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Please see the back page for a list of upcoming services in the United Benefice

**Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> May 2017 - CW edition**



**The United Benefice of Long Crendon (LC),  
Chearsley (Ch) & Nether Winchendon (NW)**

**WELCOME EVERYONE TODAY AND EVERY DAY**

**Prayer**



Risen Christ, faithful shepherd of your Father's sheep: teach us to hear your voice and to follow your command, that all your people may be gathered into one flock, to the glory of God the Father. **Amen**

**Collect for the Fourth Sunday of Easter**

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ is the resurrection and the life: raise us, who trust in him, from the death of sin to the life of righteousness, that we may seek those things which are above, where he reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

**Readings for Today:**



**For The Old Testament: Acts 2.42-end**

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

## **The Epistle: 1 Peter 2.19-end**

For it is a credit to you if, being aware of God, you endure pain while suffering unjustly. If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, what credit is that? But if you endure when you do right and suffer for it, you have God's approval. For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps. "He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth." When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten; but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly. He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

## **The Gospel: St. John 10.1-10**

"Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers." Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them. So again Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.

## **Post Communion Prayer**

Merciful Father, you gave your Son Jesus Christ to be the good shepherd, and in his love for us to lay down his life and rise again: keep us always under his protection, and give us grace to follow in his steps; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

## Notes for your diary:

**Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> May**, Monthly Prayer Gathering at St. Nicholas', Chearsley, 9:30-10:30 am. Our prayer focus will be on the three villages and wider issues. All welcome. Ray Copping and Geoff Hogbin

**Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> May, Church House, St. Mary's Bring & Share Lunch**, following the 10:30 am Holy Communion service. Please contact Georgina Freestone (07884 386801) to volunteer food and ask any questions. These events are good fun for all as we share a communal Sunday lunch together.

**Cream Teas at St. Nicholas' Nether Winchendon – 28<sup>th</sup> and 29th May, 2:30-5:00 pm**: Delicious cream teas – bring your friends! (Advance notice: there will also be cream teas 27/28<sup>th</sup> August.)

**Friday 30<sup>th</sup> June to Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> July, St. Nicholas' Chearsley**: Flower Festival weekend. Joy Payne would be very pleased to receive advance offers of help (not just offers of flowers and greenery, also people to make the teas and welcome visitors and show them round). Previous Festivals have seen the church looking gorgeous, and large numbers of people attending.

## Services in the United Benefice

### Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> May 2017 – The Fourth Sunday of Easter (CW) or the Third Sunday after Easter (BCP)

9:00 am	Holy Communion (BCP)	NW	Richard Phillips
10:00 am	Café Sunday	LC	Lay Led
10:00 am	Family Holy Communion	Ch	Richard Phillips

### Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> May 2017 – The Fifth Sunday of Easter (CW) or the Fourth Sunday after Easter (BCP)

8:00 am	Holy Communion (BCP)	LC	Richard Phillips
10:00 am	Morning Celebration	Ch	.....Lay Led
10:00 am	Matins	NW	Robert Spencer Bernard
10:30 am	Holy Communion	LC	Gordon Kuhrt
6:00 pm	Evensong	Ch	John
Scholefield			

### Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> May 2017 – The Sixth Sunday of Easter (CW) or the Fifth Sunday after Easter (BCP) – Rogation Sunday

9:00 am	Holy Communion	Ch	Richard Phillips
10:00 am	Family Service (Rogation)	NW	Richard Phillips
10:30 am	Family Service	LC	.....Lay Led

### Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> May 2017 – Ascension Day

7:30 pm	Holy Communion (BCP)	NW	Richard Phillips
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### Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> May 2017 – The Seventh Sunday of Easter (CW) or The Sunday after Ascension Day (BCP)

8:00 am	Holy Communion (BCP)	LC	Derek Witchell
10:00 am	Family Service	Ch	Derek Witchell
10:30 am	Holy Communion with choir	LC	Steve and Rose Williams
6:00 pm	Evensong	NW	Robert Hutton

### Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> June 2017 – The Day of Pentecost (Whit Sunday) (CW) or Whit Sunday (BCP)

9:00 am	Holy Communion (BCP)	NW	Richard Phillips
10:00 am	Café Sunday	LC	Lay Led
10:00 am	Family Holy Communion	Ch	Richard Phillips

If you have events coming up in the Benefice and would like them included in future Pew Sheets, please let us have the details on [llm.chearsley@btinternet.com](mailto:llm.chearsley@btinternet.com) Please note that your wording may have to be edited to fit the available space - John and Jenny Scholefield