

# Christ Church Higher Bebington



**Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> April 2021**  
**Easter Sunday**

**Welcome to Christ Church!** We are all one in the Spirit!

This morning, Rev Mike Loach will lead and preach at our 10am live-streamed Parish Communion service.

## HYMNS

See, what a morning  
Love changes everything  
To God be the glory

## Prayer for the week

God of glory,  
by the raising of your Son you have  
broken the chains of death and hell:  
fill your Church with faith and hope;  
for a new day has dawned  
and the way to life stands open  
in our Saviour Jesus Christ.  
Amen

## Thoughts for the week:

The great gift of Easter is hope - Christian hope which makes us have that confidence in God, in his ultimate triumph, and in his goodness and love, which nothing can shake.  
*Basil Hume*

Faith is to believe what you do not see; the reward of this faith is to see what you believe.  
*Saint Augustine*

In faith there is enough light for those who want to believe and enough shadows to blind those who don't.  
*Blaise Pascal*

**Happy Easter** to our wonderful church family! With thanks for your love and support. Every blessing, Mike, Sarah, Sam, Harry, Eunice, George, Jeanette & all the children! Xx

A great big **"Thank You"** to John Champion and Mike Whitehead for their efforts in constructing and painting the amazing tomb outside the Community Centre – another wonderful way of connecting the Christian story with the hundreds of people who walk past our church every day.

The first reading is from 1 Corinthians 15: 1-8 (Message).

Friends, let me go over the Message with you one final time—this Message that I proclaimed and that you made your own; this Message on which you took your stand and by which your life has been saved. (I'm assuming, now, that your belief was the real thing and not a passing fancy, that you're in this for good and holding fast.)

The first thing I did was place before you what was placed so emphatically before me: that the Messiah died for our sins, exactly as Scripture tells it; that he was buried; that he was raised from death on the third day, again exactly as Scripture says; that he presented himself alive to Peter, then to his closest followers, and later to more than five hundred of his followers all at the same time, most of them still around (although a few have since died); that he then spent time with James and the rest of those he commissioned to represent him; and that he finally presented himself alive to me.

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

Doesn't the church look beautiful?! We're very fortunate to have such a dedicated vestry team and flower team, who have again worked their magic – many thanks to all!

Many thanks to all who worked so hard to get the **Easter cards** delivered in good time - they have been very well received.

There will be no Morning Prayer  
on **Monday 5<sup>th</sup> April**.

**Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> April 9pm**  
Celtic Prayer via Zoom.  
Details from Helen Byrne.

Another *eco action day*! Please do come and help tidy the beautiful church gardens on **Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> April, 10am-1pm**. Any help is very much appreciated.

**Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> April 10.30am** Holy Communion in church.

On **Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> April**, Rev Mike will be licensed as **Priest-in-charge** at St Paul's Church, Tranmere by the Bishop of Chester. Please pray for our ministry team across the two churches as we begin our life and witness together.

**'Walk & Talk'** Jill Wright will be leading a church walking group after Easter. First local walk is on **Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> April**, leaving church at 10.30am. Thereafter, the group will meet on the first Thursday of every month. If interested, contact Jill (Tel: 0151 792 3668 Mob: 07748 480 821 Email: [jill.wright3@homecall.co.uk](mailto:jill.wright3@homecall.co.uk)) or sign the sheet at the back of church.



Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

**Glory to you O Lord.**

(20:1-18)(NIVUK)

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene went to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the entrance. So she came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved, and said, 'They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we don't know where they have put him!'

So Peter and the other disciple started for the tomb. Both were running, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent over and looked in at the strips of linen lying there but did not go in. Then Simon Peter came along behind him and went straight into the tomb. He saw the strips of linen lying there, as well as the cloth that had been wrapped round Jesus' head. The cloth was still lying in its place, separate from the linen. Finally the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went inside. He saw and believed. (They still did not understand from Scripture that Jesus had to rise from the dead.) Then the disciples went back to where they were staying.

Now Mary stood outside the tomb crying. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb and saw two angels in white, seated where Jesus' body had been, one at the head and the other at the foot.

They asked her, 'Woman, why are you crying?'

'They have taken my Lord away,' she said, 'and I don't know where they have put him.' At this, she turned round and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not realise that it was Jesus.

He asked her, 'Woman, why are you crying? Who is it you are looking for?'

Thinking he was the gardener, she said, 'Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have put him, and I will get him.'

Jesus said to her, 'Mary.'

She turned towards him and cried out in Aramaic, 'Rabboni!' (which means 'Teacher').

Jesus said, 'Do not hold on to me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father. Go instead to my brothers and tell them, "I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God."'

Mary Magdalene went to the disciples with the news: 'I have seen the Lord!' And she told them that he had said these things to her.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Book club** – the group will now be meeting on a monthly basis and all are very welcome to join in. Next book is "The Power & the Glory" by Graham Greene, which we'll discuss on **Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> April at 8pm**. For further information, please contact Rev Mike.



**Going for Gold!** We are on the way to attaining A Rocha's gold award for Eco Church. However, there is still a lot more we could be doing. Making small lifestyle changes is key, eg: 'As it's Easter, let's talk eggs - the real ones! The simplest thing you can do to help hens is to buy free range eggs. The hens have access to outdoors and are not confined in cages. Better still, buy organic. Lidl and Aldi both sell organic eggs. Or look locally. Alan at Foxes farm in Thornton Hough has lovely free range eggs. Hens in barn systems can't go outside. It is a myth that the UK doesn't have battery hens: they are given 20% more room, a small piece of astroturf and 1 nesting box per 20 hens. Post Bexit, there is nothing to stop cheap imports of battery caged eggs from non-EU countries. The conditions are appalling and the hens are usually sent to slaughter at a very early age, around 18 months, because they no longer lay. ([www.ciwf.org.uk](http://www.ciwf.org.uk) and [www.omlet.co.uk](http://www.omlet.co.uk) )

Download the [un.org/actnow](http://un.org/actnow) app, for sustainable living and log your habits!

**We have set up a system where you can now donate to the Church online, using a debit or credit card. Donations can be one-off or on a regular basis. Please go to the Home Page of the Website and click on the link at the 'Donate to Christ Church' section.**

**Forthcoming funeral:**

Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> April      9.30am      Tina Kay Sherlock      Landican Centre

**Anniversaries:** Connie Cave, Marie Claude Evans, Derek Wild, Jean Taylor, Judith Peat, Stan Jones, John Anderson, William Raymond Jones.

**Prayer List:** Shirley Anderson, Cliff Barr, Sharon Beecham, Ann Bisbrown-Lee, George Bond, Yvonne Cranny, Mavis Duggan, Nora Duncan, Mary Garland, Cara Elise Hartt, Simon Hayes, Pam Hollinshead, Linda Hopkins, Lyndsey Howard, Charlotte Jones, Ted Jones, Richard Kelly, Paul Lewis, Jim Lloyd, Holly Martin, Wendy Martin, Brenda McGrattan, Will McElroy (age 6), Helen Nealy, Rita Quine, Diane Randles, Mike Robinson, Howard Rogers, Joanne Russell, John Russell, Harry Scarsbrook, Janet Shorrocks, Audrey Smith, Barbara Smith, Ann Tait, Keira Taylor, Roisin Terris, Jackie Turner, Keelin Turner, Malcolm Wheatley, Ron White, Theresa Whitfield, Whittaker Family, Lyndsey Wild, Mark and Roy.

Vicar: Rev. Mike Loach 0151 609 0943 [mgloach@gmail.com](mailto:mgloach@gmail.com)

Associate Minister: Rev. Eunice Blackmore 0151 648 5343 [euniceblackmore@talktalk.net](mailto:euniceblackmore@talktalk.net)

Curate: Rev George Roach 0151 645 4258 [roachglr@gmail.com](mailto:roachglr@gmail.com)

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