

Elham Valley Group Newsletter 31st May 2026

“Spreading the Gospel of Jesus Christ to all”

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

This week's services : Trinity Sunday

10am – All Age Benefice Service – St Peter, Swingfield*

Tuesday 2nd June – 8.30am – Morning Prayer – Elham

The Collect:

Almighty and everlasting God, you have given us your servants grace, by the confession of a true faith, to acknowledge the glory of the eternal Trinity and in the power of the divine majesty to worship the Unity: keep us steadfast in this faith, that we may evermore be defended from all adversities; 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:

Almighty and eternal God, you have revealed yourself as Father, Son and Holy Spirit, and live and reign in the perfect unity of love: hold us firm in this faith, that we may know you in all your ways and evermore rejoice in your eternal glory, who are three Persons yet one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 40:12-17,27-end

Who has measured the waters in the hollow of his hand and marked off the heavens with a span, enclosed the dust of the earth in a measure, and weighed the mountains in scales and the hills in a balance? ¹³ Who has directed the spirit of the Lord, or as his counsellor has instructed him? ¹⁴ Whom did he consult for his enlightenment, and who taught him the path of justice? Who taught him knowledge, and showed him the way of understanding? ¹⁵ Even the nations are like a drop from a bucket, and are accounted as dust on the scales; see, he takes up the isles like fine dust. ¹⁶ Lebanon would not provide fuel enough, nor are its animals enough for a burnt-offering. ¹⁷ All the nations are as nothing before him; they are accounted by him as less than nothing and emptiness. ²⁷ Why do you say, O Jacob, and speak, O Israel, 'My way is hidden from the Lord, and my right is disregarded by my God'? ²⁸ Have you not known? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable. ²⁹ He gives power to the faint, and strengthens the powerless. ³⁰ Even youths will faint and be weary, and the young will fall exhausted; ³¹ but those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

Gospel Reading: Matthew 28:16-end

Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. ¹⁷ When they saw him, they worshipped him; but some doubted. ¹⁸ And Jesus came and said to them, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹ Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.'

Please Pray for *Val Pinder, Roger Goody, Janet Hutchings, Jenni Lister, The Bradley family, Wendy Cook, Sue Leaver, Millie Collins, Jill Fitch, Poppy Allard, John Meers, Michael Kirk, Alice Mills, Lilian Bowles & family, 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, *Martyn Bowles*, and those for whom an anniversary of death falls at this time, *Mary Walker, Ben Mills, Malcolm Hamilton, Edward Fox & Hilary Highcazony.*

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 as above.

Parish Notices:

Wedding – Kelly Isherwood & Roy Clarkson - Fri. 5th June 2pm - Postling

Baptism – Mia Watson - Sun. 7th June – 1145am - Acrise

Postling Open Gardens – Sat. & Sun 6th & 7th June 12 – 5pm

Recital by Orsay Trio – Sunday 7th June 3pm – Elham

Elham Open Gardens – Sat. & Sun 13th & 14th June – 12 -4.30pm

Benefice Notices:

*** Swingfield Church, CT15 7HA:**

**Parking is in the 1st field on the left in Beards Hall Lane (off The Street).
If dropping off passengers – approach the church from the Lydden direction, then continue to the field to park.**