



## Elham Valley Group Newsletter – 21<sup>st</sup> September 2025

“Spreading the Gospel of Jesus Christ to all”

Find us online : [www.elhamvalleygroupofchurches.co.uk](http://www.elhamvalleygroupofchurches.co.uk) OR  
[www.achurchnearyou.com](http://www.achurchnearyou.com)

### This week's services : 14<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity

- 8.30am – Said Holy Communion – St Mary & St Radegund, Postling**  
**9.30am – Eucharist – St Mary the Virgin, Elham**  
**9.30am – Morning Prayer – St Martin, Acrise**  
**10am – Eucharist & Baptism – St Mary & St Ethelburga, Lyminge**  
**11.15am – New Day – St Mary Magdalene, Denton**

### Tuesday 8.30am - Morning Prayer- St Mary the Virgin, Elham

#### **The Collect:**

Almighty God, whose only Son has opened for us a new and living way into your presence: give us pure hearts and steadfast wills to worship you in spirit and in truth; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

#### **Post Communion Prayer:**

Lord God, the source of truth and love, keep us faithful to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, united in prayer and the breaking of bread, and one in joy and simplicity of heart, in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

#### **Old Testament Reading: Amos 8: 4-7**

Hear this, you who trample on the needy and bring the poor of the land to an end, <sup>5</sup> saying, “When will the new moon be over, that we may sell grain? And the Sabbath, that we may offer wheat for sale, that we may make the ephah small and the shekel great and deal deceitfully with false balances, <sup>6</sup> that we may buy the poor for silver and the needy for a pair of sandals and sell the chaff of the wheat?” <sup>7</sup> The Lord has sworn by the pride of Jacob: “Surely I will never forget any of their deeds.

#### **Gospel Reading: Luke 16: 1-13**

He also said to the disciples, “There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was wasting his possessions. <sup>2</sup> And he called him and said to him, ‘What is this that I hear about you? Turn in the account of your management, for you can no longer be manager.’ <sup>3</sup> And the manager said to himself, ‘What shall I do, since my master is taking the management away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. <sup>4</sup> I have decided what to do, so that when I am removed from management, people may receive me into their houses.’ <sup>5</sup> So, summoning his master’s debtors one by one, he said to the first, ‘How much do you owe my master?’ <sup>6</sup> He said, ‘A hundred measures of oil.’ He said to him, ‘Take your bill, and sit down quickly and write fifty.’ <sup>7</sup> Then he said to another, ‘And how much do you owe?’ He said, ‘A hundred measures of wheat.’ He said to him, ‘Take your bill, and write eighty.’ <sup>8</sup> The master commended the dishonest manager for his shrewdness. For the sons of this world are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than the sons of light. <sup>9</sup> And I tell

you, make friends for yourselves by means of unrighteous wealth, so that when it fails they may receive you into the eternal dwellings. <sup>10</sup> "One who is faithful in a very little is also faithful in much, and one who is dishonest in a very little is also dishonest in much. <sup>11</sup> If then you have not been faithful in the unrighteous wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? <sup>12</sup> And if you have not been faithful in that which is another's, who will give you that which is your own? <sup>13</sup> No servant can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money."

Please Pray for *Graham Bevan, Jill Fitch, Joseph, Poppy Allard, John Meers, Michael Kirk, Alice Mills, Martyn Bowles, Claire Laker.*

***Please contact the Benefice Administrator Alison Dale 07985025381 or [beneficeadmin@elhamvalleygroupofchurches.co.uk](mailto:beneficeadmin@elhamvalleygroupofchurches.co.uk) to add people to the prayers.***

Please pray for the departed, and those for whom an anniversary of death falls at this time, *Mardi Hall, Venie Edney, Joyce Jackaman, Michael Hall, Margot Barry and Richard Newington..*

To arrange for Funerals, Thanksgivings, Blessings, Renewal of Vows and *all other services* please contact the Rector – [revcarolbates@gmail.com](mailto:revcarolbates@gmail.com) 0777 239 4855

For Baptisms and Weddings please contact the Benefice Administrator - [beneficeadmin@elhamvalleygroupofchurches.co.uk](mailto:beneficeadmin@elhamvalleygroupofchurches.co.uk) 07985025381

### **Parish Notices:**

#### ***Baptisms***

**Amelia Cunningham – Sun. 21<sup>st</sup> September at 10am – Lyminge**

**Elsie & Ennis Hobbs – Sun. 28<sup>th</sup> September at 11.15am - Wootton**

#### ***Weddings***

**Isabella Fernandes & William Spencer – Sat. 20<sup>th</sup> September at 2pm - Lyminge**

### **Benefice Notices:**

**St John's Commandery** (Swingfield, CT15 7HG)– Heritage Open Days – 12<sup>th</sup> -21<sup>st</sup> Sept. 10am to 4pm (check English Heritage website to confirm before visiting). Free entry. This 13<sup>th</sup> Century Chapel is the only remaining building of the Commandery of the Knights Hospitallers of St John of Jerusalem.

**Events** – see website for full details or contact Benefice Admin (above).

Ringlemere Clarinet concert at Elham – 21<sup>st</sup> Sept. 3pm.

Harvest Supper at Wootton Village Hall – 27<sup>th</sup> Sept. 7pm

Harvest Family service at Acrise – 28<sup>th</sup> Sept. 9.30am.

Harvest Service and lunch at Lyminge – 28<sup>th</sup> Sept. 11am

Harvest Service and lunch at Elham – 5<sup>th</sup> Oct. 9.30am & 12.30pm.

Harvest Service and Quiz at Postling (quiz in village hall) – 5<sup>th</sup> Oct. 5.30pm

Sponsored Pilgrimage (with worship) along the Royal Kentish Camino – 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> October