

The Marden Vale Team Ministry  
Christ Church, Derry Hill – St. John the Baptist, Foxham – St. Martin, Bremhill  
Sunday 18th April – Third Sunday of Easter

Alleluia! Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

**Today's Services in the Marden Vale Team**

**10am Parish Eucharist - Christ Church, Derry Hill**  
To book a place by 8pm Saturday email:

[lindac@mardenvale.org.uk](mailto:lindac@mardenvale.org.uk)

There is a short service of Evening Prayer via Zoom from Derry Hill Vicarage at 6pm - email [lindac@mardenvale.org.uk](mailto:lindac@mardenvale.org.uk) for link.

Also available:

**8.10am** Sunday Worship on BBC Radio 4

**9am** Church of England online

**1.15pm** BBC1 Songs of Praise - York

**Bells**

Tune in to 'Bells on Sunday' on Radio 4 at 5.43am. Or listen later [online](#) from St. Mary's Church, Barnes

**Giving**

You can find out how to support your local church on our [Giving](#) page.

QR Codes are available for Christ Church, Derry Hill for one-off donations or regular giving. This facility will also be available for Bremhill and Foxham in due course.

**Calne Food Bank**

Open 12-4pm Tue & Fri, 10am-1pm Wed at:

4A Mill Street (previously Marden Cafe)  
Calne, SN11 8DP

Website: <https://www.calnefoodbank.co.uk/>

Tel: 07752 213029 Email:

[calnefoodbank@gmail.com](mailto:calnefoodbank@gmail.com)

**Prayer** Join the Church of England Daily Prayer by visiting our website: [www.mardenvale.org.uk](http://www.mardenvale.org.uk) and clicking on 'Pray' on the top line.

**In the coming week please also pray for:**

- the Queen and all members of the Royal Family
- all who are affected by coronavirus, all who work on the frontline to keep us safe, to help the sick, to keep us fed...
- the vaccination programme in this country and across the world
- all those affected by storm, flood, fire and earthquake,
- shelter for the homeless and rough sleepers
- fighting to cease and peace to prevail in all the places in the world marked by conflict and violence
- those who are anxious, exhausted, isolated. May those whose mental health is fragile be able to access the counselling, medication and support they need
- our schools, for all the children and staff returning after the Easter holiday
- local shops and businesses
- Kingston House residents and all who work there
- Lucy Ayles in her work with YWAM, offering assistance with the vaccination programme in Papua New Guinea
- the work of Christian Aid
- our brothers and sisters in Sudan & South Sudan
- all who are sick, awaiting diagnosis, those in hospital. Especially we pray for: **Mark Steele, Christine Gundry, Mark Jennings, Lynne Cottrell, Rob Simons, Len Jones, Jacob Maloy, Paul Crayford, Helen Lewis, Jackson Goodship, Jane Jordan, Angela Barker, Liz Kinch, Doreen Williams, Bill Norman, Brenda Beint, Sonia Strange, Barbara Starr and Sarah Green.**
- All who have died in recent weeks, the bereaved, and all whose anniversary of death falls at this time. We remember especially Doreen Hooper, Ruth Diccox, Roger Steele, HRH Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, Rev'd Canon Jane Lloyd, The Ven. Hedley Ringrose and Daphne Pegler.
- **Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** Pray for The Church of Ireland.

**Private Prayer** (1 individual or household at a time)  
Derry Hill Tue to Sat 9am-4pm Sun 12-4pm  
Bremhill Daily 9am-4pm

**Keeping in touch** Contact Linda 01249 817926  
or email [lindac@mardenvale.org.uk](mailto:lindac@mardenvale.org.uk)  
Website [www.mardenvale.org.uk](http://www.mardenvale.org.uk)  
Derry Hill's [Facebook page](#)



## Readings for the Third Sunday of Easter

### Collect

Risen Christ,  
you filled your disciples with boldness and fresh hope:  
strengthen us also to proclaim your risen life  
and fill us with your peace,  
to the glory of God the Father.

### Psalm 4

Answer me when I call, O God of my righteousness;

you set me at liberty when I was in trouble;  
have mercy on me and hear my prayer.

How long will you nobles dishonour my glory;

how long will you love vain things  
and seek after falsehood?

But know that the Lord has shown me his  
marvellous kindness;

when I call upon the Lord, he will hear me.

Stand in awe, and sin not;

commune with your own heart upon your bed,  
and be still.

Offer the sacrifices of righteousness

and put your trust in the Lord.

There are many that say, 'Who will show us  
any good?'

Lord, lift up the light of your countenance upon us.

You have put gladness in my heart,  
more than when their corn and wine and oil increase.

In peace I will lie down and sleep,

for it is you Lord, only, who make me dwell in safety.

### Acts 3:12-19

When Peter saw it, he addressed the people, 'You Israelites, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we had made him walk? The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our ancestors has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you handed over and rejected in the presence of Pilate, though he had decided to release him. But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. And by faith in his name, his name itself has made this man strong, whom you see and know; and the faith that is through Jesus has given him this perfect health in the presence of all of you.

'And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer. Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out.

### 1 John 3:1-7

See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him. Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

### Luke 24:36b-48

Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, 'Peace be with you.' They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. He said to

them, 'Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.' And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, 'Have you anything here to eat?' They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took it and ate in their presence.

Then he said to them, 'These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.' Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, 'Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things.

### To ponder...

*Following the lectionary readings week by week is a useful way to read scripture, to follow the major themes and deepen our understanding. However, we need to take care. One of the issues is that we often hear or read small portions of scripture out of context. This may happen if we cannot be in church, although hopefully the weekly readings via email are helpful. But sometimes, although there is a consistent theme, the readings may not necessarily be presented in an episodic fashion.*

*So, this week, in order to enjoy a fuller, more rounded sense of what is going on, you may like to get out your Bible and begin with the **Acts** reading. It will make much more sense when you read the healing story in verses 1-11 and consider the transformative power of the resurrection that Peter enacts and proclaims.*

*Our **gospel** reading today misses out the first half of the sentence, which begins: "While they were talking about this..." What were the disciples talking about? Read from the beginning of chapter 24 and you find the women's story of the empty tomb and the angels' explanation being dismissed as an 'idle tale', then Peter seeing the tomb and discarded linen cloths for himself. As they discuss these events, two more disciples rush in to recount what has happened to them on the road to Emmaus and the amazing revelation as Jesus himself took, blessed, broke and gave the bread to them. Just imagine the excitement, disbelief, wonder...and then "Jesus himself stood among them."*

*And I wonder...how would we respond if Jesus came among us? Is there a sense of excitement, disbelief and wonder when we hear again, or re-read the accounts of the disciples? Do we take seriously the promise of the gift of the Holy Spirit which transforms? Do we notice when Jesus is among us?*

*Now look at the **letter** from John to see how our lives may be transformed: "...we are God's children now..." Yes, we are still touched by sin and so we know our need to confess, but God in his great love for us is able to forgive us, to pick us up so we can begin again (and again!)*

*Jesus is alive and working through his Church, resurrection transforms us and we can grow into a true likeness of our Saviour, and our calling is to live out and tell this Good News. So how will we respond?*

