

8am Holy Communion, in Church

10am Service of the Word, in Church & via [Zoom](#)

You are welcome to share in our worship in the following ways:

1. Come to Church All are welcome! Remember to bring your order of service.

2. Join with Zoom on your computer

When you are signed in you can 'Join a Meeting'.

Meeting ID **846 662 9590**, Passcode **834900**

3. Join with Audio Zoom via phone

a) Call **0131 460 1196** b) Enter Meeting ID: **846 662 9590** followed by #

c) You may be asked to enter Participant ID: press #

d) Enter Meeting Passcode: **834900** followed by #

You will be muted automatically when you join the 'meeting' (service).

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-call or communicate with one another.

Collect for The 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. Amen.

A Psalm for today, 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]**

O God, our sovereign and shepherd,

who brought again your Son Jesus Christ from the valley of death,

comfort us with your protecting presence

and your angels of goodness and love,

that we also may come home

and dwell with him in your house for ever. Amen.

Gospel for The Fourth Sunday of Easter, John 10. 11-18

'I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father.'



An anthem for today

You might like to listen again to the wonderful recording of The Lord is my Shepherd by Howard Goodall, recorded last year in Lockdown by Jonathan Newsome, with members of our Choir. It's available on the [Choir page](#) of our website.

Our Children & Young People –

Whilst it's not practical for our families to meet on Sunday, do explore the links on our [Children & Young People](#) page: each week there are fresh and inspiring resources including prayers, games, quizzes and videos:

- There's a **printable sheet** which offers a prayer/activities that will help young people get to know the person of Jesus. This week's is based on today's Gospel reading.
- In these 50 days when we celebrate Easter, we remember some of the things Jesus said; so you might like to share in this week's **Godly Story**, 'The Good Shepherd'. It's a fantastic visual version of the scriptures, with wondering questions for families to share together. The video's [here](#).
- You might like to have input into / join the **Families Minister Working Group** (see other page).
- Tiny Tots is back, in a new and exciting way and Bridge Youth is meeting online: see other page for details on both.



Newsletter and Notices

Sunday 25th April 2021 Fourth Sunday of Easter



The Prayer Chain, a message from Diane Pettitt – We feel we have come to a natural 'end of a season' and it is the right time to wind down the prayer chain in its current format and seek new direction. It has been a real blessing for so many and I'm thankful for all the faithful prayers offered up for so many folk and all the different needs over this past year. As things hopefully progress and restrictions are eased it may be possible to look at meeting together for some regular prayer times ... possibly in church or elsewhere if anybody is interested in this? Please contact me at diane.pettitt@hotmail.com / 461845.

Families Minister Working Group – A group, for the PCC, have been looking at what face to face family/children activities we might be able to start - as soon as this can be done safely. An essential element in this 'recovery' involves reactivating the recruitment process for a Families Minister (paused last year) as soon as it's possible. If you have an interest in this area and would like to join the group, or have any suggestions or comments about children's worship, please email bill.macdonald@hotmail.co.uk. Many thanks. Bill. Information on the Families Minister post as advertised last year is available [here](#).

Virtual Choir for Easter – Members of Churches Together in Bishop's Stortford have come together as a virtual choir to sing 'Risen' (Shawna Edwards/Daniel Blomberg). You might like to listen to / watch it on YouTube [here](#).

The Stations of the Cross and the Stations of Easter – The reflections are available as an A5 printout on the [prayer page](#) of our website in case you'd like to revisit them.

Donations in memory of Phil Smith – Phil's family have asked that if congregation members wish to make a financial donation in memory of Phil, that they do so individually, making a direct donation to Cancer Research UK or another Cancer charity of their choice.

Notes from Open Forum to discuss music and worship – Derwyn has produced an aide-mémoire from last Monday's forum, to help remember ideas shared. We hope a subsequent step soon will be face-to-face discussion, but it was good to start talking. One outcome we're hoping for is the recommencement (and re-imagining) of the Director of Music appointment process. The notes are available [on our website's Music Page](#).

Holiday Bible Week – "The committee continues to meet online to pray and plan for HBW 2021. We are sad to say we cannot hold HBW in person this year for all the safety of all involved. HOWEVER - we are feeling **very hopeful** as we explore plans for an online virtual HBW with entertaining games and teaching for children of our town! We need your help to do this: do you or anyone you know have the skills to help with producing material to share online - perhaps in filming or sound mixing? Or do you want to be involved with the live week? There are lots of plans and ideas for this online adventure so people would be joining this team effort. Please email in the next 2 weeks: David King davidholidaybibleweek@gmail.com or Sue Vassell h14vas@yahoo.co.uk

The church is open for personal prayer from 11am to 1pm every day
An opportunity to spend some comforting time in prayer, peace and reflection.
Piano music is played on Tuesdays 11-11:30am and on Fridays 12-12:30pm.
Prayer between 11-11.30am on Wednesdays will have Tiny Tots alongside.

Prayers for our Community in Church and via Zoom, Saturday 24th April 9:30am – A half hour session of informal prayer (ID 458 034 0358 / Code 435609). All welcome.

Alpha Youth Series, Sunday 25th April, 7:30-9pm – Join us via Zoom for this week's session (ID: 869 9900 8274, contact Al Evans for Passcode at bridgeyouthchurch@gmail.com).

Holy Communion, Wednesday 28th April, 10am – On Wednesday we will have a service of Holy Communion, in church and via Derwyn's Zoom. You can also dial in by phone; instructions on previous page. (ID 846 662 9590, Passcode 834900).

'All new' Tiny Tots, Wednesday 28th April, 11 for 11:15am – Following the success of last Wednesday's launch we're delighted to be meeting each week once again - offering a new style of worship for babies/toddlers and their parents / carers. Social distancing measures and Covid precautions will be in place.

A note for your calendar for Ascension Day, Thursday 13th May – We'll be celebrating with an Ascension Day Communion with Music at 7:30pm, also on Zoom.

APCM, 23rd May after 10am service – Electoral Roll revision is currently taking place (ending tomorrow, 26th April) if you'd like to join our electoral roll. We also invite nominations for PCC members and Churchwarden elections, please note that the nomination forms are in church and completed forms should go to Christine Solway, via the Parish Office.

Town Project invitation – Would you like to help with planting some trees and shrubbery in a newly created 'wet woodland' near to Old River Lane? It's anticipated this will take place on Monday 24th May so for now, if you're interested in being kept up to date, please contact megan.kervin@salvationarmy.org.uk / 01279 507464.

Zoom prayer with June on Mondays – A support chat and prayer room each week. If you're interested in joining, do call her for more details (771756).

More details of all services and events are available on the [Calendar](#) page on our website.
Do follow us on Social Media too, for regular updates.

The Rev'd Derwyn Williams (Vicar)	653867	Churchwarden: Rosemary Thomson	758389	
The Rev'd Derek Hinge (PTO)	652173	Deputy Churchwardens:		
The Rev'd June Knight (PTO)	771756	Terry Pigram, Peter Rixson, Roger Sudbury		
Rob Klincke (Reader)	833523	Parish Office	01279 654416	
Vicar's Email: stmichaelsbsvicar@gmail.com		Email: church@saintmichaelweb.org.uk		
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