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Pew-sheet for Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> April 2024  
The Fifth Sunday of Easter

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**Today's services**

**Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> April**

**8.45am Morning Prayer** on Zoom

To connect via zoom  
Meeting ID: 833 3035 8290  
Passcode: 735361  
Or by phoning: 0131 460 1196 or  
0203 481 5237 or 0203 481 5240

**10.00am Holy Communion** at the  
church of St Peter & St Paul,  
Cosgrove

**4.00pm Sunday@Four** at the  
church of St Leonard, Yardley  
Gobion

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***Liturgical Colour: White***

***Collect for today***

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 for  
today***

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**

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**Readings for this morning's  
service of Holy Communion**

***First Reading: Acts 8.26-40***

<sup>26</sup> 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.) <sup>27</sup> 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 <sup>28</sup> and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. <sup>29</sup> Then the Spirit said to Philip, 'Go over to this chariot and join it.' <sup>30</sup> So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, 'Do you understand what you are reading?' <sup>31</sup> He replied, 'How can I, unless someone guides me?' And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. <sup>32</sup> 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.

<sup>33</sup> In his humiliation justice was denied him.

Who can describe his generation?  
For his life is taken away from  
the earth.'

<sup>34</sup> The eunuch asked Philip, 'About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?' <sup>35</sup> Then Philip began to speak, and starting with

this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. <sup>36</sup> 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?' <sup>38</sup> He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. <sup>39</sup> 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. <sup>40</sup> 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.

For the Word of the Lord;  
**Thanks be to God**

***Gospel: John 15.1-8***

Alleluia, alleluia.  
I am the first and the last, says the Lord, and the living one; I was dead, and behold, I am alive for evermore.  
**Alleluia.**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord, Jesus Christ, according to John.  
**Glory to you, O Lord**

'I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine-grower. <sup>2</sup> He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. <sup>3</sup> You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. <sup>4</sup> 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. <sup>5</sup> 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. <sup>6</sup> Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. <sup>7</sup> If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. <sup>8</sup> My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

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**The coming week's services and prayer**

**Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> May**

**12.00 noon Funeral (Peter Dennison)** at Potterspury  
**8.00pm**, a short service of **Night Prayer** on our South Cleley [Facebook page](#).

**Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> May**

**5.00pm Meditation Prayer**  
Contact [Mary McVay](#) so she can send you the details.

**Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> May**

**8.45am Morning Prayer** on Zoom Meeting ID 833 3035 8290 Passcode 735361  
**10.00am Holy Communion** at Wicken  
**4.00pm Celtic Footsteps** at Potterspury

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## Support for you

### Ministry Team

**Mary McVay** 01908 542289 /  
mary.mcvay@btinternet.com

**Monty Lynds** 01908 543206 /  
montyrylynds@hotmail.com

### Other Benefice Enquiries

**Benefice Safeguarding Officer –  
Jane Lynds** 01908 543206 /  
jane.lynds@hotmail.co.uk

**Benefice Administrator - Anne  
Henson** admin@southcleley-  
benefice.org.uk / 01908 904428  
(messaging service)

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### Church Buildings

**Our buildings are open at the  
following times:**

**Cosgrove** Daily 10am – 4pm

**Potterspury** Daily around 9am-  
5pm, or until after the last service of  
the day

**Yardley Gobion** Monday to  
Saturday 10am-4pm, Sunday  
12noon-4pm

**Wicken** – the church can be opened  
if anyone would like to go in for  
prayer – please see the notice  
outside for details of who to contact.

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### Additional Lectionary Readings for the Fifth Sunday of Easter

#### *Psalm 22.25-end*

**Be not far from me, O Lord.**

25 From you comes my praise in the great  
congregation; ♦ I will perform my vows  
in the presence of those that fear you.

26 The poor shall eat and be satisfied; ♦  
those who seek the Lord shall praise him;  
their hearts shall live for ever.

**[R]**

27 All the ends of the earth  
shall remember and turn to the Lord, ♦ and  
all the families of the nations shall bow  
before him.

28 For the kingdom is the Lord's ♦ and he  
rules over the nations.

29 How can those who sleep in the earth  
bow down in worship, ♦ or those who go  
down to the dust kneel before him.

30 He has saved my life for himself;  
my descendants shall serve him; ♦ this  
shall be told of the Lord for generations to  
come.

31 They shall come and make known his  
salvation, to a people yet unborn, ♦  
declaring that he, the Lord, has done it.

**Be not far from me, O Lord.**

**Restless with grief and fear,  
the abandoned turn to you:  
in every hour of trial,  
good Lord, deliver us,  
O God most holy, God most strong,  
whose wisdom is the cross of Christ.**

#### **1 John 4.7-21**

<sup>7</sup> Beloved, let us love one another, because  
love is from God; everyone who loves is  
born of God and knows God. <sup>8</sup> Whoever  
does not love does not know God, for God  
is love. <sup>9</sup> God's love was revealed among us  
in this way: God sent his only Son into the  
world so that we might live through  
him. <sup>10</sup> In this is love, not that we loved  
God but that he loved us and sent his Son  
to be the atoning sacrifice for our  
sins. <sup>11</sup> Beloved, since God loved us so  
much, we also ought to love one  
another. <sup>12</sup> No one has ever seen God; if  
we love one another, God lives in us, and  
his love is perfected in us.

<sup>13</sup> By this we know that we abide in him  
and he in us, because he has given us of  
his Spirit. <sup>14</sup> And we have seen and do  
testify that the Father has sent his Son as  
the Saviour of the world. <sup>15</sup> God abides in  
those who confess that Jesus is the Son of  
God, and they abide in God. <sup>16</sup> So we have  
known and believe the love that God has  
for us.

God is love, and those who abide in love  
abide in God, and God abides in  
them. <sup>17</sup> Love has been perfected among us  
in this: that we may have boldness on the  
day of judgement, because as he is, so are  
we in this world. <sup>18</sup> There is no fear in love,  
but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has  
to do with punishment, and whoever fears  
has not reached perfection in love. <sup>19</sup> We  
love because he first loved us. <sup>20</sup> Those

who say, 'I love God', and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. <sup>21</sup> The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

**Please take this pew-sheet home with you after today's service. You may wish to use the readings during the week for your own prayer and reflection.**