

# Your Word of the Week

28<sup>th</sup> April 2024, 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter



Christ Church  
Wheelock



St Matthews  
Haslington

9.30 am	St Matthew	Morning Worship	Rev Jane
10.45 am	Christ Church	Family Service	Anne
11.00 am	St Michael & All Angels	Holy Communion	Rev Jane
4.30 pm	Christ Church	Evening Prayer	Rev Jane

## The Gospel Reading John 15:1-8

**15** '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<sup>[a]</sup> to make it bear more fruit. <sup>3</sup> You have already been cleansed<sup>[b]</sup> 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<sup>[c]</sup> my disciples.

## Acts 8:26-40

<sup>26</sup> Then an angel of the Lord said to Philip, 'Get up and go towards the south<sup>[a]</sup> 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>37</sup> He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip<sup>[b]</sup> baptized him. <sup>38</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>39</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.

## Collect, Prayers, and Epistle Reading

### Collect for 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter

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.

#### **We remember the sick in our prayers:**

David Looker, John Lewis, Stephen Jones, Colin Evans, Kathleen Burgess, Alan Wheeler, Ray Thorley, Margaret Lindop, Gwen Bickerton, Barbara Harvey, Winnie Rutter, Bob Holland, Rev Canon Bill Baker, Keith and Barbara Whittle, Marjorie Crook, Janet Fallon, Anna Betts, Kathleen Knox, Martin Harper, Charles Howard-Smith, Freda Claridge, Linda Jones, Robert Leech, William Carlson, Gill Golding, Joanne Wall, Lisa Lalor, Graham Timmis, David Hurst, Jamie Hurst, Pauline Fletcher, Susan, Pam Philpot, Geoff Keen, David Boaks, Mark Trigger, Paul Spencer, Emily Lees, Margaret Jones, Margaret Ellis, Jenny Slicher, Paul Wilkinson and Vicky Thopsom.

#### **We thank God for the lives of all who have died and for the rest in Christ they now enjoy:**

Jeff Budden, Alan Burgess and Lily Alcock.

We remember and pray for all families whose loved ones have died.

**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<sup>[a]</sup> because he first loved us. <sup>20</sup> Those who say, 'I love God', and hate their brothers or sisters,<sup>[b]</sup> are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister<sup>[c]</sup> 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<sup>[d]</sup> also.

### **Church notices: Café church- Open Table,**

Blessing of animals, Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> May 4.00pm in the church hall. Bring a pet, and/or a phot/picture of your pet. Everyone is welcome.

### **DIARY**

9.30am Morning Worship for all St Matthew's church family in church and Facebook Live stream.

10.45am Morning Worship for all Christ Church's family in church and Facebook Live stream.

11.00am Morning Worship for all St Michael's church family.

4.30pm [Fourth Sunday] Evening Prayer from Book of Common Prayer at Christ Church and Facebook Live stream.

10.30am (Fifth Sunday) Joint Benefice service, rotating around our 3 churches.

**Wednesday** 10.45 am Holy Communion, (Book of Common Prayer), in St Matthew's church.

Vicar - Rev Dr Jane Lloyd Telephone: 07785 752023 Email: vicarjanelloyd@gmail.com The united benefice

website - <https://www.hcganglican.org>