

Elham Valley Group Newsletter – 26th October 2025

“Spreading the Gospel of Jesus Christ to all”

Find us online : www.elhamvalleygroupofchurches.co.uk OR
www.achurchnearyou.com

This week's services : 18th Last Sunday after Trinity - Bible Sunday

9.30am –All Age Eucharist & Baptism– St Mary the Virgin, Elham

9.30am – Service of the Word – St Martin, Acrise

9.30am - Eucharist – All Saints, Stanford

10am – Family Praise- St Mary & St Ethelburga, Lyminge

11.15am – Eucharist – St Martin, Wootton

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

The Collect:

Blessed Lord, who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: help us so to hear them, to read, mark, learn and inwardly digest them that, through patience, and the comfort of your holy word, we may embrace and for ever hold fast the hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Saviour Jesus Christ, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

Post Communion Prayer:

God of all grace, your Son Jesus Christ fed the hungry with the bread of his life and the word of his kingdom: renew your people with your heavenly grace, and in all our weakness sustain us by your true and living bread; who is alive and reigns, now and for ever. **Amen**

Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 45: 22-end

Turn to me and be saved, all the ends of the earth! For I am God, and there is no other. ²³ By myself I have sworn, from my mouth has gone forth in righteousness a word that shall not return: 'To me every knee shall bow, every tongue shall swear.' ²⁴ Only in the Lord, it shall be said of me, are righteousness and strength; all who were incensed against him shall come to him and be ashamed. ²⁵ In the Lord all the offspring of Israel shall triumph and glory.

Gospel Reading: Luke 4: 16-24

When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, ¹⁷ and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written: ¹⁸ 'The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, ¹⁹ to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour.' ²⁰ And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. ²¹ Then he began to say to them, 'Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.' ²² All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his mouth. They said, 'Is not this Joseph's son?'

²³ He said to them, 'Doubtless you will quote to me this proverb, "Doctor, cure yourself!" And you will say, "Do here also in your home town the things that we have heard you did at Capernaum."'" ²⁴ And he said, 'Truly I tell you, no prophet is accepted in the prophet's home town.

Please Pray for *Robin Mackonochie, Mark, Tom, Millie Collins, 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 to add people to the prayers.

Please pray for the departed, *Maureen Earl*, and those for whom an anniversary of death falls at this time, *Derek Richards, Shirley Marshall, Joy Ingle, Richard Dines, David Want, Eileen Hart and Joan Rickwood.*

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

For Baptisms and Weddings please contact the Benefice Administrator - beneficeadmin@elhamvalleygroupofchurches.co.uk 07985025381

Parish Notices:

Baptism: Elliott Pugh–26th Oct. 9.30am – Elham

Internment of Ashes: June Boughton– 8th Nov. 1pm – Lyminge

St Oswald, Paddlesworth – from Mon. 28th Oct. the church will be open from 9am to 4pm.

Benefice Notices: see website for full details or contact Benefice Admin (above).

Benefice All Saints Day Service – **1st Nov.** 3pm – Stanford.

Commemoration of our Faithful Departed – **2nd Nov.** 3pm – Elham. If you would like names to be mentioned, please let the Benefice Admin. know before 24th Oct.

Christmas Fair – **29th Nov.** 10am-2pm – Elham Village Hall. Ring 01303 892364 to book a table

Advent Bible Study

On the **6th, 13th and 20th Dec.** there will be a three week Advent bible study open to all. The theme will be the differences between the two Gospel narratives of the Nativity story. The sessions will be between 10.30am and noon, and held at my home in Hawkinge. I can seat between 8-10 people for comfort. Therefore I would be grateful if anyone would flag up their intention to attend. I can then let them have my address. Tel: 07503 290552 or email sharonpaine10@aol.com. I will produce a flyer nearer the time to advertise. If it appears the Saturday mornings are over-subscribed, I will consider offering an additional weekday slot.

Rev. Sharon Paine

Cantores Christmas Concert – **13th Dec.** 7pm - Lyminge