



This Week's Services & Events

Sunday 21st April	8am BCP Morning Prayer	Ash
	9am Holy Communion	Ridley
	10am Morning Worship	Ash
	<i>Zoom link available to join this service – see email</i>	
	10.30am Holy Communion & Installation of Rev Joss	St Mary Magdalene Longfield
	3pm Songs of Praise	All Saints Hartley
Monday 22nd April	2.30pm – 4.30pm Chat & Craft	Fawkham & Hartley Church Centre
	<i>Bring a craft or hobby & join together for a chat and refreshments</i>	
Tuesday 23rd April	9am Service of Morning Prayer	Ash
Wednesday 24th April	10am Holy Communion	All Saints Hartley
	7pm Curzon Country Cinema	Ash Village Hall
	<i>Showing 'One Life' tickets £7</i>	
Thursday 25th April	9am Service of Morning Prayer	Ash
	10.15am Ash Saplings	Ash
	10.30am Bible Study Group	Zoom
	<i>Please contact Susan Heads for more info/link (susan@rnwkgroup.org.uk)</i>	
	10am Pop In	Fawkham & Hartley Church Centre
	2pm – 4.30pm The Space	Youth & Community Centre, NAG
	<i>Free and welcome to all refreshments, chat, games, or some peace!</i>	
Friday 26th April	9am Morning Prayer – no service this week	Ridley
Saturday 27th April	7pm FOAC Presents Medway Brass Band	Ash
	<i>Doors open 6.30pm Tickets £10</i>	

Sunday's Readings & Prayers

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.
Amen.

First Reading: Acts 4:5-12

The next day the rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, 'By what power or by what name did you do this?' Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, 'Rulers of the people and elders, 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, let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this

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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. This Jesus is “the stone that was rejected by you, the builders;

it has become the cornerstone.”

There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved.’

Gospel reading: John 10:11-18

Jesus said ‘I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. 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. The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. 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. For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. 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.’

Other readings: 1 John 3:16-24 and Psalm 23

Post Communion prayer

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.
Amen.

Important Notice re Sunday 28th April and 5th Sunday's in the month

Next Sunday (28th April) will be the first of our Sunday services where the congregations of Ash and Ridley will come together in worship and fellowship. Ordinarily this will happen on the 5th Sunday of the month, with the service being held alternately between the churches. The first 5th Sunday of the year was Easter Day so was moved on a month to April.

I would suggest that when it is the turn of Ash to go the Ridley that car shares are arranged from Ash church car park to cut down on the number of cars parked at Ridley.

So for the rest of this year our joint services will be:

28th April Ash 10am

30th June Ridley 9am – Joint Patronal Service

29th September Ash 10am

29th December Ridley 9am

All services will be Holy Communion and refreshments will be served after the service. I do hope you embrace this opportunity to worship and spend time together.

APCM's and Vacancies in Church Roles

Our APCM's this year will be held as follows:
Ridley 5th May at 9am as part of the morning service. Refreshments after.

Ash 12th May at 11.30am after the morning service followed by a bring & share lunch.

We will as ever be celebrating the life of the churches and thanking those involved in that and looking to appoint/elect church wardens, PCC members and for Ash a new member of Deanery Synod.

I am calling upon you all, but particularly in Ash church to prayerfully consider whether you could serve the church and your community in one of these roles. With Alison Harding's move and other members having decided to step down Ash PCC is short of members and Ian Nurdin has served a year as lone church warden which is something I hope will not happen again as it is not healthy.

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I have attached some information about the roles mentioned and if you feel so led I encourage you to talk to a member of the PCC or myself for more information or details of how to join.

Please note these roles do require nomination, references and safeguarding training – all of which is very doable and you will be guided through at every stage.

Please do give this some serious consideration as we need a full and healthy team to best be able to discern God's will for us as His hands and feet in this place.

Concerts at Ash

Saturday 27th April 7pm – Medway Brass Band

Sunday 5th May 6pm – Side by Side Jazz Duo

Posters for both with more information is attached.

Ascension Day & Thy Kingdom Come

Ascension Day:

9th May – **Evensong at Ash church 6pm** Zoom link will be available

Thy Kingdom Come:

24 hour reading of the Bible starting at Acts 1.

8am 10th May – 8am 11th May – Readers

Needed – let me know if you would like to be involved. Venue Southfleet Village Hall - TBC

Daily Devotional Novena Prayers – booklet available to all church members or available as a free download on the following link:

<https://www.thykingdomcome.global/resources/2024-novena>

Quiet Day – Come Holy Spirit Saturday 18th May at Ridley church

Posters with more information will follow.

Survey- How Church is changing

Church of England members and leaders are invited to participate in a 'Church 2024 Survey', devised by two Professors of Theology, hosted by York St John University. The initiative follows two previous surveys in 2001 and 2013 which have informed widely-published research.

New questions look at contemporary issues including the environment, artificial intelligence (AI), and changing views on ethical issues such as assisted dying.

The survey will run for several months, with occasional updates given on the website, and aims to provide helpful insights and evidence from ministers and congregations at the grassroots.

To take the survey use this link:

<https://www.yorksj.ac.uk/the-church-24-survey/>

Next Sunday's Readings
Acts 8:26-end/ John 15:1-8

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