



www.st-matthias-church.org

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**Sunday 19 March 2017**

**Third Sunday of Lent**

**Welcome!**

*We are delighted to see you, especially if this is your first visit. Please do join us for refreshments in the hall after the 10.30am service.*

**Today**

8am	Holy Communion (BCP)
10.30am	Holy Communion (CW)
6pm	Youth-led Service

**During the Week**

Tues	9am Morning Prayer
	9-11.30am Open House parents and toddlers <i>in the Lounge</i>
	3.15pm Messy Church
	7.30pm Lent Course in the Hall
Wed	9am Holy Communion <i>followed by coffee in the Lounge</i>
	12 noon-1.30pm Lent Lunch <i>in the Hall</i>
Fri	7.30pm Ladies Pudding Party <i>in the hall - speaker Suzanne Dugmore</i>

**Mothering Sunday 26 March**

8am	Holy Communion (BCP)
10.30am	Family Service for Mothering Sunday

**Collect**

Eternal God, give us insight  
to discern your will for us,  
to give up what harms us,  
and to seek the perfection we are promised  
in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

**Passover  
Supper**

Thurs 13 April

More info to  
follow

**Contacting the Church** [www.st-matthias-church.org](http://www.st-matthias-church.org)

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## Readings

### Exodus 7: 1-7

The whole Israelite community set out from the Desert of Sin, travelling from place to place as the LORD commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. <sup>2</sup> So they quarrelled with Moses and said, 'Give us water to drink.'

Moses replied, 'Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you put the LORD to the test?'

<sup>3</sup> But the people were thirsty for water there, and they grumbled against Moses. They said, 'Why did you bring us up out of Egypt to make us and our children and livestock die of thirst?'

<sup>4</sup> Then Moses cried out to the LORD, 'What am I to do with these people? They are almost ready to stone me.'

<sup>5</sup> The LORD answered Moses, 'Go out in front of the people. Take with you some of the elders of Israel and take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. <sup>6</sup> I will stand there before you by the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it for the people to drink.' So Moses did this in the sight of the elders of Israel. <sup>7</sup> And he called the place Massah and Meribah because the Israelites quarrelled and because they tested the LORD saying, 'Is the LORD among us or not?'

### John 4: 5-42

<sup>5</sup> So he came to a town in Samaria called Sychar, near the plot of ground Jacob had given to his son Joseph. <sup>6</sup> Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired as he was from the journey, sat down by the well. It was about noon.

<sup>7</sup> When a Samaritan woman came to draw water, Jesus said to her, 'Will you give me a drink?' <sup>8</sup> (His disciples had gone into the town to buy food.)

<sup>9</sup> The Samaritan woman said to him, 'You are a Jew and I am a Samaritan woman. How can you ask me for a drink?' (For Jews do not associate with Samaritans.)

<sup>10</sup> Jesus answered her, 'If you knew the gift of God and who it is that asks you for a drink, you would have asked him and he would have given you living water.'

<sup>11</sup> 'Sir,' the woman said, 'you have nothing to draw with and the well is deep. Where can you get this living water?' <sup>12</sup> Are you greater than our father Jacob, who gave us the well and drank from it himself, as did also his sons and his livestock?'

<sup>13</sup> Jesus answered, 'Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again,<sup>14</sup> but whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give them will become in them a spring of water welling up to eternal life.'

<sup>15</sup> The woman said to him, 'Sir, give me this water so that I won't get thirsty and have to keep coming here to draw water.' <sup>16</sup> He told her, 'Go, call your husband and come back.' <sup>17</sup> 'I have no husband,' she replied. Jesus said to her, 'You are right when you say you have no husband.' <sup>18</sup> The fact is, you have had five husbands, and the man you now have is not your husband. What you have just said is quite true.' <sup>19</sup> 'Sir,' the woman said, 'I can see that you are a prophet.' <sup>20</sup> Our ancestors worshipped on this mountain, but you Jews claim that the place where we must worship is in Jerusalem.'

<sup>21</sup> 'Woman,' Jesus replied, 'believe me, a time is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem.' <sup>22</sup> You Samaritans worship what you do not know; we worship what we do know, for salvation is from the Jews. <sup>23</sup> Yet a time is coming and has now come when the true worshippers will worship the Father in the Spirit and in truth, for they are the kind of worshippers the Father seeks. <sup>24</sup> God is spirit, and his worshippers must worship in the Spirit and in truth.' <sup>25</sup> The woman said, 'I know that Messiah' (called Christ) 'is coming. When he comes, he will explain everything to us.' <sup>26</sup> Then Jesus declared, 'I, the one speaking to you – I am he.' <sup>27</sup> Just then his disciples returned and were surprised to find him talking with a woman. But no one asked, 'What do you want?' or 'Why are you talking with her?' <sup>28</sup> Then, leaving her water jar, the woman went back to the town and said to the people, <sup>29</sup> 'Come, see a man who told me everything I've ever done. Could this be the Messiah?' <sup>30</sup> They came out of the town and made their way towards him.....

<sup>39</sup> Many of the Samaritans from that town believed in him because of the woman's testimony, 'He told me everything I've ever done.' <sup>40</sup> So when the Samaritans came to him, they urged him to stay with them, and he stayed two days. <sup>41</sup> And because of his words many more became believers.

<sup>42</sup> They said to the woman, 'We no longer believe just because of what you said; now we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this man really is the Saviour of the world.'



## **'Grounded in Faith...Growing to Serve'**

Please collect your named envelope from the back of church which contains a special brochure about this. If you can't find yours or if you need an extra one please let us know, there are plenty available. *(As with all of our regular church giving, only the treasurer and the person who helps with Gift Aid will know the details of individual pledges).* **Still have questions about the project?** You can ask PCC members about the project over coffee in the hall after the 10.30 service.

## LENT

- **Passover Supper Thurs 13 April** ... more info to follow
- **Lent Course with David Harley: "Jesus and his friends: His farewell message and prayer" (John chapters 14-17)**
  - Tuesdays at 7.30pm: 14, 21, 28 March in the Hall
- **Lent Lunches** every Wednesday during Lent 12 noon – 1.30pm. All proceeds to Christian Aid. Please do come and support this worthy cause.

**Ellacombe Messy Church** needs our help. This new venture with Captain Ade (the new Church Army evangelist) begins on Wed 22 March at 3.15pm in Ellacombe School. If you think you could offer help please let John/Pere know.

**Ladies' Pudding Evening** this Friday. Enjoy puddings, a glass of wine and coffee and a chance to chat and share some food for thought with speaker, Suzanne Dugmore. Tickets £5 from Ruth Beckett or the office.

**'LEGO'** Do you have any spare lego bricks you can donate for Messy Church? Please let Pere in the office know. Thanks.

**Street Pastors** Cliff Adcock will be commissioned at the next commissioning service on 8 April at Upton Vale. More details to follow.

### For our prayers and praise this week

Sun	Praise God for our young people and pray for tonight at the Youth-led service. Pray, too, for Ruth Jones as she leads them week by week.
Mon	Pray for those who have been coming for night shelter. Pray for all the Street Pastors who help on the streets on Saturday and Sunday nights.
Tues	Praise God for the Lent Courses, and pray for David Harley as he prepares for the next two sessions. Pray too for the Alpha Courses.
Wed	Thank God for those who provide the Lent lunches and those who attend and give to Christian Aid.
Thurs	Pray for our world and all leaders, especially for the USA and other countries where there is discord and violence.
Fri	Pray for those soon to be married. May God guide them in their preparation, especially those in the church family.
Sat	Pray for all our staff and those who give of their time and energy to keep the worship and the church and rooms in good order.
Sun	Pray for our church services and all the churches in the Bay. Remember all who are preparing for Confirmation and Baptism.

For 26 March?

**LiNX Elevate activities week** at Upton Vale 31 July – 4 August – more info from Ruth Jones.

**Ladies Day at Brunel Manor** Sat 8 April 'Calling and Purpose' with speaker Louise Sibley. For more information please see [www.brunelmanor.com](http://www.brunelmanor.com).

**Do you receive bread and wine at our communion services?** If not have you thought about confirmation which is the usual 'gateway' to doing this. Bishop Nick is coming to take a confirmation service here on **18 June**. To find out more please speak to one of the clergy.

**Events elsewhere...**