

# CLAPHAM :: KEASDEN :: AUSTWICK :: ELDROTH CHURCHES WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

*"The unknown God... is not far from each of us"*

**No.306 The Sixth Sunday of Easter, 10 May 2026**

**9.30 Austwick Holy Communion**

## **Acts 17.22–31**

22 Then Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, 'Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way. 23 For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, "To an unknown god." What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. 24 The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, 25 nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. 26 From one ancestor he made all nations to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, 27 so that they would search for God and perhaps grope for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. 28 For "In him we live and move and have our being"; as

even some of your own poets have said, "For we too are his offspring."

29 Since we are God's offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like



*Sir James Thornhill, Paul preaching in the Areopagus, 1729-31*

gold, or silver, or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. 30 While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, 31 because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.'

## John 14.15-21

15 'If you love me, you will keep my commandments. 16 And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you for ever. 17 This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you. 18 I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you.

19 In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. 20 On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. 21 They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them.'

## Psalm 66.7-18

7 Bless our God, O you peoples;  
**make the voice of his praise to be heard,**

8 Who holds our souls in life  
**and suffers not our feet to slip.**

9 For you, O God, have proved us;  
**you have tried us as silver is tried.**

10 You brought us into the snare;  
**you laid heavy burdens upon our backs.**

11 You let enemies ride over our heads;  
we went through fire and water;  
**but you brought us out into a place of liberty.**

12 I will come into your house with burnt offerings  
and will pay you my vows,  
**which my lips uttered**  
**and my mouth promised when I was in trouble.**

13 I will offer you fat burnt sacrifices  
with the smoke of rams;  
**I will sacrifice oxen and goats.**

14 Come and listen, all you who fear God,  
**and I will tell you what he has done for my soul.**

15 I called out to him with my mouth  
**and his praise was on my tongue.**

16 If I had nursed evil in my heart,  
**the Lord would not have heard me,**

17 But in truth God has heard me;  
**he has heeded the voice of my prayer.**

18 Blessed be God, who has not rejected my prayer,  
**nor withheld his loving mercy from me. Amen**

## In our prayers:

The Church of Pakistan (United), The Most Revd Dr Azad Marshall, Moderator.  
Christian Aid: working with *Beacon of Hope* trainee farming project, Dagoretti, Kenya.  
Remembering: Revd Graham Betteridge.

christian  
**aid**  
week  
**10-16 MAY**

This year's Christian Aid appeal focusses on the work of Beacon of Hope, a Christian Aid funded project in Dagoretti, Nairobi, Kenya, that is training new urban farmers to cultivate produce in small spaces.



Pictured here is Fridah, tending her small city plot, tucked away at the end of an alley by her home in Dagoretti. Your kind donations to Christian Aid can be given in to Clapham Village Store or to Revd John. Thank you.

### Collect

God our redeemer,  
you have delivered us from the power of  
darkness and brought us into the kingdom  
of your Son: grant, that as by his death he  
has recalled us to life, so by his continual  
presence in us he may raise us to eternal  
joy; 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

God our Father,  
whose Son Jesus Christ gives the water of  
eternal life: may we thirst for you,  
the spring of life and source of goodness,  
through him who is alive and reigns, now  
and for ever. **Amen**

### MUSIC IN TODAY'S SERVICE: 10 MAY

**Opening hymn: 394** Let all the world in every corner sing

**Gradual hymn: 427** O praise ye the Lord

**Hymn before Communion: 333** All my hope on God is founded

**Closing hymn: 443** Rejoice, the Lord is King



**Bishop Anna and Archdeacon James at Deanery Synod:  
You are invited! Settle Parish Church, Tuesday 12 May, 7.00.**

Come and meet Rt. Revd. Anna Eltringham, the Bishop of Ripon, and Ven. James Theodosius, Archdeacon of Richmond and Craven, at our next Deanery Synod meeting, Tuesday 12 May, 7.00pm at Settle Parish Church. All are welcome to attend, whether or not a Deanery Synod

representative (as is the case for all Deanery Synod meetings). Having spent much time listening closely to people in the parishes over recent years and months, Bishop Anna and

Archdeacon James are wanting to articulate their vision for the future flourishing of our churches: based in realism about challenges we all face, but rooted in a hopeful vision based on the gospel story of Jesus feeding the 5,000 (Mark 6.30-44, read it here!). Like Jesus with a few loaves and fishes, what amazing things we can do with the resources (however modest) we have available. They'd like everyone involved in this ongoing discussion: please come along to join in the conversation.



### Events in our Churches in May

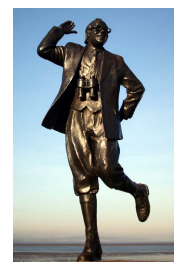
**Sunday 10 May, 3.30 Cantores Salicium Concert, Clapham St James Church.**

**THIS AFTERNOON!** Choral music by Tallis, Walton, Victoria & others interspersed with poetry. Director: Lindy Williams. Admission is free: refreshments will be served after the performance. Bentham Refugee Support Group invite donations to Care4Calais.

**Monday 25 May. Austwick Cuckoo Fair and Street Market.** Look out for the flower festival in Austwick Church, the Afternoon Fellowship stall in the Parish Hall, activities and refreshments in Austwick School, and our usual Church bookstall with additional special features this year!

**Wednesday 27 May. Afternoon Fellowship: A day at the seaside.**

A day trip to Morecambe, by train or bus. For details please contact the Afternoon Fellowship secretary Catherine Menday, 01524 251787, [catherine\\_menday@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:catherine_menday@yahoo.co.uk).



## All our Church Services in the coming weeks

**10 May *Sixth Sunday of Easter***  
**9.30 Austwick** Holy Communion  
(NB: there is no service at Keasden today)

**Thursday 14 May *Ascension Day***  
**10.30 Austwick** Holy Communion  
(replaces Wednesday service)

**17 May *Sunday after Ascension***  
**9.30 Austwick** Holy Communion  
**11.00 Clapham** Easy Church  
**6.30 Eldroth** Evening Prayer

**24 May *Pentecost***  
**9.30 Austwick** Holy Communion  
**11.00 Clapham** Holy Communion  
**6.30 Keasden** Lambing Service

**31 May *Trinity Sunday***  
**10.30 Eldroth** Benefice Holy Communion (Revd Steve Rathbone)  
**7.00 New Inn** Church in the Pub  
(TBC)

**7 June *First Sunday after Trinity***  
**9.30 Eldroth** Holy Communion  
**11.00 Clapham** Holy Communion  
**6.30 Newby Chapel** Evening Easy Church

**14 June *Second after Trinity***  
**9.30 Austwick** Holy Communion  
**11.00 Keasden** Holy Communion

**21 June *Third after Trinity***  
**9.30 Austwick** Holy Communion  
**11.00 Clapham** Easy Church  
**6.30 Eldroth** Evening Prayer

**28 June *Fourth after Trinity***  
**9.30 Austwick** Holy Communion  
**11.00 Clapham** Holy Communion  
**6.30 Keasden** Beer and Hymns

**Also, each Wednesday,**  
**10.30 Austwick** Holy Communion  
(Book of Common Prayer)

## Cate's Swimming Windermere!

### SPONSOR CATE ON THE GREAT NORTH SWIM

On Saturday 13th June Cate Muckersie will attempt to swim a mile on Windermere in the Great North Swim. Cate is fundraising in support of essential repair works on Austwick Church. Your sponsorship will help guarantee the future of this important community building.



**Please sponsor Cate:**

**GO ONLINE: [bit.ly/mygift-austwickchurch](http://bit.ly/mygift-austwickchurch)**

**SIGN A SPONSOR FORM: in Church or the Village Shop**

**OR CONTACT CATE: 07791 956304 / [muckersiec@gmail.com](mailto:muckersiec@gmail.com)**

