

Sunday 28th
April 2024
**5th Sunday
of Easter**

Holy Trinity Cuckfield

*You are very welcome to our
worship!*



Weekly Reflection...

Rev'd Stephen Caple

The Bible uses an analogy of Israel being compared to God's vine. Later, this analogy is applied to Jesus, who is referred to as the "true vine". The fruitful branches represent the disciples who have accepted Jesus' teachings. They are encouraged to remain in Him, which signifies the return of Jesus through His presence. Love is a significant theme in chapter 15, which concludes with the message that Jesus called His disciples to bear fruit that will last. By abiding in Christ, we are called to love one another, the 'ultimate' fruit of our growth in Christ. Our God of mercy and grace then will walk with us. He will heal our hearts, guide our minds, and lead us to a place of restoration. So, our Gospel asks us to seek God's spiritual renewal and fulfil His commandment to reveal God's Love.

Worship this Sunday...

Collect

Almighty God,
who through your only-begotten Son Jesus Christ
have overcome death and opened to us the gate of
everlasting life:
grant that, as by your grace going before us you put
into our minds good desires, so by your continual help
we may bring them to good effect;
through Jesus Christ our risen Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

Post Communion Prayer

Eternal God,
whose Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth,
and the life:
grant us to walk in his way,
to rejoice in his truth,
and to share his risen life;
who is alive and reigns, now and for ever
Amen

8.00 am Holy Communion

President: Rev'd Daniel Valentine
Preacher: Stephen Caple
Reader 1: Eileen Caple
Reader 2: Roger Edmonston

9.45 am Parish Eucharist *

Pr Hymn: 471 We pray thee heavenly Father
Setting: Shephard
Gr Hymn: 212 Now the green blade
Of Hymn: 454 Love is his word
Anthem: O taste and see (AFC4)
Cm Hymn: 430 Bread of heaven
168 God is love
Fn Hymn: 721ii Love divine

President: Rev'd Daniel Valentine
Preacher: Stephen Caple
1st Reader: Joyce Sewell-Rutter
2nd Reader: Colin Sewell-Rutter
Intercessions: Vicky Peattie

* Also live streamed on zoom - click the blue button on the front of the church website.

First Reading

Gen 22.1-18

Abraham told to sacrifice Isaac and the last-minute reprieve

After these things God tested Abraham. He said to him, 'Abraham!' And he said, 'Here I am.' He said, 'Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt-offering on one of the mountains that I shall show you.' So Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and his son Isaac; he cut the wood for the burnt-offering, and set out and went to the place in

the distance that God had shown him. On the third day Abraham looked up and saw the place far away. Then Abraham said to his young men, 'Stay here with the donkey; the boy and I will go over there; we will worship, and then we will come back to you.' Abraham took the wood of the burnt-offering and laid it on his son Isaac, and he himself carried the fire and the knife. So the two of them walked on together. Isaac said to his father Abraham, 'Father!' And he said, 'Here I am, my son.' He said, 'The fire and the wood are here, but where is the lamb for a burnt-offering?' Abraham said, 'God himself will provide the lamb for a burnt-offering, my son.' So the two of them walked on together. When they came to the place that God had shown him, Abraham built an altar there and laid the wood in order. He bound his son Isaac, and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to kill his son. But the angel of the Lord called to him from heaven, and said, 'Abraham, Abraham!' And he said, 'Here I am.' He said, 'Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him; for now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me.' And Abraham looked up and saw a ram, caught in a thicket by its horns. Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt-offering instead of his son. So Abraham called that place 'The Lord will provide'; as it is said to this day, 'On the mount of the Lord it shall be provided.' The angel of the Lord called to Abraham a second time from heaven, and said, 'By myself I have sworn, says the Lord: Because you have done this, and have not withheld your son, your only son, I will indeed bless you, and I will make your offspring as numerous as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. And your offspring shall possess the gate of their enemies, and by your offspring shall all the nations of the earth gain blessing for themselves, because you have obeyed my voice.'

Second Reading

Acts 8.26-40

Philip meets and baptizes the Ethiopian eunuch

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.) 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 and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, 'Go over to this chariot and join it.' So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, 'Do you understand what you are reading?' He replied, 'How can I, unless someone guides me?' And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. 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. In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation. For his life is taken away from the earth.' The eunuch asked Philip, 'About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?' Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. 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 baptized?' He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. 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. 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.

Gospel

John 15.1-8

Jesus is the true vine; the Father prunes that we may bear much fruit

I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine-grower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.

This Week....

29/04 Mon	7.00 pm	Cuckfield Dramatic Society Rehearsal	Church
30/04 Tue	10.00 am	Online Prayer Meeting	
01/05 Wed	10.30am	Holy Communion* (Philip & James, Apostles)	Isaiah 30.15-21; Ephesians 1.3-10; John 14.1-14
	6.30pm	Space for Grace	Church
02/05 Thu	9.00 am	Celtic Communion	Acts 15.7-21; John 15.9-11
03/05 Fri	11.00am	BCP Communion	Acts 15.22-31; John 15.12-17
	1.00pm	Lunchtime Concert	Church
	6.00pm	Choir Club	Church
	7.30pm	Choir Practice	Church

Next Sunday...

Sunday 5th May -
6th Sunday of Easter

Isaiah 55.1-11; Acts 10.44-end; John 15.9-17

8.00 am Holy Communion

President: Rev'd Daniel Valentine
Preacher: Rev'd Daniel Valentine
Reader 1: Anthony Van Der Willigen
Reader 2: Gerry Larner

9.45 am Parish Eucharist

Pr Hymn: 238 Come down, O Love Divine
Setting: Shephard
Gr Hymn: 498 Lord, thy church on earth
Of Hymn: 243 Come, thou Holy Spirit, come
Anthem: Ubi Caritas
Cm Hymn: 448 I come with joy
Fn Hymn: 201 Come ye faithful, raise

President: Rev'd Daniel Valentine
Preacher: Rev'd Daniel Valentine
1st Reader: Vicky Peattie
2nd Reader: Carolyn Ponder
Intercessions: Caroline Currer

11:15am Family Worship

President: Stephen Caple
Preacher: Families Team

6:00pm Sung Evensong

Song of Sol 4.16-5:2, 8.6-7; Luke 22.24-30
President: Kevin Carey
Preacher: Kevin Carey

** Also live streamed on zoom - click the blue button on the front of the church website.*

Notices and Parish News...

Sunday's Cool Is Back! - It was great that Sunday Cool took place This is our first new monthly Sunday's Cool. Children will start off in church and then go to the Old School returning for communion. Other dates are **19th May**, 16th June, 30th June, 21st July, 15th September, 29th September, 20th October, and 17th November. If you can help at any of those sessions, or our child wants to come along, please let Hilary or Charlotte know by emailing inspirefm@holyltrinitycuckfield.org. We really want to demonstrate how committed we are to children and young families in this parish.

On **Thursday 9th May 2024** there will be a sung Eucharist at 8.00 pm for Ascension Day. Please put this important festival in your diaries.

Christian Aid Week 2024, **12-18th May 2024** - Could you spare half an hour to deliver Christian Aid envelopes in your street or another street in Cuckfield? We now only deliver the envelopes, so there is no need to collect. Ideally, envelopes should be delivered between Sunday 12 May and Saturday 18 May (though during the week beginning 5 May is possible as well). Please contact Hilary on 01444 400087 if you can help. Thank you very much.

Save the date! Christian Aid Big Brekkie. **Sunday 12th May** - Tudor Hall - 8.30am - 9.30am

The **Deanery Confirmation Service** will take place on **Tuesday 11th June at 7.30pm** (venue to be decided but may be Holy Trinity Cuckfield). If you, or a member of your family, has not been confirmed and would like to be so (children must have been admitted to year 7) please let Fr. Daniel know and we can agree some confirmation preparation. Children who are in years 5 and 6 are not able to be confirmed in this diocese but can be **admitted to communion** after following a short course, and a service of admission to take place at Holy Trinity, which will also take place in June. If you would like you child admitted to communion, please see Fr. Daniel about this also so that we can get the preparation classes set up in the most convenient manner.

Your Next Steps in Ministry, if you are a settled member of the congregation, have you thought about what your next steps might be in your worshipping life. Please approach Fr. Daniel if you might be interested in joining the rota of readers, of intercessors or of Eucharistic Assistants. He would also be interested in hearing from adults or children who would like to join the rota for operating the AV and sound desk, being an acolyte (candle bearer) and bringing the elements up at the offertory. Fr Daniel may well approach you about taking up one of these important but rewarding posts.

Children's Birthdays - from this month we want to start marking the birthdays of children who attend Holy Trinity by giving them a candle. If you have a child (under 13) please let Charlotte know their birthday so that we can make sure that it is marked and that nobody gets missed out.

Patronal Festival and APCM - Trinity Sunday 26th May 2024. The annual vestry and parochial church meeting will take place at 11.30 am, there will also be a champagne reception to celebrate Trinity Sunday, and a Festal evensong taking place that evening with a special setting being sung by the choir.

Prayers...

Those to be married:

At St Mary, Bolney:

04/05/2024, Matthew Lethbridge Stephens and Georgina Louise Fielder.

At Holy Trinity, Cuckfield:

25/06/2024, Robert Martin Littlejohns and Oleksandra Korsunska

29/06/2024, Matthew Peter Smith and Emma Elizabeth Robson

Those in immediate need:

Becky Parker, James Watson, Bill Delany, Mark Herring, Molly Phillips, Jill Knight, Shirley Ford (priest), Jay Veer Grewel and Elizabeth Charles.

Those in long term need:

Young Georgia, Ann Went, Julie Sadler, Wendy Hibling, Carla Spear, Pam Sagar, Eileen Knight, Jim Knight, Liz Graydon, Peter Graydon, Eileen Macdougall, George Snashall, Karen Leese, Yvonne Godsmark

Those in care homes:

Mary Watts, Ruth Baker, Rosemary Pardey, Janet Card, Keith Card, Tina Owens

Those whose year's mind falls at this time:

28th Barbara Cheal 1993, Trevor Graham Penfold 2004, Edith Gathercole 2009, Olive Leslie Gennoe Lyall 2013, Jean Alice Smith 2020; 29th Raymond Albert Hookham 2002, Patrick Arthur Toseland 2003, Jonathan Cavender 2015; 1st Isabel Durham 2015, William Paul Llewellyn 2020; 2nd John Wilcox, Gerald David Leaney 2002, Derek Harold Wood 2003, Robert John Buckle 2004, Douglas Percy Simpson 2012; 3rd Eileen Hall 1999; 4th Iris Simmons 2001, Irene Evelyn Garley 2004, John Graham Williams 2006, Viola Edith Mary Muddle 2020; 5th Peter Anthony Irving 2006

Praying through the week...

Mon Apr 29th - We recall the Chernobyl disaster on its remembrance day and give thanks for the international efforts that secured the site with a new safe confinement in 2019. We pray for ongoing global cooperation in nuclear safety and support for the affected communities. Bless all who work in hazardous industries, ensuring their safety and security. From our own parish we pray for the people of Cowfold Road. For their health and welcoming, for their wellbeing and joy.

Tue Apr 30th - Looking back to the World Day for Health and Safety at Work (28th) we pray for all those who are responsible for health and safety in the workplace and for all responsible for providing the necessary funding, structures and support. We recall the many public buildings such as schools and libraries affected by inadequate building materials and poor maintenance and pray for all those people whose lives, health and safety have been compromised. We pray for all working hard to address such issues and find solutions. Locally we pray for all those associated with Cuckfield Cricket Club, that they may have a sense of love and joy in God's creation around them.

Wed May 1st - Philip and James, apostles. We pray that, like the apostles, we may listen and hear the words of Jesus, that we may learn from his teaching and follow his way. May we in our lives show love in action, compassion in our words and welcome in our hearts. We pray locally for the people of Cross Colwood Lane, that they may have a sense of the wonder and diversity of God's creation.

Thu May 2nd - On World Tuna Day we acknowledge that the fish are threatened by overwhelming demand and pray for care, wisdom and sustainability in our fishing industry, maintenance of our ports and coastal areas and in our tourism industry. Locally we pray for the people of Crossways, that they find the welcome and support of a caring neighbourhood.

Fri May 3rd - We dedicate this prayer to journalists worldwide, especially those highlighting the environmental crises affecting our planet. As we observe World Press Freedom Day, we recognize their bravery and commitment to truth amid great challenges. We are thankful for their vital role in promoting awareness and democratic values. Protect them and their families, and comfort those who grieve lost loved ones in the line of duty. Bless their efforts to foster a more informed and just world. Locally we pray for the people of Crouch Fields, that they may sense God's presence with them, whatever they are facing.

Sat May 4th - Looking to World Portuguese Language Day (5th) we recognise that the Portuguese language is one of the most widespread in the world, with more than 265 million speakers spread through all continents. It is also the most widely spoken language in the southern hemisphere and a major language of international communication. We pray for Portuguese speakers across the world, especially for those who feel unheard. Locally we remember the people of Crouchlands Farm and pray for their safety, health and well-being.

Please stay in touch!

If you would like to know more of what happens at Holy Trinity, please check us out online:

www.holytrinitycuckfield.org

You can also sign up for our weekly email newsletter, using the link at the bottom of the church homepage.

Vicar

The Revd Daniel Valentine

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Parish Administrator

Gina Parker

(Please email the Vicar for the time being)

Churchwardens

Brian Cutler and Jane Coan

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