



# Service Sheet

28<sup>th</sup> April 2024, 10.30am St Mary's  
The Fifth Sunday of Easter

## APCM

**Welcome to St Mary's Church!** We are so glad you are here – whether you are in the church building or watching online. If you are here for the first time or visiting, please say hello (in the chat feature online, or to the service leader or a member of the welcome team in church). You can find out more about our church on our website ([www.denhamparish.church](http://www.denhamparish.church)) or Facebook page ([facebook.com/denhamparish.church](https://facebook.com/denhamparish.church)).

### WELCOME

#### **OPENING PRAISE (from Psalm 22)**

All who seek the LORD will praise him.

**Their hearts will rejoice with everlasting joy.**

The whole earth will acknowledge the LORD and return to him.

**All the families of the nations will bow down before him.**

Our children will also serve him.

**Future generations will hear about the wonders of the Lord.**

His righteous acts will be told to those not yet born.

**They will hear about everything he has done.**

### HYMN

All people that on earth do dwell,  
Sing to the Lord with cheerful voice.  
Him serve with fear, His praise forth tell;  
Come ye before Him and rejoice.

The Lord, ye know, is God indeed;  
Without our aid He did us make  
We are His folk, He doth us feed,  
And for His sheep He doth us take.

O enter then His gates with praise;  
Approach with joy His courts unto;  
Praise, laud, and bless His Name always,  
For it is seemly so to do.

For why? the Lord our God is good;  
His mercy is for ever sure;  
His truth at all times firmly stood,  
And shall from age to age endure.

To Father, Son and Holy Ghost,  
The God whom Heaven and earth adore,  
From us and from the angel host  
Be praise and glory evermore.

### CONFESSION

**Lord our God, in our sin we have avoided your call. Our love for you is like a morning cloud, like the dew that goes away early. Have mercy on us; deliver us from judgement; bind up our wounds and revive us; in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

May the God of love and power forgive you and free you from your sins, heal and strengthen you by his Spirit, and raise you to new life in Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### **READING: Acts 8. 26-40**

<sup>26</sup> Then an angel of the Lord said to Philip, 'Get up and go towards the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.' (This is a wilderness road.) <sup>27</sup> So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship <sup>28</sup> and was returning home;

seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. <sup>29</sup>Then the Spirit said to Philip, 'Go over to this chariot and join it.' <sup>30</sup>So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, 'Do you understand what you are reading?' <sup>31</sup>He replied, 'How can I, unless someone guides me?' And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. <sup>32</sup>Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this: 'Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter, and like a lamb silent before its shearer, so he does not open his mouth.' <sup>33</sup>In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth.' <sup>34</sup>The eunuch asked Philip, 'About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?' <sup>35</sup>Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. <sup>36</sup>As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, 'Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptised?' <sup>38</sup>He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptised him. <sup>39</sup>When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. <sup>40</sup>But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

*This is the Word of the Lord.*

**Thanks be to God**

## SERMON

## OFFERTORY SONG

Who breaks the power of sin and darkness  
Whose love is mighty and so much stronger  
The King of Glory, the King above all kings  
Who shakes the whole earth  
with holy thunder  
And leaves us breathless in awe and wonder  
The King of Glory, the King above all kings

*This is amazing grace. This is unfailing love  
That You would take my place  
That You would bear my cross  
You laid down Your life that I would be set free  
Oh Jesus I sing for all that You've done for me*

Who brings our chaos back into order  
Who makes the orphan a son and daughter  
The King of Glory, the King above all kings  
Who rules the nations with truth and justice  
Shines like the sun in all of its brilliance  
The King of Glory, the King above all kings

## OFFERTORY PRAYER

Yours, Lord, is the greatness, the power, the glory, the splendour, and the majesty; for everything in heaven and on earth is yours.

**All things come from you, and of your own do we give you. Amen.**

## PRAYERS

Merciful Father,  
**accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ. 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.**

## STRETCHING BREAK

## APCM

*Please refer to page 3 of the Annual Report for the agenda*

## INTRODUCING JANE BROWN



Hello! I'm Jane and I have lived in Gerrards Cross most of my life. I'm married to

Dexter and we are both involved at St Mary's. We have three children in their twenties who have all moved away from home.

I moved from St James Gerrards Cross along with Christoph and Edda in 2016 and have never looked back as I love the St Mary's Denham Community. I've been involved in Sunday Club from the start and set up Destiny for the youth with Francis Moloney some years ago. I'm very much a people person and love to chat to anyone about anything – you will probably recognise me from the regular welcome team.

I have a heart to share God's love with others, and grow in faith together – we host a fortnightly Lifegroup in our home. I enjoy walking and fitness and have just retired as a dentist so would welcome this opportunity to invest my time to serve as churchwarden at St Mary's.

## 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 waters' 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 world far and wide  
Let there be light!

## SENDING PRAYER

**God of Mission who alone brings growth to your church, send your Holy Spirit to give vision to our planning, wisdom to our actions, and power to our witness. Help our church to grow in numbers, in spiritual commitment to you, and in service to our local community, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## BLESSING

*Songs and Hymns reproduced under CCLI licence 61893*

**SIGN UP FOR EMAIL UPDATES:**  
[www.denhamparish.church/new](http://www.denhamparish.church/new)

## Let's pray together....

- For those suffering the consequences of war, natural disasters and oppression. We pray especially for the conflict in Israel and Gaza, and in Ukraine.
- For those who are unwell, especially Ann Stewart (Mike Stewart's wife).
- For those who have lost loved ones especially the families and friends of Ronald Arbon, Darryl Reeves, Cynthia Williams and Christina D'Sa (Sheila Hutchison's mother)
- For our PCC and all leaders in our church. For everyone elected at our APCM today:

## Denham Fayre Monday 27<sup>th</sup> May 2024

### Still needed for the Tombola's:

400 bottles (anything in a bottle)

Plenty of pre-loved cuddly toys

Unopened items for the general tombola (sorry, no bric-a-brac)

Homemade cakes and scones

### Helpers still needed:

This will be on a 2-hour rota system, so the more helpers we have, the fewer shifts you need to do!

X 2 on the children's activities

X 6 on refreshments

X 4 on bottle tombola

X 2 on Grand Raffle

**Please sign up at the back of church or contact the Church Office**



If you love to sing, just come along to St. Mary's Church, Denham, and join in a feast of singing music both familiar (and maybe less familiar) and learn more about good breathing habits, voice production and reading from sight. The 2 hours will highlight Handel's

*Zadok the Priest* (music written for the Coronation of King George II in 1727) but will contain lots of fun vocal experiments and be a light-hearted and happy experience but at the same time be of serious benefit to your vocal cords, your whole body and spirit.

### Don't miss out!

The morning will be directed by *Stephen Armstrong*, organist at the church. Stephen was a Cambridge University Organ Scholar and Director of Music and is now Artistic Director of the aLUMNI Chamber Choir of Cambridge.

### There is a charge of £5 on the day to cover our costs.

Limited space! Sign up to secure your place:  
[www.denhamparish.church/come-and-sing](http://www.denhamparish.church/come-and-sing)

email: [office@denhamparish.church](mailto:office@denhamparish.church)

phone: 01895 832771