



Llangollen Methodist Church  
Worshipping by the River Dee

21<sup>st</sup> April 2019

Number – 1013

# Riverside Weekly

*We welcome you as you join our Easter worship and celebration*

11:00 All Age Easter Communion –

*Rev Phil Poole*

Let's remember to give to the *Benevolent Fund* this Communion Sunday

Reading:

Luke chapter 24 verses 1 to 12 page 84 in the New Testament  
Read by Sue

Music by Peter Brookfield

Norman welcomed you at the door,  
Anna & Paul gave out the books,  
Elias & Janet provided refreshments  
Sue Cheshire is today's steward

Our condolences to Grace and family following Dan's death in hospital on Thursday

Our congratulations to Sue on the birth, to Alex & Sian, of a baby grand-daughter

**Happy Birthday to:**  
Margaret — Today  
Fiona — Wednesday



*Do join us for tea or coffee after the service this morning*



# *Church Diary*

## *Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> April – Easter Day*

11:00 All Age Easter Communion — Rev Phil Poole

## *Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April*

10:00 Coffee Morning by Llantysilio Church at the Memorial Hall

## *Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> April*

10:00 Prayer Group meet in the vestry — you are welcome to join us  
7:30 Bible Study at Elias & Janet's, continuing in John's Gospel, chapter 18

## *Friday 26<sup>th</sup> April*

10:15 Country Market at the Memorial Hall

## *Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> April*

3:00 till 5:00 Messy Church at the Memorial Hall

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

11:00 Morning Worship — Carl Squire

## *Monday 29<sup>th</sup> April*

9:30 Open the Book rehearsal at the Memorial Hall  
2:00 House Group at 5 Gerddi y Bache, all welcome.

## *Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> April*

10:00 Coffee Morning by League of Friends of the Orthopaedic Hospital at the Memorial Hall

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

10:00 Prayer Group meet in the vestry — you are welcome to join us

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

3:00 After-school Drop-In at the Memorial Hall

## *Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> May*

10:15 Country Market at the Memorial Hall  
12:30 Souper-Friday — the Memorial Hall — join us for soup, roll and tea/coffee

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

11:00 Morning Worship — Collen Ngoro

At the Ceiriog Christian Centre  
Ruth Williams  
will give a talk  
"My life as a chaplain  
in the new Berwyn Prison"  
on Wednesday  
1st May at 2pm  
Everyone interested is welcome

## *Church Garden*

Now that the season is changing once more, we wonder if any individual, couple or group would enjoy sponsoring or planting up and tending one of the tubs in the church garden.

Or you may enjoy gardening and would be able to give some time each month to help with the many jobs in the church garden

If this appeals to you please see Elisabeth as soon as possible

## *“Book of the Month” club*

### *A book reading group reading the Bible*

Led by Richard Parkes, around the circuit, the group will read a book from the bible each month and then meet to learn more about and discuss the book. **(Each months session will be repeated four times, in different places, so everyone can attend when and where it is convenient)**

*Review Deuteronomy — prepare Mark*

**Monday 20<sup>th</sup> May 7:30 at Llangollen Memorial Hall**

**Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> May 2:00 at Gresford and 7:30 at Wrexham**

**Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May 2:00 at Caergwrle.**

More Information from Richard 01978 852742

revrparkes@btconnect.com

## *Llangollen Country market*

The Country Market is now open from 10:15 every Friday Morning at the Memorial Hall

# *Easter Prayer*

*This prayer has been written by the Revd Michaela Youngson.*

When everything was dark  
and it seemed that the sun would never shine again,  
your love broke through.

Your love was too strong,  
too wide,  
too deep  
for death to hold.

The sparks cast by your love  
dance and spread  
and burst forth  
with resurrection light.

Gracious God,  
We praise you for the light of new life  
made possible through Jesus.  
We praise you for the light of new life  
that shone on the first witnesses of resurrection.  
We praise you for the light of new life  
that continues to shine in our hearts today.

We pray that the Easter light of life, hope and joy,  
will live in us each day;  
and that we will be bearers of that light  
into the lives of others.  
Amen.

## *Phil and Lisa on their Sabbatical*

We wish Phil & Lisa every blessing as they go on their sabbatical, praying that they will experience God's presence in a very special way, and come back with their spiritual batteries recharged.

Please do not try and contact them till they return from sabbatical in August. Please refrain from sending emails (*these will just clutter in-boxes and will be deleted unread*) or phoning them.

For pastoral concerns please contact Yvonne, for urgent contact with a minister please contact Richard Parkes 01978 852742 [revrparkes@btconnect.com](mailto:revrparkes@btconnect.com)

## *Fiddler on the Roof*

Some of us are going to the Operatic Society's production in the Town Hall on Friday May 3<sup>rd</sup>, meeting together for a meal beforehand in S & G's (formally Maxine's) from 5.30pm. Do come and join us if you would like - you need to get your own ticket.

Yvonne & David.

## *Monday House Group*

We will recommence on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> April at Yvonne's house. Once again, we invite anyone to join us – come and try us out!

Summer Term dates (avoiding Bank Holidays):

April 29<sup>th</sup>

June 24<sup>th</sup>

May 13<sup>th</sup>

July 8<sup>th</sup>

June 10<sup>th</sup>

July 22<sup>nd</sup>

## *Plastic Milk Bottle Tops*

“A colleague at work Is trying to help a friend who's 4 year old daughter suffers from Spina Bifida. The young girl needs a new, specialized wheelchair which is very very expensive. The main body of the wheelchair Is made from the same plastic that milk bottle tops are made from, and the manufacturer of these chairs has said to the parents that if they can collect the weight of the chair in milk bottle tops they will make the little girl a chair for free.

Obviously this is an enormous amount of milk bottle tops! I would like to give her a helping hand, so, if you can save your milk bottle tops and let me have them when you remember I'd be most grateful.” Doreen from Maes Collen

*Elisabeth has put a plastic basket at the back of church to collect the tops, and she will pass them on to Doreen*

## Readings

*John 20:1-18 Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, 'I have seen the Lord.'* (v. 18)

*Psalm 118*

## Background

In the darkness of the night, we find Mary at the place of Jesus' burial, the place of death. Mary isn't looking for life; but rather, deep in the agony of grief, she has come to be with her Lord. In encountering the empty tomb, she runs to tell others the dreadful news: his body has been stolen. In typical Johannine (those that followed the teachings of John) tradition, the text is full of detail: the stone is rolled away, the linen wrappings removed, the clothes of the grave lie neatly folded. Like Mary, the evidence leads us to believe that Jesus has been taken from us, an intentional departure.

Mary is left alone in her despair, as the other disciples, confronted by an empty tomb, return to their homes. Mary sits and weeps. All she knows is pain and grief, the despair of not even knowing where Jesus' physical body is located.

Into this scene of despair God breaks in, unrecognisable to Mary until he speaks her name. Death is not the final answer. The illogical, the impossible, the unimaginable has taken place. The one who was dead is alive. The established rules are forever changed. Mary's closed world is broken open.

Jesus' response reveals our deep desire to hold onto the risen Christ. His response in verse 17, "Do not hold onto me", reveals something instinctive about our humanity: our desire to possess, to cling to what we have discovered, our deep fear of letting go. Mary is told something we all need to hear: the risen Christ cannot be contained or controlled. The instructions from Jesus are incisive: Mary is commanded to tell "my brothers" of his impending ascension. ►

Mary goes to the disciples immediately, her confession is simple and profound, “I have seen the Lord”. As we hear these familiar words again, we are invited into this altered reality. As witnesses to the resurrected Christ, we are invited to see differently, to embrace a vision of new life. The old story of death, grief and emptiness is not the final word. The resurrection of Jesus is not simply a creed that we recite. It is God’s address to us as we face our present circumstances. The resurrected Christ is God’s ‘Yes’ to the world.

### To Ponder

In what ways as individuals or as a church do we ‘hold onto Jesus’ in unhealthy ways?

Where have you seen signs of the resurrected Jesus?

What ‘new life’ is the risen Christ inviting you to embrace?

*Bible notes author Deacon Eunice Attwood*

‘We would like to thank everyone for their prayers and kind messages of sympathy since the passing of Jack.

Eileen, Amanda, Peter, Eleanor & Thomas.’

### *The editor’s jottings!*

**‘He is Risen, He is Alive’** — as we rejoice in the wonderful Easter story that Jesus is still alive and working wonders in our world, let’s take every opportunity to see and praise Him for all He is doing, and look to be involved with all that He is doing here in our town

**Easter Offering** — please put returned Easter Offering Envelopes in with your collection as soon as you can.

*Norman*

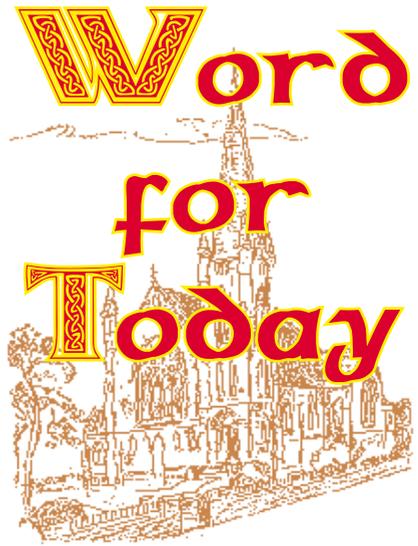


# *The Unique Resurrection Of Jesus*

*'Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection,  
and the life.'*

*John 11:25 KJV*

WHY IS Christ's resurrection unique? 1) He's the only one who didn't die again. In Scripture all others who rose from the dead, died again. Jesus was the glorious exception. Consequently, 'He was made a priest...through the power of a life which has no end' (Hebrews 7:16 GNT). His testimony stands: 'I was dead...I am alive for ever' (Revelation 1:18 NIV 2011 Edition). 2) He alone ascended into heaven to represent us before God. Other priests died and ceased to serve. But Jesus was 'declared...a priest forever' (Hebrews 7:17 NIV 2011 Edition). And He's not sitting around awaiting the second coming; He's representing us before God. 'He entered heaven itself...to appear for us in God's presence' (Hebrews 9:24 NIV 2011 Edition). That means no accusation against us can stand. 'Who is he that condemns? Christ Jesus, who died...is at the right hand of God... interceding for us' (Romans 8:34 NIV 1984 Edition). 3) He has the power to resurrect you when you



die. Jesus comforted His disciples with this awesome promise: 'Before long, the world will not see me anymore, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live' (John 14:19 NIV 2011 Edition). And that promise applies to you too! For the Lord himself will come down from heaven...the dead in Christ will rise first...we who are still alive...will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And so we will be with the Lord forever' (1 Thessalonians 4:16-17 NIV 2011 Edition). What a day that will be!

*Thank God for His promise of eternal  
life.*

*Published by UCB, Stoke on Trent  
For free daily readings see  
Elisabeth or Norman*