



*St John the
Evangelist
Highbridge*

*We want to be a people of courage,
sharing God's love across our community.*

15th May 2022
5th Sunday of Easter

Music in Today's service:

- 23 (white book) Longing for light
4 A new commandment
322 Love is his word
324 Love's redeeming work is done

Welcome to Church Today

Thank you, Shirley for playing for us today.

Collect: Risen Christ, your wounds declare your love for the world and the wonder of your risen life: give us compassion and courage to risk ourselves for those we serve, to the glory of God the Father.

Post Communion: Eternal God, whose Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life: grant us to walk in his way, to rejoice in his truth, and to share his risen life; who is alive and reigns, now and for ever.

Bible Reading: Acts 11:1-18

The apostles and the believers who were in Judea heard that the Gentiles had also accepted the word of God. So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him, saying, 'Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?' Then Peter began to explain it to them, step by step, saying, 'I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. There was something like a large sheet coming down from heaven, being lowered by its four corners; and it came close to me. As I looked at it closely I saw four-footed animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air. I also heard a voice saying to me, "Get up, Peter; kill and eat." But I replied, "By no means, Lord; for nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth." But a second time the voice answered from heaven, "What God has made clean, you must not call profane." This happened three times; then everything was pulled up again to heaven. At that very moment three men, sent to me from Caesarea, arrived at the house where we were. The Spirit told me to go with them and not to make a distinction between them and us. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man's house. He told us how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saying, "Send to Joppa and bring Simon, who is called Peter; he will give you a message by which you and your entire household will be saved." And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as it had upon us at the beginning. And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said, "John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit." If then God gave them the same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could hinder God?' When they heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God, saying, 'Then God has given even to the Gentiles the repentance that leads to life.'

Bible Reading: John 13:31-35

During the supper, when Judas had gone out, Jesus said, 'Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, "Where I am going, you cannot come." I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.'

In our prayers....

To include somebody on this prayer list please let Liz in the office know by 8am on Thursday, making sure the person you wish to be included wants their name in print.

Marriage:

Couples preparing for marriage and those recently married.

Baptisms:

We pray for all parents and godparents

Especially for Robert, Alex and Tasha who are all being baptized today.



Those in need of our prayers:

Jenny Salway, Jill Hooley, Alun Sales, Marilyn Lloyd

For those who have died:

We pray for those who have recently died and their loved ones who grieve their loss.

Those whose anniversary falls this week:

Marjorie Jackson, Pam Wright



In our community:

We pray for all individuals and families in Highbridge who are struggling to feed themselves, particularly those battling against multiple causes of poverty.

In our world:

We pray for the work of Christian Aid, and especially give thanks for Janet who is now able to feed her family because of their programmes. We pray for a more just and restrained world, where the greed of the few is outweighed by the love of many.

Christian Aid Week

15 – 21 May 2022

Join us this Christian Aid Week, and help turn hunger into hope. Hope lives in you.

We have set ourselves a target to raise £300 for Christian Aid. You can give either by cash or card in the service, or online here:

<https://envelope.christianaid.org.uk/envelope/st-johns-highbridge>

Janet's story

Love is Janet's superpower – giving her the strength and courage to stand strong against drought and hunger.

"In my family, children look up to me and I must give them food. I am more than glad to share what I have."

- Janet.





Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II's Platinum Jubilee:

Rather than run rival social events, we have decided to encourage the church community to go and participate in what is going on in Highbridge over the long weekend and get stuck in with the community spirit.

Some events are being held at St John's by others which is great - you are warmly invited!

- On Thursday 2nd June at 12.30pm performance and picnic by Highbridge Youth Theatre outside St John's; in the evening there will be a short beacon-lighting ceremony at 9.30pm, also outside the church.
- Our 10am service on Sunday 5th June will be a jubilee-themed Pentecost service at with a glass of fizz afterwards. From there we encourage people to help with the seniors tea at the Community Hall, 4-6pm.
 - There are loads of other things going on over the weekend - enjoy!

Help Needed Please

On Sunday 5th June 4pm – 6pm the Highbridge Community Hall are hosting an afternoon tea party for the over 70's to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

As a church it would be lovely if we could support the local events and offer help in our community.

If anyone can volunteer that afternoon from 2pm to help set up, serve and clear up please contact Rosemarie Parsons on 01278 785427

Queen's Jubilee Afternoon tea

Tickets for the over 70's tea at the Community Hall are free and now available. Please contact Rosemarie Parsons 785427 or Pat Burge 788134 for your tickets. Only 70 available so be quick!



Scratch Choir

We would like to put together a scratch choir to sing a fairly simple piece for the Queen's Jubilee service on Sunday 5th June 10am.

There will be a practice of the anthem we are planning to sing after church today, please do stay if you would like to join our choir!

BLUES at the PEWS **School of Blues!** 21-22 May 2022

A weekend of FREE workshops to improve your musical and technical skills and learn new ones.

Keyboards Guitar Sound Engineering
Vocals Bass Drums

All workshops are run by experienced performers including some Blues in the Pews regulars, as well as guest educators from across Somerset and Bristol.

Workshops are open to all ages (under 18s must be accompanied by an adult) and are for different levels of experience and ability (see overleaf for details).

Places are FREE but must be booked in advance via the following link:
bluesinthepews.eventbrite.co.uk

St John's Church, Highbridge, TA9 3HS



The next
Blues in the Pews
is on

Saturday 21st May

7.30pm – 10pm

All welcome

Enjoy an evening of live music with the house band 'Mossflower' and local musicians.

The licensed bar will be open!

A copy of the workshop programme with details of sessions and times is available at the back of church

Contact us:

For general enquiries and wedding or baptism bookings, in the first instance please contact the church parish office.

Office opening times are:

Tuesday 10am -2pm

Wednesday 9.30am – 12 noon

Thursday 10am – 2pm

Term time only

Parish office: 01278 780633 (answer machine when office isn't manned)

Email: stjohnsofficehighbridge@gmail.com

Priest: Rev'd Martin Little: 01278 792154 bryanmartinlittle@gmail.com

Churchwarden: Jenny Dolan: 01278 785935

Safeguarding Appointed Person: Helen Meager: 01278 238678 helenford75@yahoo.co.uk



CALENDAR May 2022

Sunday 15th 5th Sunday of Easter

10am Communion 12 Noon Baptism

Wed 18th 9.30am Communion in the church
and live streamed to Facebook

Thurs 19th 10am – 4pm Church open for prayer

Sat 21st 11am – 4pm Blues in the Pews Workshops
7.30pm – 10pm Blues in the Pews

Sunday 22nd 6th Sunday of Easter

10am Communion Gospel Service

Wed 25th 9.30am Communion in the church
and live streamed to Facebook

Thurs 26th 10am – 4pm Church open for prayer

Sunday 29th 7th Sunday of Easter

10am Communion

June

Wed 1st 9.30am Communion in the church
and live streamed to Facebook

Thurs 2nd 10am – 4pm Church open for prayer
12.30pm Performance by Highbridge
Youth Theatre outside church

9.30pm Beacon lighting ceremony
outside church



*St John the
Evangelist
Highbridge*