



St Andrew's Church

Open • Inclusive • Involved

Welcome to St Andrew's - may God's peace be with you

The Third Sunday in Lent

8th March 2026

8.00am BCP Holy Communion

President and Preacher: The Rev'd James Sampson-Foster

10.30am Worship All Together

President: The Rev'd James Sampson-Foster

Preacher: The Rev'd Canon Edmund Newey

Deacon: Helen Bryant, Ordinand

12.30pm PCC meeting

6.00pm Evensong

Officiant: The Rev'd Canon Edmund Newey

Reflection: Sue Goddard, Licensed Reader

Introit: Lord for thy tender mercy's sake *Farrant*

Anthem: *Sicut Cervus Palestrina*

Mass Setting: Penitential Mass

Processional Hymn: **295**: Disposer supreme, and judge of the earth

Gradual Hymn: **669**: I heard the voice of Jesus say

Offertory Hymn: **595**: Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart

Communion Hymn: **119**: 'Forgive our sins as we forgive'

Recessional Hymn: **761**: Praise the Lord! Ye heavens, adore him

Collect:

Almighty God, whose most dear Son went not up to joy but first he suffered pain, and entered not into glory before he was crucified: mercifully grant that we, walking in the way of the cross, may find it none other than the way of life and peace; 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.**

Reading: Exodus 17:1-7

From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the Lord commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. The people quarrelled with Moses, and said, 'Give us water to drink.' Moses said to them, 'Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the Lord?' But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, 'Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?' So Moses cried out to the Lord, 'What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me.' The Lord said to Moses, 'Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink.' Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarrelled and tested the Lord, saying, 'Is the Lord among us or not?'

Gospel: John 4:5-42

So Jesus came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon.

A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her,

'Give me a drink'. (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) The Samaritan woman said to him, 'How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?' (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) Jesus answered her, 'If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, "Give me a drink", you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water.' The woman said to him, 'Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?' Jesus said to her, 'Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life.' The woman said to him, 'Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water.'

Jesus said to her, 'Go, call your husband, and come back.' The woman answered him, 'I have no husband.' Jesus said to her, 'You are right in saying, "I have no husband"; for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!' The woman said to him, 'Sir, I see that you are a prophet. Our ancestors worshipped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem.' Jesus said to her, 'Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.' The woman said to him, 'I know that Messiah is coming' (who is called Christ). 'When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us.' Jesus said to her, 'I am he, the one who is speaking to you.' Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, 'What do you want?' or,

‘Why are you speaking with her?’ Then the woman left her water-jar and went back to the city. She said to the people, ‘Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?’ They left the city and were on their way to him. Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, ‘Rabbi, eat something.’ But he said to them, ‘I have food to eat that you do not know about.’ So the disciples said to one another, ‘Surely no one has brought him something to eat?’ Jesus said to them, ‘My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work. Do you not say, “Four months more, then comes the harvest”? But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting. The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. For here the saying holds true, “One sows and another reaps.” I sent you to reap that for which you did not labour. Others have laboured, and you have entered into their labour.’

Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman’s testimony, ‘He told me everything I have ever done.’ So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them; and he stayed there for two days. And many more believed because of his word. They said to the woman, ‘It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Saviour of the world.’

Healing prayer: Irene W, George W, Luci & Sophie, Gillian M, Caroline, Lily, Denise, Mary S, Mary G, Cheryl W, David, S.M, Faith F, Jane B, William B, Rosemary & John K, Sue P, Carol S, Elizabeth I, Patricia T, David P

Post Communion Prayer:

Merciful Lord, grant your people grace to withstand the temptations of the world, the flesh and the devil, and with pure hearts and minds to follow you, the only God; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Lent at St Andrew's

Thursdays in Lent 5.30pm Reflective Prayer 6pm Lent Eucharist

Big Table Gospel Group will be reading David Ford's, *Meeting God in John: A Companion for Lent, Holy Week, Easter and Beyond*. All are welcome. It meets on alternate Thursday & Friday mornings at 10am starting Friday 20th February.

A booklet, **Draw Near: Life-giving Habits for Lent**, is available at the back of church. It focuses on the habits and practices that are essential to what it means to be a Christian—Do please take a copy for a suggested donation of £3.



Finally, during Lent we will experiment with reintroducing the passing of collection plates at the offertory. If you give regularly by Parish Giving or standing order, please do take one of the cards as you enter church, so that you can place this in the plate as a sign of your offering. You can also use our QR code.



News and Notices

Any item to be included should be with the office by Wednesday, 12noon.

Electoral Roll If you a regular at any of our services we would love to have you on the Electoral Roll, our contact list of worshippers at St Andrew's. Please speak to Pat, Joyce or Hash

Do you have any leftover wool or fabric that you are never going to use—if you do the Yarnbombers are collecting. You can bring into church for Joyce or take straight to Wild and Free in Bank Street--thanks.

The next **Rosebuds** will be 18th March 7pm at Satchmo's Corner.

Easter Lilies If you would like to make a donation to help with the cost of the Easter lilies, maybe in memory of a loved one, please leave with the wardens or the office. If you are able to gift aid, please complete your details on a yellow envelope and mark as Easter flowers.

The Big Table Gospel group meets every week around the talking table in the cafe, alternating on Thursday and Friday mornings. Contact John on shoparound1938@gmail.com

Bereavement Point 2pm - 3.30pm on the 1st & 3rd Tuesday of the month (plus the 5th if there is one!). Opportunity for group conversation and relationship building where everyone is welcome and comfort is offered <https://compassionaterugby.co.uk/>

Church Mice Stay and Play Group Great news! Church Mice has restarted at St Andrew's. 10-11.30am Fridays (term time) for ages 0-4 years and it's free. Please spread the news where you can. Volunteers are warmly welcome, have a chat with Lydia, Joyce or Heather for more information. Thank you.

Together for the Church of England is a group supporting greater equality and inclusion in the church. A local meeting is being held at St Mary's, Walsgrave at 7pm on Wednesday 18th March. All welcome—speak to one of the clergy if you would like a lift.

The St Andrew's 100 Club The 11th draw took place on Sunday 1st March with the winning tickets being 101- Eloise Khumalo, 104 - Tiago Ferreria and Joyce Woodings. It is still not too late to support the work of St Andrew's, why not consider joining for next year 2026 / 27, Renewal and Application Forms are available NOW when you will have the opportunity to join the illustrious company of the thirty one winners to date. Good Luck to all ticket holders, future draws take place on the first Sunday of the month. Thank you for your support, John, Helen and Sonia.

Diary for the week 9th - 15th March

Café open Monday - Friday 10am-2pm, Saturday 10am-12noon

Monday

9.00am Morning Prayer
 10.00am Ball of Yarn Knitting & crochet drop-in group
 10.30am Art with Aish
 6.30pm Community Singers
 7.30pm Bell Ringing practice

Tuesday

9.00am Morning Prayer
 9.30am Reflective Eucharist
 1.00pm Tuesday Lunchtime Concert

Wednesday

9.00am Morning Prayer
 12.00pm Midday Eucharist
 2.15pm Mothers' Union
 5.00pm Young Choristers

Thursday

9.00am Morning Prayer
 10.00am Big Table Gospel group
 5.30pm Lent Reflective Prayer
 6.00pm Eucharist
 7.15pm Choir practice

Friday

9.00am Morning Prayer
 10.00am Church Mice



Saturday

10.30am Second Saturday Songs

Sunday 15th March

Fourth Sunday of Lent
 Mothering Sunday

8.00am BCP Holy Communion
 10.30am Choral Eucharist
 6.00pm Celtic Evening Prayer



Agia Kyriaki church and Chrysopolitissa Basilica are a complex of churches built one above the ruins of the earlier, over a period of 1100 years. The physical presence on the site of Saint Paul on 45 AD to teach Christianity attracts thousands of visitors. According to tradition, Saint Paul was punished and sentenced to thirty nine (forty but one) lashes for evangelizing Christianity in Paphos. For this, he was tied on a column and whipped with a special whip. The column, known as Saint Paul's pillar, lies next to the church.