



## Central Hartlepool Group

One Family, Three Parishes,  
Growing the Kingdom.

### Notices and Readings 2 May 2021: Stranton and Burbank Community Churches

#### ***Welcome and God's Blessing as we gather in Church and online***

Church services have now resumed, and you are welcome to attend subject to following all COVID-safe guidelines. If you are self isolating or cannot attend you are welcome to follow the Services streaming LIVE on Facebook or Stranton web pages at the times shown, or afterwards as online videos.

#### ***FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (White)***

#### ***Streamed to Facebook...***

9.00am	Holy Communion	Revd Norman	<i>Stranton</i>
9.15am	Holy Communion	Mother Gemma	
10.45am	Mass	Mother Gemma	<i>St Aidan's</i>
11.00am	Family Communion	Rev'd Norman, Mary Tones	<i>Stranton</i>
2.00 pm	Stranton Sunday Club (online only)	Kate	<i>Stranton Sunday Club</i>

**Readings:** - Acts 8: 26-40; John 15: 1-8

The Liturgy and songs for 11am Family communion are below.

9.30am	<u>Wednesday</u> Communion	Revd Clive	<i>St Luke's</i>
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#### **Collect for 5th Sunday of Easter:**

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.  
Amen.

#### **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.  
Amen.

#### **Online Sunday Club**

Remember to join us at 2pm on Facebook or the church website for the next video. We will be looking at the story of Deborah who was an incredible woman in the Bible. She was a bit like a superhero and helped to save many people. Our fun activities will include creating a superhero mask and also designing a shield!

Enjoy, Kate

Stranton Sunday Club Leader, <https://www.facebook.com/strantonsundayclub>

## Acts 8: 26 – 40 NIV

Now an angel of the Lord said to Philip, 'Go south to the road – the desert road – that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.' <sup>27</sup> So he started out, and on his way he met an Ethiopian eunuch, an important official in charge of all the treasury of the Kandake (which means 'queen of the Ethiopians'). This man had gone to Jerusalem to worship, <sup>28</sup> and on his way home was sitting in his chariot reading the Book of Isaiah the prophet. <sup>29</sup> The Spirit told Philip, 'Go to that chariot and stay near it.'

<sup>30</sup> Then Philip ran up to the chariot and heard the man reading Isaiah the prophet. 'Do you understand what you are reading?' Philip asked. <sup>31</sup> 'How can I,' he said, 'unless someone explains it to me?' So he invited Philip to come up and sit with him. <sup>32</sup> This is the passage of Scripture the eunuch was reading:

'He was led like a sheep to the slaughter,  
and as a lamb before its shearer is silent,  
so he did not open his mouth.

<sup>33</sup> In his humiliation he was deprived of justice.  
Who can speak of his descendants?  
For his life was taken from the earth.'

<sup>34</sup> The eunuch asked Philip, 'Tell me, please, who is the prophet talking about, himself or someone else?' <sup>35</sup> Then Philip began with that very passage of Scripture and told him the good news about Jesus. <sup>36</sup> As they travelled along the road, they came to some water and the eunuch said, 'Look, here is water. What can stand in the way of my being baptised?' <sup>38</sup> And he gave orders to stop the chariot. Then both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water and Philip baptised him. <sup>39</sup> When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord suddenly took Philip away, and the eunuch did not see him again, but went on his way rejoicing. <sup>40</sup> Philip, however, appeared at Azotus and travelled about, preaching the gospel in all the towns until he reached Caesarea.

## John 15: 1-8 NIV

'I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. <sup>2</sup> He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes<sup>[a]</sup> so that it will be even more fruitful. <sup>3</sup> You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. <sup>4</sup> Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me.

<sup>5</sup> 'I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. <sup>6</sup> If you do not remain in me, you are like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. <sup>7</sup> If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. <sup>8</sup> This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.

## Intercessions

- We pray for national and local leaders: for wisdom in day-to-day decisions regarding the pandemic: for health, safety, and wise use of resources. We pray that the take-up of the vaccine and on-going safeguarding measures defeats the virus and it becomes safe for us all to resume our normal activities.
  - We pray for the care of all affected by the pandemic, for wisdom for the decision makers concerning the roadmap to ease the lockdown; we pray particularly for health and care workers, the police and community wardens, small businesses and local employers, and all who are seeking work.
  - We pray that we may be a Community of Hope, that we may reach out with love and hope to the vulnerable and marginalised. Pray for Emma, Jess and Jo, our Communities of Hope team as their work continues amongst the needy in our community, and that we may find ways in which to become involved.
  - We pray peace and healing for all who are unwell in body mind or spirit, for those awaiting medical treatment, or are in hospital or recovering at home. We pray for those in isolation. We pray for those in care homes.
  - We pray for all those who mourn, especially for the family and friends of Olwyn Wood and Pauline Suggett.
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## ATTENDING CHURCH FOR WORSHIP.

The COVID vaccines are safe, do please have your vaccination when you are invited. Despite generally improving public health, because there is still quite a high risk of transmission of infection we still need to follow the guidance to care for each other even after COVID-19 vaccination, including (if required to quarantine or showing symptoms) self isolating and not attending church

- If you are attending a church service do please try to come a few minutes early to help avoid congestion and delays at the entrance as the service starts.
- Everyone is required to maintain the 2 metre social distancing regime as well as sanitising their hands on entry and exit. A register of attendees will be kept for three weeks.
- Holy Communion is offered by intinction (wafer dipped in wine).
- The Sunday service will be displayed on the screens.
- There will be no congregational singing, but a small worship group will sing for us
- Please sanitise hands again and follow directions to receive Holy Communion, or a blessing.
- After the service, please meet outside, continuing to maintain distance and allowing other people to leave

The following arrangements are in place...

- The use of face masks is **mandatory** during worship.
- Entry into church will be by the south door (usual entrance).
- Hand sanitiser must be used at the entrance
- Please give your name so it can be entered onto the register
- Maintain two metre distancing one person to a pew – families may sit together
- Seating is sanitised between services.
- Access to toilets is available if absolutely necessary, but please follow the guidance provided on cleaning
- All individuals attending must check in, not just a named lead
- Please (if you are able to do so) scan the official NHS QR code poster using the NHS COVID-19 app. If you become unwell with COVID-19 like symptoms within the week after attending a church service please advise a member of the clergy or a churchwarden so that the contact list information from that service can be used for test and tracing purposes.

There will not be a collection taken but you may leave an offertory in the basket as you come in.

## NOTICES

**Live online weekday Services**      *facebook addresses are below.*

- Mother Gemma will stream Mass at 9.15am from St Aidan's each morning on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday. Holy communion is streamed from St Lukes on Wednesdays at 9.30am.
- We hope shortly Revd Michelle will be able to lead a weekly afternoon reflection on Thursdays at 3.00pm via Facebook

If you would like to access a night prayer **Lectio 365 have introduced a daily night prayer** accessible by down loading the app. The Church of England have also introduced an audio version of Morning Prayer.

- Zoom Morning Prayer at 8.30am Monday to Friday. Contact Revd Norman for details.
- Zoom open prayer 3pm on Wednesdays, contact Mother Gemma for details

### **The Way of Love Pilgrimage – May 7-8th Hartlepool to Durham**

This journey will be undertaken in just two days, taking place on May 7th and 8th. To comply with restrictions, Bishop Paul and his wife will be camping in St Mary Magdalene Church in Trimdon. This will be the first case of pilgrims camping overnight in churches on The Northern Saints Trails and a number of other churches will be offering this special service to pilgrims.

### **Church Annual Meeting (APCM)**

The Church Annual Meetings will take place on Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> May following the 11am service. Just like last year it will be possible to attend both on line (by zoom) or in person. In preparation for the Annual Meeting the electoral roll needs to be updated. If anyone would like to join the electoral role please fill in a form obtained at the back of the Church. This process needs to be completed by **Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> May**.

### **Parish Giving – how to support the mission and ministry of Stranton Church**

The Parish Giving Scheme has been updated and it is now possible to join this direct debit scheme through the scheme's website. The link for Stranton church is <https://www.parishgiving.org.uk/donors/find-your-parish/stranton-all-saints-ts24-7qt/> We do still welcome and give thanks to those who give by standing order and / or envelopes but there are additional costs involved in these older methods. It is also still possible to join the scheme by obtaining a form if you prefer a paper application. If anyone has any questions about the scheme please let me know. *David Craig*, Hon. Treasurer: **email - [treasurer@stranton-church.org.uk](mailto:treasurer@stranton-church.org.uk)**

### **Facebook Addresses:**

<https://www.facebook.com/allsaintsstranton> <https://www.facebook.com/aidancolumba>  
<https://www.facebook.com/stlukeshartlepool>  
<https://www.facebook.com/strantonsundayclub> <https://www.facebook.com/hartlepoolcoh>

(then available at <http://stranton-church.org.uk/videos.html>)

**Contacts: (Church office not yet open), please telephone or email.**

For Stranton Church      Tel 07305 550009 (Maureen)      Email: [admin@stranton-church.org.uk](mailto:admin@stranton-church.org.uk)  
Norman or Julie Shave:      Tel 01429 233609      Email: [nshave1@btinternet.com](mailto:nshave1@btinternet.com)  
More information can be found on our web site at:      <http://www.stranton-church.org.uk>

**Communities of Hope - Emma Cain**      Mob. 07597 308722      Email [emma@hartlepoolcoh.co.uk](mailto:emma@hartlepoolcoh.co.uk)

**Stranton Church 2<sup>nd</sup> May 11am**  
**Family Communion**

Welcome in the name of Christ.  
God's grace, mercy and peace be with you  
**And also with you.**

Alleluia, Christ is risen.  
**He is risen indeed. Alleluia**

**Living and loving God**  
**fill our hearts with Easter joy.**  
**Help us to sing in worship, pray in faith,**  
**and hear your word today;**  
**through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**Men of faith** rise up and sing  
of the great and glorious king;  
You are strong when you feel weak,  
in your brokenness complete.

*Shout to the north and the south,  
Sing to the east and the west:  
Jesus is Saviour to all,  
Lord of heaven and earth.*

Rise up women of the truth,  
Stand and sing to broken hearts:  
Who can know the healing power  
Of our glorious King of love?

We've been through fire, we've been through rain,  
We've been refined by the power of his name.  
We've fallen deeper in love with You,  
You've burnt the truth on our lips.

Rise up church with broken wings;  
Fill this place with songs again,  
Of our God who reigns on high:  
By His grace again we'll fly.

*Confession*

*response:* **Father, forgive us.**

*Words of forgiveness*

*The 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. Amen**

*Birthdays and celebrations*

**All my days,** I will sing this song of gladness,  
Give my praise to the Fountain of Delights;  
For in my helplessness, you heard my cry,  
And waves of mercy poured down on my life.

I will trust in the cross of my Redeemer,  
I will sing of the blood that never fails;  
Of sins forgiven, of conscience cleansed,  
Of death defeated and life without end.

*Beautiful Saviour, Wonderful Counsellor,  
Clothed in majesty, Lord of history,  
You're the way, the truth, the life.  
Star of the morning, glorious in holiness.  
You're the risen one, heaven's champion,  
And You reign, you reign over all!*

I long to be where the praise is never ending,  
Yearn to dwell where the glory never fades;  
Where countless worshippers will share one song,  
And cries of 'worthy' will honour the Lamb!

*Bible reading:* Acts 8:26-40

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God**

*Gospel reading:* John 15: 1-8

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*And at the end*

This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Sermon*

*Prayers*

Merciful Father,  
**accept these prayers for the sake of your Son,**  
**our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

*The Creed*

**Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures;**  
**he was buried; he was raised to life on the third day**  
**in accordance with the Scriptures;**  
**afterwards he appeared to his followers,**  
**and to all the apostles:**  
**this we have received, and this we believe. Amen.**

*The Peace*

The peace of the Lord be always with you  
**And also with you.**

**Behold the Lamb** who bears our sins away,  
Slain for us: and we remember:  
The promise made that all who come in faith  
Find forgiveness at the cross.  
So we share in this Bread of life,  
And we drink of His sacrifice,  
As a sign of our bonds of peace  
Around the table of the King.

The body of our Saviour, Jesus Christ,  
Torn for you: eat and remember  
The wounds that heal, the death that brings us life,  
Paid the price to make us one.

So we share in this Bread of Life,  
And we drink of His sacrifice  
As a sign of our bonds of love  
Around the table of the King.

The blood that cleanses every stain of sin,  
Shed for you: drink and remember  
He drained death's cup that all may enter in  
To receive the life of God.

So we share in this Bread of Life,  
And we drink of His sacrifice,  
As a sign of our bonds of grace  
Around the table of the King.

And so with thankfulness and faith we rise  
To respond: and to remember  
Our call to follow in the steps of Christ  
As His body here on earth.  
As we share in His suffering,  
We proclaim: Christ will come again!  
And we'll join in the feast of heaven  
Around the table of the King.

**Yours, Lord, is the greatness, the power,  
the glory, the splendour, and the majesty;  
for everything in heaven and on earth is yours.  
All things come from you,  
and of your own do we give you.**

#### *The Eucharistic Prayer*

The Lord is here  
**His Spirit is with us.**

Lift up your hearts.  
**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**It is right to give thanks and praise.**

...And so we join the angels to celebrate and say:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord  
God of power and might,  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

Great is the mystery of faith:  
**Christ has died,  
Christ is risen:  
Christ will come again.**

#### *The Lord's prayer*

#### *Breaking of bread*

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.  
**Though we are many, we are one body,  
because we all share in one bread.**

**Broken for me, broken for you,  
the body of Jesus, broken for you.**

He offered his body, he poured out his soul;  
Jesus was broken, that we might be whole.

Come to my table and with me dine;  
eat of my bread and drink of my wine.

This is my body given for you;  
eat it remembering I died for you.

This is my blood I shed for you,  
for your forgiveness, making you new.

**Thank you for saving me, what can I say?  
You are my everything, I will sing your praise.  
You shed your blood for me, what can I say?  
You took my sin and shame, a sinner called by name.**

*Great is the Lord, great is the Lord,  
For we know your truth has set us free,  
You've set your hope in me.*

Mercy and grace are mine, forgiven is my sin,  
Jesus my only hope, the Saviour of the world.  
"Great is the Lord" we cry,  
God let your kingdom come,  
Your word has let me see,  
thank you for saving me!

#### *Prayer after communion*

**God of our salvation,  
in the death and resurrection of Jesus  
you have given us life,  
and brought us back into your love.  
Continue to heal us,  
and send us out in the power of your Spirit,  
to live and work for your praise and glory. Amen**

#### *Notices*

**Teach me to dance** to the beat of your heart,  
teach me to move in the power of your Spirit,  
teach me to walk in the light of your presence,  
teach me to dance to the beat of your heart.  
Teach me to love with your heart of compassion,  
teach me to trust in the word of your promise,  
teach me to hope in the day of your coming,  
teach me to dance to the beat of your heart.

You wrote the rhythm of life, created heaven and earth,  
in You is joy without measure.  
So, like a child in your sight, I dance to see your delight,  
for I was made for your pleasure, pleasure.

Let all my movements express  
a heart that loves to say 'yes',  
a will that leaps to obey you.  
Let all my energy blaze to see the joy in your face;  
let my whole being praise you, praise you.

#### *Blessing*

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord  
**In the name of Christ. Amen.**