

**Teign Valley & Haldon Hill Mission Community**  
**Scattered Church: Worship at home on Passion Sunday 22/03/26**  
**(Please have with you a stone or pebble)**

**Hymn**

The King of love my Shepherd is,  
whose goodness faileth never;  
I nothing lack if I am his  
and he is mine for ever.

Where streams of living water flow  
my ransomed soul he leadeth,  
and where the verdant pastures grow  
with food celestial feedeth.

Perverse and foolish oft I strayed,  
but yet in love he sought me,  
and on his shoulder gently laid,  
and home, rejoicing, brought me.

In death's dark vale I fear no ill  
with thee, dear Lord, beside me;  
thy rod and staff my comfort still,  
thy cross before to guide me.

Thou spread'st a table in my sight;  
thy unction, grace bestoweth:  
and O what transport of delight  
from thy pure chalice floweth!

And so through all the length of days  
thy goodness faileth never;  
good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise  
within thy house for ever.

*(Henry Williams Baker 1821-1877, based on Psalm 23)*

As God's people we have gathered:  
let us worship him together.

Christ himself carried up our sins in his body to the tree,  
so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness;  
by his wounds we have been healed.  
Let us confess our sins.

*1 Peter 2.24*

O God, you know my foolishness and my sins are not hidden from you:  
Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Let not the flood overwhelm me nor the depths swallow me up;  
let not the pit shut its mouth upon me:  
Christ, have mercy.

**Christ, have mercy.**

Hear me, O Lord, as your loving kindness is good;  
turn to me as your compassion is great:

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Almighty God,  
who in Jesus Christ has given us a kingdom that cannot be destroyed,  
forgive us our sins,  
open our eyes to God's truth,  
strengthen us to do God's will  
and give us the joy of his kingdom,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**Collect**

Gracious Father,  
you gave up your Son out of love for the world:  
lead us to ponder the mysteries of his passion,  
that we may know eternal peace  
through the shedding of our Saviour's blood,  
Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Readings**

**Ezekiel 37:1-14**

The hand of the Lord came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the Lord and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. He led me all round them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. He said to me, 'Mortal, can these bones live?' I answered, 'O Lord God, you know.' Then he said to me, 'Prophecy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. Thus says the Lord God to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the Lord.'

So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. Then he said to me, 'Prophecy to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord God: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live.' I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude.

Then he said to me, 'Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, "Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely." Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord God: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. And you shall know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the Lord, have spoken and will act, says the Lord.'

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Romans 8:6-11**

To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law—indeed it cannot, and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### ***John 11:1-45***

Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, 'Lord, he whom you love is ill.' But when Jesus heard it, he said, 'This illness does not lead to death; rather it is for God's glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it.' Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was.

Then after this he said to the disciples, 'Let us go to Judea again.' The disciples said to him, 'Rabbi, the Jews were just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?' Jesus answered, 'Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Those who walk during the day do not stumble, because they see the light of this world. But those who walk at night stumble, because the light is not in them.' After saying this, he told them, 'Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him.' The disciples said to him, 'Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right.' Jesus, however, had been speaking about his death, but they thought that he was referring merely to sleep. Then Jesus told them plainly, 'Lazarus is dead. For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him.' Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow-disciples, 'Let us also go, that we may die with him.'

When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days. Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. Martha said to Jesus, 'Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him.' Jesus said to her, 'Your brother will rise again.' Martha said to him, 'I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.' Jesus said to her, 'I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?' She said to him, 'Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world.'

When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary, and told her privately, 'The Teacher is here and is calling for you.' And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him. Now Jesus had not yet come to the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him. The Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there. When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, 'Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.' When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. He said, 'Where have you laid him?' They said to him, 'Lord, come and see.' Jesus began to weep.

So the Jews said, 'See how he loved him!' But some of them said, 'Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?'

Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. Jesus said, 'Take away the stone.' Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, 'Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead for four days.' Jesus said to her, 'Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?' So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upwards and said, 'Father, I thank you for having heard me. I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me.' When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, 'Lazarus, come out!' The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, 'Unbind him, and let him go.'

Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what Jesus did, believed in him.

This is the gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you O Christ.**

### ***Reflection***

*(Dial 01647 407047 to hear it again during the week)*

#### ***Affirmation of faith***

Let us affirm our faith in God who is Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

**We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father.**

**Through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary,  
and was made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.**

**With the Father and the Son he is worshipped and glorified.  
He has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy, catholic and apostolic Church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

### ***Intercessions***

#### ***The Lord's Prayer***

As God's children and heirs with Christ, we cry in the Spirit 'Abba', Father:

**Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name;  
thy kingdom come;  
thy will be done;  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation;  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
the power and the glory,  
for ever and ever. Amen.**

#### ***The Peace***

Christ is our peace.  
He has reconciled us to God in one body by the cross.  
We meet in his name and share his peace.  
The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
**And also with you.**

#### ***Notices***

**Lord Jesus Christ,  
you have taught us  
that what we do for the least of our brothers and sisters  
we do also for you:  
give us the will to be the servant of others  
as you were the servant of all,  
and gave up your life and died for us,  
but are alive and reign, now and for ever. Amen.**

**And may the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all evermore. Amen.**

#### ***Hymn***

Immortal, invisible,  
God only wise,  
in light inaccessible

hid from our eyes,  
most blessed, most glorious,  
the Ancient of Days,  
almighty, victorious,  
thy great name we praise.

Unresting, unhasting,  
and silent as light,  
nor wanting, nor wasting,  
thou rulest in might;  
thy justice like mountains  
high soaring above  
thy clouds which are fountains  
of goodness and love.

To all life Thou givest,  
to both great and small;  
in all life Thou livest,  
the true life of all;  
we blossom and flourish  
as leaves on the tree,  
and wither and perish,  
but nought changeth thee.

Great Father of Glory,  
pure Father of Light,  
thine angels adore thee,  
all veiling their sight;  
all laud we would render,  
O help us to see:  
'tis only the splendour  
of light hideth Thee.

*(Walter Chalmers Smith 1824-1908 based on 1 Timothy 1:17)*

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## **Teign Valley & Haldon Hill Mission Community Services**

### **Telephone Services**

**(Call 0333 0110 616; code 334 7721)**

**Sundays at 9am: Sunday Worship – a half hour Service of the Word: hymns, readings and prayers**

### **Church Services**

**Mar 22 Passion Sunday** 10.30am MC HC St Thomas Becket Bridford  
 10.30am Service of the Word St Mary Dunsford  
 4.00pm Forest Church Ashton

**Mar 29 Palm Sunday** 10.30am MC HC St John the Baptist Ashton  
 10.30am Service of the Word St Mary Dunsford

**Mar 30 Holy Monday** 6.00pm telephone Evening Prayer

**Mar 31 Holy Tuesday** 6.00pm telephone Evening Prayer

**Apr 1 Holy Wednesday** 6.00pm telephone Evening Prayer

**Apr 2 Maundy Thursday** 6.00pm HC & Washing of Feet St John the Baptist Ashton

**Apr 3 Good Friday** 10.30am Passion of St John HC St James Christow  
 3.00pm Meditation & Prayers St Thomas Becket Bridford  
 6.00pm Good Friday Music St Mary Dunsford

**Apr 5 Easter Sunday** 10.30 HC Ashton with Bridford, Christow, Doddiscombsleigh,  
 Dunchideock & Dunsford

**Apr 12 Easter 2** 10.30am HC St John the Baptist Ashton  
 10.30am HC St Michael & All Angels Dunchideock  
 10.30am Family Service St Mary Dunsford

**Apr 19 Easter** 10.30am HC St James Christow  
 10.30am HC St Michael Doddiscombsleigh  
 10.30am Service of the Word St Mary Dunsford

**Apr 25 Messy Church** 3.00pm Dunsford Village Hall

**Apr 26 Easter 4** 10.30am MC HC St Michael & All Angels Dunchideock  
 10.30am Service of the Word St Mary Dunsford  
 4.00pm Forest Church Ashton

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Use the QR codes below, or go to <https://www.achurchnearyou.com> and search for the parish you want to support...remember to Gift Aid your donation if you can...thank you!

