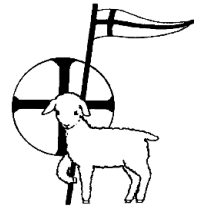


# St John the Baptist Church, Tisbury

reflecting Jesus Christ



**Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> April 2026**

**The Fourth Sunday of Easter**

## Today's Services

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP)

The Revd Dr Ruth Howlett-Shiplee

9.30am Parish Communion

President and Preacher: The Revd Barry Blackford

Gloria (Mass of St Thomas) *David Thorne* Sanctus & Benedictus, Agnus Dei *Schubert*

Processional Hymn: 105 Christ the Lord is risen again Gradual Psalm 23 (*words overleaf*)

Easter Alleluia and Gospel Acclamation *Stuart Robinson* Offertory hymn: 296 Lord enthroned in heavenly splendour

During Communion: Tantum ergo Sacramentum *de Séverac* Final hymn: 457 The King of love my shepherd is

Organ Voluntary: Marche Triomphale "Nun danket alle Gott" *Karg-Elert*

**Next Sunday, 3<sup>rd</sup> May**

**The Fifth Sunday of Easter**

9.30am All-Age Service

Led by Canon Judy Anderson

**This Sunday, 26<sup>th</sup> April, 12 noon – 5.00pm**

**Fonthill House Open Garden**

Why not enjoy a relaxing afternoon exploring wonderful woodland walks with daffodils, rhododendrons, azaleas, shrubs and bulbs, and admiring the magnificent views from the formal gardens. Light refreshments available. Dogs welcome on leads. Admission £10, children free.

**Next Sunday, 3<sup>rd</sup> May, at 10.45am**

**Church Annual Meetings**

Our church Annual Meetings this year will be held in St Andrew's Chapel on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> May at 10.45am (after the 9.30 All-Age service). Anyone who is on the register of local government electors is welcome to attend the first meeting, for the election of Churchwardens; those who are on the church electoral roll are encouraged to attend both meetings. Do please come!

**Have you considered** becoming a member of the PCC? This is your opportunity to contribute to decision-making about church matters - do talk to one of the Churchwardens or to Judy if you would like more information.

## In Memoriam

We were sorry to hear of the death ten days ago of **Raymond Tuffin**, a well-known member of the Tisbury community. Raymond wished to have a quiet burial with only his executor present, so there will not be a funeral.

The funeral of **Elspeth Hulme** will take place on 8<sup>th</sup> May in the Surrey village where she lived for many years before moving to Tisbury. Please pray for Juliette and all Elspeth's family at this time of loss.

## Lent boxes

Thank you to those of you who took a Lent box in aid of Alabaré. If you have not yet brought your box back, please would you do so by the end of April, so that we can send our donations?

## Stop press!

The results of the (national) Art and Christianity Awards 2025/26 were announced on Thursday. Our Memorial East Window was declared winner of the category 'For a permanent art commission within the building or grounds of a place of worship in the UK.' Congratulations to Tom Denny, the artist, and the East Window Committee!

You can read about the award at <https://artandchristianity.org/awards>

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## The Collect for the Fourth Sunday of Easter

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ is the resurrection and the life: raise us, who trust in him, from the death of sin to the life of righteousness, that we may seek those things which are above, where he reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

## The New Testament Reading: Acts 2.42-end

The believers devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

## Psalm 23

- 1 The Lord is my shepherd : therefore can I lack nothing.
  - 2 He makes me lie down in green pastures : and leads me beside still waters.
  - 3 He shall refresh my soul : and guide me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.
  - 4 Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil :  
for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.
  - 5 You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me :  
you have anointed my head with oil and my cup shall be full.
  - 6 Surely goodness and loving mercy shall follow me all the days of my life :  
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.
- Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning is now and shall be for ever. Amen.

## The Gospel: John 10.1-10

'Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.' Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

So again Jesus said to them, 'Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.

## For your prayers

For our linked diocese of Cueibet, South Sudan, we are asked to pray that a volunteer will come forward to be a member of the team for the next visit to the diocese by Chalke Deanery in the autumn.

A prayer for the world from the Church of England:

Almighty Father, whose will is to restore all things in your beloved Son, the King of all: govern the hearts and minds of those in authority, and bring the families of the nations, divided and torn apart by the ravages of sin, to be subject to his just and gentle rule; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



## New services rota

The post of Rector has now been advertised three times, and there have been no expressions of interest. It is felt that one reason for this is that the current pattern of services within the Upper Nadder Benefice is unsustainable. From the beginning of May, we shall be trialling a new pattern of services, agreed by all the PCCs; we hope that this will make the post of Rector more attractive to potential applicants. A letter from the Rural Dean explaining the rationale is available in church. Services at St John's will be as follows:

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday 9.30am All-Age Service    2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday 9.30am Parish Communion    3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday 6.00pm Choral Evensong  
4<sup>th</sup> Sunday 9.30am Parish Communion    On 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays, a Benefice Service will be held in one of the churches

The full Upper Nadder rota is published each month on the church website: [www.tisburyparishchurch.org/unb\\_rotas/](http://www.tisburyparishchurch.org/unb_rotas/)

## A date for your diary

The annual Village Fete will take place on **Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> June**, starting at noon. St John's will again have stalls at the fete – watch out for requests for items to sell! In the meantime, do please put the fete in your diary and plan to come.