

Sunday 11th October



United Benefice of
Aspenden, Buntingford
and Westmill

19th Sunday after Trinity

Welcome to our churches of St Mary's Aspenden, St Peter's Buntingford and St Mary the Virgin Westmill. Whoever you are, wherever you've come from, you are welcome! If this is your first visit, please

do introduce yourselves to the clergy and stay for coffee after the service to meet others

Isaiah 25.1-9 (NRSVA)

O Lord, you are my God; I will exalt you, I will praise your name; for you have done wonderful things, plans formed of old, faithful and sure.

²For you have made the city a heap, the fortified city a ruin; the palace of aliens is a city no more, it will never be rebuilt. ³Therefore strong peoples will glorify you; cities of ruthless nations will fear you.

⁴For you have been a refuge to the poor, a refuge to the needy in their distress, a shelter from the rainstorm and a shade from the heat. When the blast of the ruthless was like a winter rainstorm, ⁵ the noise of aliens like heat in a dry place, you subdued the heat with the shade of clouds; the song of the ruthless was stilled.

⁶On this mountain the Lord of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-matured wines, of rich food filled with marrow, of well-matured wines strained clear. ⁷And he will destroy on this mountain the shroud that is cast over all peoples, the sheet that is spread over all nations; ⁸he will swallow up death for ever.

Then the Lord God will wipe away the tears from all faces, and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the Lord has spoken.

⁹It will be said on that day, Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us. This

is the Lord for whom we have waited; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

Matthew 22.1-14(NRSVA)

22 Once more Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying: ²'The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. ³He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. ⁴Again he sent other slaves, saying, "Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet." ⁵But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, ⁶while the rest seized his slaves, maltreated them, and killed them. ⁷The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. ⁸Then he said to his slaves, "The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. ⁹Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet." ¹⁰Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad; so the wedding hall was filled with guests.

¹¹'But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, ¹²and he said to him, "Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?" And he was speechless. ¹³Then the king said to the attendants, "Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth." ¹⁴For many are called, but few are chosen.'

Collect

Faithful Lord, whose steadfast love never ceases

and whose mercies never come to an end: grant us the grace to trust you and to receive the gifts of your love, new every morning, in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Post Communion

Holy and blessed God, you have fed us with the body and blood of your Son and filled us with your Holy Spirit: may we honour you, not only with our lips but in lives dedicated to the service of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Remembering in our prayers:

Lil, Evelyn, Jackie, Christine, Kathe, Jenny, Russell, Hilary, Phyllis, Jane, Ailsa, Lisa M, Debbie, The Kingsley's, Pauline F, David.

Recently departed:

Judy Thody, Lee Baddock

Church Services & Morning Prayer

Sunday 18th October

9:30am Holy Communion – St Mary's Aspenden
11am Holy Communion – St Peter's Buntingford

Morning Prayer – Held 9am to 9:30am, weekly on Tuesday at St Peter's Buntingford, Wednesday St Mary the Virgin, Westmill and Thursdays at St Mary's, Aspenden. For further details chat with Kirsty or Sarah.

Sunday 25th October

9:30am Sung Eucharist – St Mary the Virgin Westmill
11am Morning Worship – St Peter's Buntingford

Sunday 1st November

9:30am All Age Worship – St Mary the Virgin Westmill
9:30am Morning Worship – St Mary's Aspenden
11am Holy Communion – St Peter's Buntingford

Sunday 8th November – Remembrance Sunday

9:30am Sung Eucharist – St Mary the Virgin Westmill

9:30am All Age Worship – St Mary's Aspenden

11am Churches Together All Age Worship – St Peter's Buntingford

News & Notices from our Churches and Community



Governor Roles

Both Edwinstree Middle School and Layston First School have opportunities for foundation school governors. We are fortunate to have excellent links with our 2 church schools. If you are interested and would like to know more, please speak to Kirsty.

Monday Morning Coffee at St Peter's Church

Held weekly at 10am – 12pm every Monday except Bank Holidays. This coffee morning is growing with lots of people attending and making friends. There is the opportunity for prayer too. Do pop in and join us.

Little Lambs, St Mary the Virgin Westmill Held weekly on Wednesday 10am – 11:30am term time only, for pre-school children and their grown-ups. A very informal social and worship occasion for pre-school children and their carers. We sing songs, along with lots of fun activities.

Choc Stop is back Choc Stop is serving hot chocolate for young people on their way home from school. Every Thursday term time only, outside St Peter's church from 3.15pm

Buntingford Festival Choir presents

A Harvest of Sound at St Mary the Virgin Westmill.

Wonderful evening of harvest song across the centuries performed by the Buntingford Festival

Choir. Thank you to everyone who supported this event.

Saying Goodbye Services 15th October at 7.30pm

in Ely Cathedral, Anyone who has either personally lost a baby at any stage of pregnancy, at birth, or in early years, or who has been affected by family members' or friends' loss. Whether the loss was recent or 80 years ago, everyone is welcome to attend. For further information :

www.sayinggoodbye.org

Westmill Church Yard Autumn Tidy-Up

Saturday 17th October 10am-12 noon

We'd appreciate your help to tidy our church yard ready for winter. Please bring along your gardening tools and gloves and we'll provide the refreshments.

Quiz Night Saturday 17th October 6:45pm for 7pm start at Benson Hall.

Quiz Night hosted at Benson Hall. Maximum 8 people per teams. £12 per person including a ploughmans supper. Bookings close midnight 14th October. Please scan the QR code or visit our website for the link to the booking form.



If you have any quality raffle prizes you wish to donate to St Peter's Quiz night they would be gratefully received.

Chris Hinchliff MP

Our MP Chris Hinchliff will be coming to the Monday Coffee Morning at St Peter's on 26th October. Do come along for your opportunity to discuss community matters with him.

Sunday 1st November 3pm

Service of Memories at St Mary's Aspenden.

"We bereaved are not alone. We belong to the largest company in all the world—the company of those who have known suffering." (Helen Keller). Save the date if you would like to join us for this reflective service as we remember those we love but see no longer. We will light candles in their memory and there will be hymns and prayers.

Eco Church Tip: Trinity 19 : Have a sort out of your old electrical cables/ chargers/ small electrical devices and take them to be recycled at your local tip in the electricals section rather than sending them to landfill.

Benefice Administrator

Nina has given her notice to resign as benefice administrator. She will be working up to Christmas. This has not been an easy decision for her to make but is the right decision for her and the family.

Please keep Nina and the benefice in your prayers as we look appoint a new administrator.

Find all our latest services & news here:

www.achurchnearyou.com/benefice/32-012BK/



Get in Touch

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Wednesday & Thursday 8:30am to 12:45pm.