



PAROUSIA

Weekly News and Service Sheet

25th October 2020

Last Sunday after Trinity

Welcome to St Mary's Church! We are so glad you are here. Today's service is a Holy Communion Service. Due to current restrictions it will be in one kind (bread) only. Please familiarise yourself with the detailed information in this booklet.

Christoph Lindner, Rector

'Mummy, will you read me a story about Jesus?'

It was Easter, in the city of Aleppo in war-torn Syria. Bible Society staff member Miss Nour gave pre-schooler Bechara a Bible storybook and said to him, 'This is a story from the Bible about Jesus Christ who loves you. See how Jesus is sitting among the children loving them with all his heart?'

Bechara took the book and ran to his mum. 'Look what a beautiful book they gave me! Will you read me a story about Jesus?'

Bechara's mother asked him if he had thanked Miss Nour for the book. He turned and shouted at the top of his voice, 'Thank you, Bible Society!'

Also at the same event in Aleppo, a very excited Nadim demonstrated his own kindness. He said, 'I've already got a Bible. Now I can give this one to my friend who hasn't got one!'

In Syria, Bible mission focuses on the younger generations. Many of these children and young people have been exposed to the horrors of war. Many more have been displaced. More and more of them are finding hope in the Scriptures, hope to mend their broken lives.

In 2020, at Easter, 28,000 Bibles and Scripture storybooks were distributed to children at Big Bible Distribution Easter events in many towns and cities in Syria where it is safe to do so. Even more will be distributed at Christmas. It's estimated that Scriptures handed out in 2020 will be seen by at least 100,000 children by the end of the year. These gifts uplifted the youngsters who have suffered years of war and were also facing the added threat of coronavirus.

Prayer: Thank you Lord that children in the Middle-East are finding hope in your word. I pray that tears of joy will replace those of despair as many more people discover hope promised in the Scriptures.

(Find out more about the work of Bible Society at biblesociety.org.uk)

STAY SAFE • STAY CONNECTED • STAY HOPEFUL

OPENING PRAYER (from Psalm 119)

How can young people keep their way pure? By guarding it according to your word. With my whole heart I seek you; do not let me stray from your commandments. I treasure your word in my heart, so that I may not sin against you. Blessed are you, O Lord; teach me your statutes. Amen.

HYMN

Lord, thy word abideth,
and our footsteps guideth;
who its truth believeth
light and joy receiveth.

When our foes are near us,
then thy word doth cheer us,
word of consolation,
message of salvation.

When the storms are o'er us,
and dark clouds before us,
then its light directeth
and our way protecteth.

O that we, discerning
its most holy learning,
Lord, may love and fear thee,
evermore be near thee.

SUMMARY OF THE LAW

Our Lord Jesus Christ said: The first commandment is this: 'Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God is the only Lord. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.'

The second is this: 'Love your neighbour as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.
Amen. Lord, have mercy.

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

**Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
we have sinned against you
and against our neighbour
in thought and word and deed,
through negligence,
through weakness,
through our own deliberate fault.
We are truly sorry,
and repent of all our sins.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
who died for us,
forgive us all that is past;
and grant that we may serve you
in newness of life
to the glory of your name. Amen.**

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy upon us, pardon and deliver us from all our sins, confirm and strengthen us in all goodness, and keep us in life eternal; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

COLLECT

Merciful God, teach us to be faithful in change and uncertainty, that trusting in your word and obeying your will we may enter the unfailing joy of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BIBLE READINGS

Nehemiah 8. 1-10

All the people came together as one in the square before the Water Gate. They told Ezra the teacher of the Law to bring out the Book of the Law of Moses, which the LORD had commanded for Israel. So on the first day of the seventh month

Ezra the priest brought the Law before the assembly, which was made up of men and women and all who were able to understand. He read it aloud from daybreak till noon as he faced the square before the Water Gate in the presence of the men, women and others who could understand. And all the people listened attentively to the Book of the Law ... [Then] the Levites instructed the people in the Law while the people were standing there. They read from the Book of the Law of God, making it clear and giving the meaning so that the people understood what was being read. Then Nehemiah the governor, Ezra the priest and teacher of the Law, and the Levites who were instructing the people said to them all, 'This day is holy to the LORD your God. Do not mourn or weep.' For all the people had been weeping as they listened to the words of the Law.¹⁰ Nehemiah said, 'Go and enjoy choice food and sweet wine, and send some to those who have nothing prepared. This day is holy to our Lord. Do not grieve, for the joy of the LORD is your strength.'

This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Matthew 24. 30-35

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

Then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in heaven, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see "the Son of Man coming on the

clouds of heaven" with power and great glory. And he will send out his angels with a loud trumpet call, and they will gather his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other. 'From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see all these things, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

THE CREED

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord,
Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation he came
down from heaven,
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit
and the Virgin Mary and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified
under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand
of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge
the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father
and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is
worshipped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and
apostolic Church.**

**We acknowledge one baptism for the
forgiveness of sins.**

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come.
Amen.**

PRAYERS

THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be always with you
and also with you.

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

The Lord is here.

His Spirit is with us.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, it is our duty and our
joy, at all times and in all places to give
you thanks and praise, holy Father,
heavenly King, almighty and eternal

God, through Jesus Christ your Son our
Lord.

For he is your living Word; through him
you have created all things from the
beginning, and formed us in your own
image.

Through him you have freed us from the
slavery of sin, giving him to be born of a
woman and to die upon the cross; you
raised him from the dead and exalted
him to your right hand on high.

Through him you have sent upon us your
holy and life-giving Spirit, and made us a
people for your own possession.

Therefore with angels and archangels,
and with all the company of heaven, we
proclaim your great and glorious name,
for ever praising you and saying:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Accept our praises, heavenly Father,
through your Son our Saviour Jesus
Christ, and as we follow his example and
obey his command, grant that by the
power of your Holy Spirit these gifts of
bread and wine may be to us his body
and his blood; who, in the same night
that he was betrayed, took bread and
gave you thanks; he broke it and gave it
to his disciples, saying: Take, eat; this is
my body which is given for you; do this
in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper he took
the cup and gave you thanks; he gave it
to them, saying: Drink this, all of you;
this is my blood of the new covenant,
which is shed for you and for many for

the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as
often as you drink it, in remembrance
of me.

Therefore, heavenly Father, we
remember his offering of himself made
once for all upon the cross; we
proclaim his mighty resurrection and
glorious ascension; we look for the
coming of your kingdom, and with this
bread and this cup we make the
memorial of Christ your Son our Lord.

Great is the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died: Christ is risen:
Christ will come again.**

Accept through him, our great high
priest, this our sacrifice of thanks and
praise, and as we eat and drink these
holy gifts in the presence of your divine
majesty, renew us by your Spirit,
inspire us with your love and unite us in
the body of your Son, Jesus Christ our
Lord.

Through him, and with him, and in him,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, with all
who stand before you in earth and
heaven, we worship you, Father
almighty, in songs of everlasting praise:

**Blessing and honour and glory and
power be yours for ever and ever.
Amen.**

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come; thy will be done;
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us.**

**And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

We break this bread
to share in the body of Christ.

**Though we are many, we are one body,
because we all share in one bread.**

GIVING OF COMMUNION

*At present we receive Holy Communion
in one kind (bread) only.*

*We have devised a one-way system for
receiving the bread and then returning
to your place through the empty first
pew. Please refer to the diagram on
page 7 for details and familiarise
yourself with your pew number. We are
inviting people to come forward by pew
number starting with pew No. 1.*

*Please follow the directions of our
sidesteam and keep a distance of two
meters to the person in front of you. If
you'd like to receive a blessing, please
keep your hands at your sides as you
come forward. Please walk back to your
pew after you receive the wafer and
consume it there.*

**Almighty God, we thank you for
feeding us with the body and blood
of your Son Jesus Christ. Through him
we offer you our souls and bodies to
be a living sacrifice. Send us out in
the power of your Spirit to live and
work to your praise and glory. Amen.**

HYMN

Thou, whose almighty word
Chaos and darkness heard,
And took their flight:
Hear us, we humbly pray,
And where the gospel-day
Sheds not its glorious ray,
Let there be light.

Thou, who didst come to bring
On thy redeeming wing,
Healing and sight,
Health to the sick in mind,
Sight to the inly blind,
O now to all mankind
Let there be light.

Spirit of truth and love,
Life-giving, holy Dove,
Speed forth thy flight;
Move on the water's face,
Bearing the lamp of grace,
And in earth's darkest place
Let there be light.

Holy and blessed Three,
Glorious Trinity,
Wisdom, Love, Might;
Boundless as ocean's tide
Rolling in fullest pride,
Through the earth far and wide
Let there be light.

THE BLESSING

The peace of God,
which passes all understanding,
keep your hearts and minds
in the knowledge and love of God,
and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son,
and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and
remain with you always. **Amen.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord
In the name of Christ. Amen

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VENTILATION

WE NEED TO KEEP THE WINDOWS AND DOORS OPEN

BENEFITS



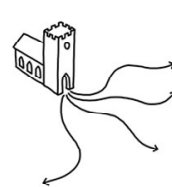
EASING THE
MUSTY SMELL



OUTREACH TO
PASSERS-BY



IT IS A BIT
CHILLY



THE CONGREGATION
MIGHT WANDER OFF



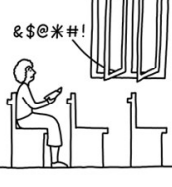
A RELAXING OF
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IT'S EASY TO
LEAVE QUICKLY

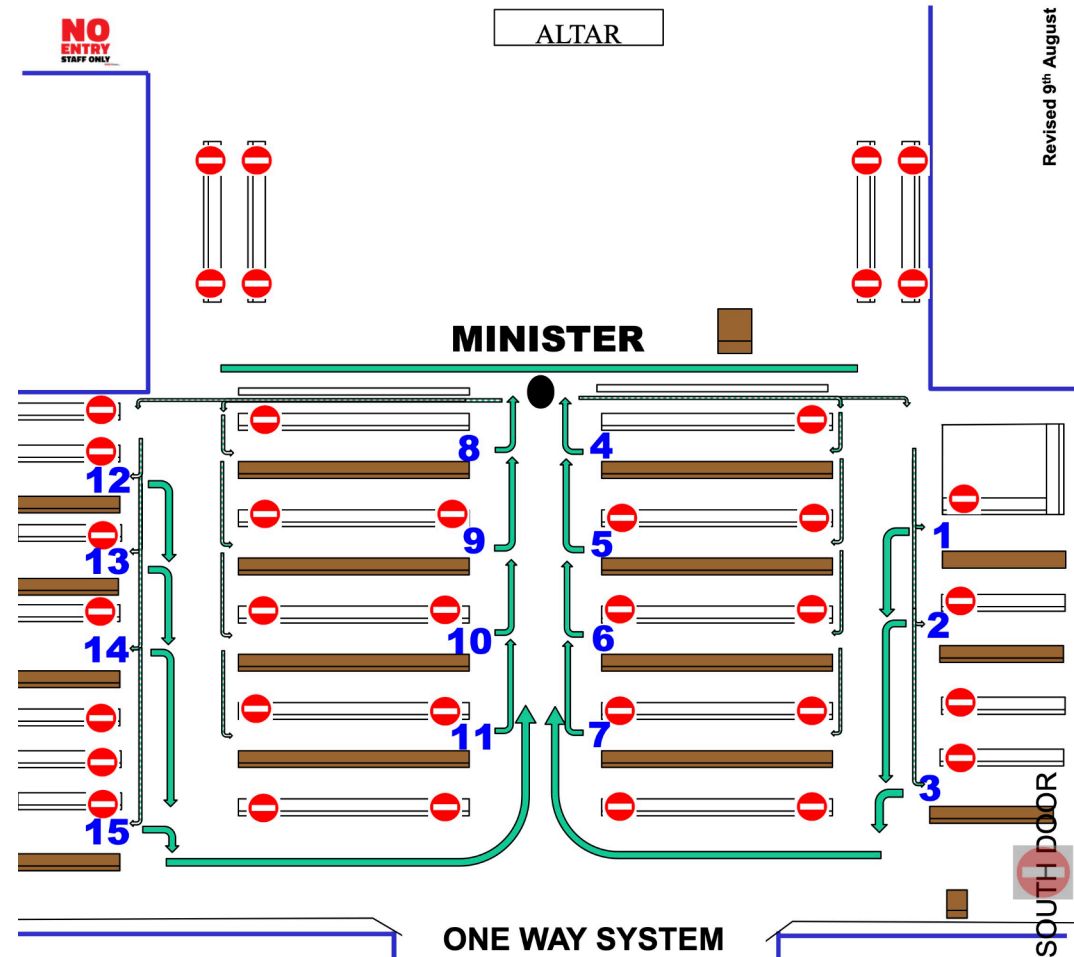


UNEXPECTED
VISITORS



ADDITIONS TO THE
LITURGY FROM OUTSIDE

DRAWBACKS



ONE WAY SYSTEM

Starting with pew 1,
follow the bolder →
arrows to the front.

Once you have
received the bread,
please follow the
circular route →
back through the empty
1st pew) to your eat and
consume your bread
there. Thank you

Route TO take
Communion

Route BACK to
your pew/seat

THE REAL ADVENT CALENDAR

The new design Real Advent Calendar is the UK's only Fairtrade calendar which comes with a free 24 page Christmas story-activity book and which supports charitable causes.

Please consider giving it as a gift to friends and neighbours to help them discover the real story of Christmas.

Order the Real Advent Calendar from Denham Parish Church and take advantage of free delivery (pick up your calendar from our church office after we notify you).

To order, please contact our church office.

IMPORTANT:

Please order by 31 October.

SUNDAY WORSHIP: ON SITE,
ONLINE AND ON THE PHONE

St Mary's Church 9.30am

Please register at

*www.denhamparish.church or by calling
the church office.*

Online: Sundays 10.30am

Online Coffee from 11.15am

Stream any time afterwards:

tinyurl.com/youtube-denham

Telephone: Available any time for
a week, Sun to Sat: **01895 714013**

Please pray for ...

- The Queen, members of parliament and the armed forces
- Peace and justice in the world
- Those who work for reconciliation
- All whose lives are devastated by war and civil strife
- Our homes, families, friends and all whom we love and care for
- Those who are sick and those suffering from bereavement especially the family of David Nicholson **and**

REMEMBERING LOVED ONES

This coming Sunday (All Saints' Day) we will remember those whom we love who have passed away during the last 12 months. Would you like the name of a loved person to be read out during the service? Please let our church office know. You are also invited to email a photo of them to office@denhamparish.church.

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY: 8 MAY

Please check www.denhamparish.church/remembrance for the latest updates.

10.30am: Online Remembrance Sunday service on our YouTube channel.

10.45am: Remembrance Sunday service at St Mary's Church

Please register from 10am on Monday, 2 November in the usual way.

We are planning to set up an outdoor loudspeaker so that you can join in with the service in the churchyard.

Towards the end of the service (at around 11.20am) we will gather around the war memorial. Please join us for that part even if you aren't able to register.

MAKE A POPPY TREE

From Sunday, 1 November, we will create a "Poppy Tree" in St Mary's Churchyard: Make a poppy (weather-proof, please) and attach it to the netting around the yew tree in front of St Mary's Church.

ONLINE DONATIONS



If you wish to make a donation to Denham Parish Church, please scan this code with the camera or QR app on your smartphone and follow instructions.

email: office@denhamparish.church

phone: 01895 832771