact, we will leave a trolley in the doorway at the side path entrance.

MOST NEEDED ITEMS:

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| Long Life Fruit Juice | Tinned Meat & Fish |
| Long life Milk | Biscuits |
| Tea Bags & Coffee | Jam & Marmalade, Marmite & Honey |
| Tinned Vegetables | Beans, spaghetti and soup |
| Pasta and Pasta Sauces | Long dated cereals |
| Washing up liquid | Washing liquid or tablets (for washing machines) |
| Toiletries (shower gel, shampoo, toothpaste, soap, deodorants, shaving foam & razors, sanitary products etc) | |

Donating money: <https://www.justgiving.com/bishopstortfordfoodbank> or send a cheque or make a BACS payment direct to our bank. For further details please contact our Coordinator.

To help with food packing at the Food Bank: email bsfoodbank.coordinator@gmail.com

To help with delivery of boxes in and around town: Own transport and on a Tuesday, Thursday or Saturday. Please send a copy of your driving licence, colour photo of your ID card, evidence of a DBS (paper copy or digital reference number) OR a certificate from the free online Basic Safeguarding Course run by the Church of England to Canon Mandy Brown at Holy Trinity Church at ht.nightshelter@outlook.com



*With this ordinary, unconsecrated bread
I make remembrance of my last visit to Church
and I remind myself that
the bread that I received there, however long ago,
will keep me in life eternal.*

*And with this ordinary, unconsecrated wine
I remember all those who were there with me
and live in hope to see them all again.*

Zoom Worship on Wednesdays – Derek has kindly agreed to host Holy Communion at home (Meeting ID 927 480 8728, password 889123) each Wednesday whilst we are unable to worship in Church.

'The lockdown is putting relationships under great strain. The irritating habits of our husband/wife are becoming magnified towards breaking point'. If this is you, help is at hand. *The Marriage Course* is available online to guide you through these times together. Why not give it a try at htb.org/marriage? For further details contact Derek on derekhinge@gmail.com

Zoom Worship involvement – It looks like worship via Zoom may need to continue for some time. It has been good to include a variety of readers, singers, musicians and prayer leaders at the various 'gatherings' in the past few weeks. If you would like to offer some involvement, please contact the Parish Office to let us know, and we will bear you in mind as we plan future meetings, for as long as we need to before corporate worship in

church can resume. Thank you for considering. Derwyn.

Electoral Roll – The APCM was postponed due to the Coronavirus situation. A new date has been set as 25th October. Most of the reports are available to view on the [website](#).

Prayers for our community – An invitation from Roger Sudbury: Would you like to join a weekly prayer session at 9:30am each Saturday? This usually takes place each Saturday in Church but for now will be via Zoom (Meeting ID: 458 034 0358, p/w 435609). All welcome!

St Michael's School will need a new school governor from September – Experience in finance, education or HR would be particularly helpful but all applications are very welcome. If you are interested in finding out more about this voluntary role, do contact the Parish Office.

The Rev'd Derwyn Williams (Vicar)	653867
The Rev'd Derek Hinge (PTO)	652173
The Rev'd June Knight (PTO)	771756
Rob Klincke (Reader)	833523
Vicar's Email: stmichaelsbvicar@gmail.com	

Churchwarden: Rosemary Thomson	758389
Deputy Churchwardens:	
Terry Pigram, Peter Rixson, Roger Sudbury	
Parish Office	01279 654416
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