

Words of Light and Hope April 27th 2025 Easter 2 Sue Page LLM

Easter comes out ringing in terms that we all hear if we seek to hear it, that the soul of man is immortal. Through the resurrection of Jesus Christ we have fit testimony that this earthly life is not the end, that death is just something of a turn in the road, that life moves down a continual moving river, and that death is just a little turn in the river, that this earthly life is merely an embryonic prelude to a new awakening, that death is not a period which ends this great sentence of life but a comma that punctuates it to more loftier significance. That is what it says. That is the meaning of Easter. That is the question that Easter answers – that death is not the end.

Martin Luther King Jnr.

You don't need to create your own Hope
The sky is full of it.
Wake up early one day
[I dare you]
and watch the sun rise.
Watch how it encourages
The earth
To become itself...only more so
Watch how it allows all things
[even the sad beings]
to be colourful and beautiful,
then listen
listen as it says,
quietly, undoubtedly,
"we begin again!"
Gideo Heugh Tearfund

Loving, Living, Lord,

Shake us and make us more like you. Break our hearts for people facing unimaginable hardship. People who have lost their homes and fled with their families to seek safety. Help us to catch our breath and be prepared to speak out in prayer for those whose voices are too often not heard. Amen.

Prayer

Wise, mysterious God,
Give us the faith to pray
For all that has been—thanks
For all that will be—yes!
Risk-taking, dancing God,
Give us the courage to pray
For all that has been—thanks
For all that has been—yes!
Immanent, incarnate god
Give us peace to pray
For all that has been —thanks
For all that will be—yes!
Disturbing, sheltering God
Give us justice to pray For all
that has been —thanks For all
that will be—yes!
Holy, liberating God,
Give us love to pray
For all that has been—thanks
For all that has been—yes!
Ruth Burgess Ion



REEPHAM & WENSUM VALLEY
TEAM CHURCHES

Pew Notes

3rd May: 2:30pm Jim Causley's, Afternoon Tea Concert, St Margaret', Swannington

11th to 17th May: Christian aid week , Christian Aid envelopes available for people to pick up at the Methodist Church and St Mary's Church in Reepham, Motts Pharmacy, Reepham Post Office and The Bircham Centre

For more information on any events please see our website or Facebook page or contact Joy to be on our weekly newsletter.

Services for next week: Sunday 3rd May 2025

9am Holy Communion (BCP), St Peter & St Paul's, Salle
10am Café Church (Service at 10:30am), St Michael's, Reepham
10:30am Holy Communion, All Saints, Weston Longville

Email parishofficerwv@gmail.com to submit articles or join the mailing list.

FACEBOOK: Reepham & Wensum Valley Events

WEBSITE: www.reepham-and-wensum-valley-team-churches.org.uk

To contact the administrator Joy, please either email or call 07770672329.

Pew Notes are available to download from the RWV website and the E-newsletter

If you have any safeguarding concerns, please contact your Parish Safeguarding Officer. Details in the church porch or on the RWV website.

Acts 5:27-32

When the temple police had brought the apostles, they had them stand before the council. The high priest questioned them, saying, "We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and you are determined to bring this man's blood on us." But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than any human authority. The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree. God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior that he might give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him."

Psalms 150

- 1 Hallelujah! Praise God in his holy temple; praise him in the firmament of his power.
- 2 Praise him for his mighty acts; praise him for his excellent greatness.
- 3 Praise him with the blast of the ram's-horn; praise him with lyre and harp.
- 4 Praise him with timbrel and dance; praise him with strings and pipe.
- 5 Praise him with resounding cymbals; praise him with loud-clangings.
- 6 Let everything that has breath praise the LORD. Hallelujah!

John 20:19-31

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe." A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe." Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

Revelation 1:4-8

John to the seven churches that are in Asia: Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. Look! He is coming with the clouds; every eye will see him, even those who pierced him; and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail. So it is to be. Amen. "I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

The Collect

Almighty and everlasting God, who in the Paschal mystery established the new covenant of reconciliation: Grant that all who have been reborn into the fellowship of Christ's Body may show forth in their lives what they profess by their faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*