

## FORTHCOMING SERVICES

### *Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> May – Fifth Sunday of Easter*

8.30am	Online	Morning Prayer
9.30am	Lois Weedon	Lay-led/Private Prayer
9.30am	Whitfield	Holy Communion
10am	Helmdon	Morning Worship
11am	Syresham	Holy Communion
11.15am	Wappenham	Morning Worship

### *Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> May – Sixth Sunday of Easter*

8.30am	Online	Morning Prayer
9.30am	Lois Weedon	Matins
10am	Helmdon	Holy Communion
10-12	Whitfield	Private Prayer
11am	Syresham	Morning Worship
11.15am	Wappenham	Morning Worship

### *Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> May – Seventh Sunday of Easter*

8.30am	Online	Morning Prayer
9.30am	Lois Weedon	Holy Communion
9.30am	Whitfield	Morning Worship
10am	Helmdon	Prayer & Praise
11am	Syresham	Morning Worship
11.15am	Wappenham	Prayer & Praise

### *Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> May*

1pm	Wedding of Emily Blackledge & Chris McHugh at Syresham	
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### *Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> May – Pentecost*

8.30am	Online	Morning Prayer
10am	Helmdon	Holy Communion
11am	Whitfield	Pentecost Praise
	Syresham	No Service – travel to Whitfield for joint service
11.15am	Wappenham	Holy Communion
6pm	Lois Weedon	Benefice Evensong

### *Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> May*

3pm	Wedding of Thomas Gladdle & Jessica Wong at Plumpton	
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### *Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> May – Trinity Sunday*

8.30am	Online	Morning Prayer
TBC	Radstone	Benefice Communion

*Midweek Services at Helmdon will recommence on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> May at 10am, followed by 12<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> May.*



## PEWS NEWS

### The Astwell Benefice

St Mary Magdalene Helmdon with Stuchbury & St Lawrence Radstone, St James the Great Syresham with St John the Evangelist Whitfield, St Mary & St Peter Lois Weedon with Weston & Plumpton, and St Mary the Virgin Wappenham.

[www.astwellparishes.org.uk](http://www.astwellparishes.org.uk)

<https://www.facebook.com/astwellbenefice/>

## Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> April 2021 Fourth Sunday of Easter

### Today's Services:

8.30am	Online	Morning Prayer
10am	Helmdon	Holy Communion
10-12	Whitfield	Private Prayer
11am	Syresham	Prayer & Praise
11.15am	Wappenham	Holy Communion
6pm	Lois Weedon	Benefice Ev'song

**To access the online service, please use this Zoom link:**

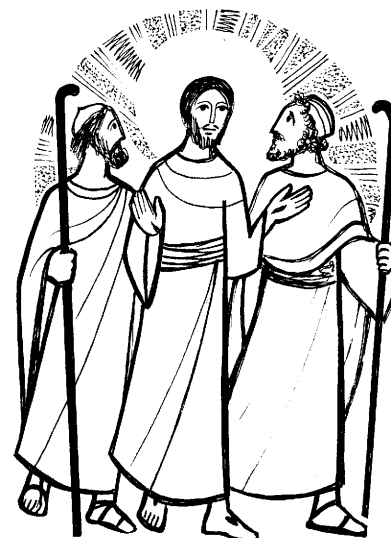
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85894936136?pwd=YW5qSWo4MEw5Q1dvUG9WWTdabkNjdz09>

Meeting ID: 858 9493 6136

Passcode: 011195

**Please note: Services will be available on Facebook approximately one hour after 'live-stream' on Zoom.**

<https://www.facebook.com/astwellbenefice/>



## *The Collects and Readings for Today*

### *Collect:*

Almighty God,  
whose Son Jesus Christ is the resurrection and the life:

raise us, who trust in him,  
from the death of sin to the life of righteousness,  
that we may seek those things which are above,  
where he reigns with you  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

### *New Testament Reading: Acts 4:5-12*

<sup>5</sup> The next day their rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem,<sup>6</sup>with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. <sup>7</sup>When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, 'By what power or by what name did you do this?' <sup>8</sup>Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, 'Rulers of the people and elders, <sup>9</sup>if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, <sup>10</sup>let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead. <sup>11</sup>This Jesus is "the stone that was rejected by you, the builders; it has become the cornerstone."

<sup>12</sup>There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved.'

### *New Testament Reading: 1 John 3:16-24*

<sup>16</sup>We know love by this, that he laid down his life for us—and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. <sup>17</sup>How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help?

<sup>18</sup> Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. <sup>19</sup>And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him <sup>20</sup>whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. <sup>21</sup>Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; <sup>22</sup>and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him.

<sup>23</sup> And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us.<sup>24</sup>All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.

## *Gospel Reading: John 10:11-18*

<sup>11</sup> 'I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. <sup>12</sup>The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. <sup>13</sup>The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. <sup>14</sup>I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, <sup>15</sup>just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep.<sup>16</sup>I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. <sup>17</sup>For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. <sup>18</sup>No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father.'

### *Post Communion Collect:*

Merciful Father,  
you gave your Son Jesus Christ to be the good shepherd,  
and in his love for us to lay down his life and rise again:  
keep us always under his protection,  
and give us grace to follow in his steps;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.



## ***Prayers by Florence Gundle***

Fill the hearts of humankind with the fire of your love and with the desire to ensure justice for all. By sharing the good things that you give us, may we secure an equality for all throughout the world. May there be an end to division, strife, and war, and may society be built on love and peace. Give us the strength to emulate your goodness to all around us and foster a better society through your care.

Break down the walls which separate us; unite us with your bonds of love and accomplish your will. We pray that by the power of your Spirit your healing will work in the body of your Church, repairing rifts, restoring the sick and giving rest to the grieving. Cultivate a heart of contentedness within us and bring us from harm.

O God our God, grant us grace to desire you with a whole heart, so that, desiring you, we may seek and find you; and so finding you, may love you; and loving you may hate those sins which separate us from you. (*St Anselm*)



***Scan this QR code to link to the 'Giving Page' of the Benefice website. All donations go directly to supporting mission and ministry in the Benefice***

## ***FOOD BANK VOUCHERS***

***Revd Diane can provide vouchers for Brackley and Towcester Food Banks for anyone in need in Helmdon, Lois Weedon, & Weston, Radstone, Syresham, Wappenham, Whitfield and the surrounding area.***

***Please contact her for details***

## ***TO HOLD IN YOUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK:***

We bring before our loving heavenly Father those in our villages and others we know who are unwell, recovering from illness and all those who need our prayers for any reason during this difficult time:

***Please pray for the family and friends of Win Wood, especially her daughter, Lynn Gartside.***

***From Helmdon:*** Joyce Beech, Philip Gulliver, Emma, Jon, Ellouise, Lilly & James, Barbara Buxton, Diane Thorpe, Vanessa Vicars, John Thorne, Alison & Cara, Margaret Reardon, David Bowen-Jones, Kirsten, David & baby Anna, and Claire & family.

***From Lois Weedon & Weston:*** Joan Jacobs, Lis Cockrell, Jeremy "Jez" Wilcox, Jenni Liversidge, John Maleham, Elsie Hatton & family, and John Busby.

***From Syresham:*** Derek Hollyoake, Peter Sims, John Widdowson & Collette Andrewartha.

***From Wappenham:*** Judy King and Claire Kennett.

***For those known to us:***

Pauline Collis, Christopher Carr, Evelyn Johnson, Jonnie D'Arcy, James Smillie, Peter Sheen, Roger Cane, Penny Bonnymede, Barbara Whitlock, Ollie Dotterill, Marina & Froede Amundsen, Cara Wilson, Chloë Fletcher, Sam & Jackie Cowlshaw.

***Please pray for those bereaved, and the family & friends of:***

Liz Threlfall, Ernie Wheeler, Dennis Read, Gillian Clube, Barry Pocock, Doris Street, Stan Howell, Doug Hatton, Jayden Shaler, Winnie Varney, Alex Paterson, Ann Widdowson, Christine Cason, Jack Hawkins, John Snow, Pat Johnson, Maurice Tucker, David Sheppard, Steve Goodwin, Dorothy D'Alton (nee Abbot), Sally Gore, Teresa Fleetwood, James Gadd, Ron Pratt, Margaret Hinton, Judith Allen, Marcus Durant, Tom Samways, Greg Oles, Mike Durant, Stewart Gundle, Ian Kidd, Richard Tims, Peter Payne, Ivan Hathaway, Robin Oliver, Sue Corbishley, Jason Holt & Shirley Holt, Dennis Hackett, Dick Wilson, Mark Kilby, Keith Hawkins. Also, for the Bearman family, Susan Clarke & family, Kathryn and Peter Oliver, & Geoff and Jo Abbey.

***Also, please pray for the work of the Beacon Centre, the Wolverton Mission, the Hope Centre, Katharine House Hospice, Northampton Women's Aid and The Women's Refuge. We also continue to pray for all refugees fleeing persecution, all victims of terror, and all those affected by the Covid-19 virus.***

## ***BENEFICE CONTACTS***

### **Rector:**

**Revd Diane Whittaker**

**Tel: 01327 226245**

**Email: [diane.whittaker@me.com](mailto:diane.whittaker@me.com)**

**Wiggy Smith, Reader** wiggysmith44@gmail.com/Tel: 01295 760953

**Paul Stothard, Reader**

stothy@live.co.uk/Tel: 01295 760816

**Bill Elkington: Lay chair and Benefice PCC**

bill.h.elkington@gmail.com/Tel: 01295 760438

**Judith Elkington** (judith.elkington@gmail.com):

BPCC, BRICC, Deanery & Benefice Communications

**Alice Palmer: All financial matters**

alice.palmer16@btinternet.com/Tel: 01280 850252

**Rachel Wheeler, Benefice Safeguarding Officer**

rfwheeler25@gmail.com/Tel: 01295 768613

**Sarah Rudkin: Parishes Administrator**

rectorastwellbenefice@aol.co.uk/Tel: 01327 830965

### **Churchwardens (for individual church matters):**

**Helmdon:** Bill Elkington (bill.h.elkington@gmail.com)

**Lois Weedon & Weston:** Frank Hunter

(frank.hunter@btinternet.com)

**Radstone:** Penny Bonner

(penny.bonner@btconnect.com)

**Syresham:** Malcolm Orr-Ewing

(info@thepriorybandbsyresham.co.uk)

**Wappenham:** Edwin King (astwell01@aol.com) &

Sheena Warren (sheena.warren@hotmail.co.uk)

**Whitfield:** Claire Bonner (cbonner00@gmail.com)



## ***Astwell Benefice Group of Churches***

We might be in 'Lockdown' but we are still  
very much here for you all,  
so if you need to talk to someone  
please do ring one of us.

Hopefully, in the not-too-distant future, we  
will be able to actually visit you!

Diane Whittaker (Rector): 01327 226245

Paul Stothard (Reader): 01295 760816

Wiggy Smith (Reader): 01295 760953