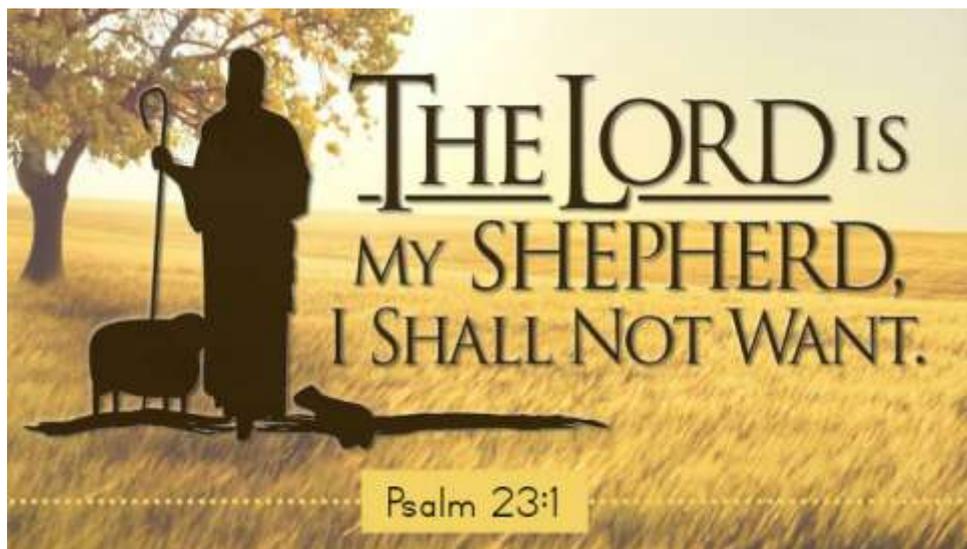


St Christopher's Church

Trenant Road Saffron Lane LE2 6UA



Memory verse

'....He restores my soul' (Psalm 23:3a, NIV)

June 2021

St Christopher's Church Services - June

We are planning, Covid permitting, to have ALL our services in St C's church

'Re-imagine' - is a 5-week series based around Psalm 23, inviting us to reflect on our experience of the pandemic season and our future.

Sunday 6 th	10.00am Morning Worship	Readings Psalm 23 and Mark 1: 14-15 Topic Reflect Lead and preacher Revd C Collins
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Sunday 13 th	10.00am Holy Communion	Readings Psalm 23 and John 7: 37-39 Topic Refresh Lead and preacher Revd C Collins
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Sunday 20 th	10.00am Morning Worship	Readings Psalm 23 and John 2: 1-12 Topic Rejoice Lead and preacher Revd C Collins
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Sunday 27 th	10.00am All Age Holy Communion	Readings Psalm 23 and John 11: 17-37 Topic Remember Lead and preacher Revd C Collins
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Diary Dates for June

Please note - Charles will be off for the whole of June, prior to beginning his curacy with us in July.

- Monday 7th - 7:30pm - **Standing committee**, by Zoom
- Tuesday 8th and 15th by Zoom, 22nd and 29th venue tba (if allowed!), all at 7:30pm. **Prayer and Bible study sessions to go with the Sunday series - 'Re-imagine'**.
- Monday 21st - 7:15pm - **PCC** meeting, hopefully in the church
- Monday 28th - 6pm - Local churches **Treasure Hunt** details to follow.

Dates for July

- Sunday 4th July - our final fifth session on **Psalm 23** will be on the theme - **Recover**.
- Tuesday 6th July - 6pm (time tbc) - **Thanksgiving Service for the life of Olive Sullivan**.

Mission for the month - Scouts (Chantal Griffin)

Over the last 15 months, the **Explorer Scout** unit have been in contact, initially through Zoom calls. We had 6 young people who, throughout the time, have joined in.

James (aka Gibbo) and I began Zoom meetings with the young people who wanted to, towards the end of April 2020 and we have managed to have fun and keep **connected** in this strange time. Playing games; quizzing; deafness awareness activities; scavenger hunt around homes; a couple of virtual escape rooms and we even managed to award three Chief Gold Scout awards via zoom (with a little help from parents).

Now we are able (weather permitting) to meet outdoors face to face too. It was wonderful to see them all again (even if most were now towering over me), and we continue to meet, weekly, and have planned a varied term of activities leading up to the summer. Two more young people, who were scouts, are now joining us too!

Going forward, we are tentatively starting to look at starting up the scout unit again and being able to open it up to lots of new young people. So, **prayers for this would be much appreciated as well as prayers for leadership roles - current and maybe new.**

Prayer Topics

As we begin a season of reflection, prayer and thinking about the future, pray that God would shape us as He wills. That we would joyfully and obediently play our part in His plans for us and our area. That His Kingdom would come.

Pray for:

- **Charles**, during his June break - that he would be able to complete his ministry studies and prepare to start as our curate and that he would know God's goodness in both.
- **Hazel** in her move to Sheffield, that she would settle in easily and soon find a new church family to be part of.
- **Di** and her wider family, following the death of her mum. For Di and her family to experience the Lord's comfort during this difficult time.
- Tudor Grange Samworth Academy, in their recruiting of a new **Head of Secondary**.
- The local churches **Treasure Hunt** at the end of the month, that this would be a joyous time of connecting with other local Christians.
- The end of the **global pandemic**, and for the continued effectiveness of the vaccination process both in the UK and worldwide. For countries which have particularly suffered recently, such as India.

Vicar's Comment

In Isaiah 43:19 God says '*See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland*' (NIV). This is a promise from God that He would make a way for his people to return from exile in Babylon, with judgement coming upon their Babylonian earthly masters. God would carve out a new future for his people, and they weren't to look back but forward. Now, we can't *directly* apply this verse to our situation - it's from a different time in God's big story of salvation.

But....what we can certainly see from it is how God's relationship with his people is a dynamic one; He moves and acts in history and expects his people to follow Him in all that He desires of them. He has plans and his people must heed them. Our relationship with God should be a living relationship, which grows and deepens....which means that *change* is part of the Christian life.

The coming months give us an opportunity to examine ourselves and seek God for the future. What has God taught us? What do we need to change? Where is the Lord leading us? I hope these questions and the themes linked to them will be a major feature of the next 6 months+. Our new Sunday series 'Re-imagine' is *part* of this process of self-examination, but there will be more to it than that.

Let's not be fearful of this - for as always, God has got it covered: 'perfect love drives out fear' (1 John 4:18, NIV).

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