

St Neots Parish Church (St Mary) & Eynesbury St Mary

# Welcome to Worship!

Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2025

The Sixth Sunday of Lent – Palm Sunday



## Services today

- 8 a.m. Eucharist (BCP) St Neots Parish Church
- 9.30 a.m. Sung Eucharist St Neots Parish Church  
*President – The Rector. A reading of the St Luke Passion replaces the sermon.*
- Hymns: 159 (omit\*); 160; 156; Anthem + 149; 161 (1<sup>st</sup>t)**
- 11 a.m. Sung Eucharist Eynesbury  
*President & Preacher – The Revd Melvyn Barnsley – Passion Gospel not used.*
- Hymns: 159 (omit\*); 161 (1<sup>st</sup>t); 147 (omit\*); 156**
- 5 p.m. A Reflective Evening Prayer for Holy Week Eynesbury

## Services & Events this week

*This year, there are no evening services for Monday-Wednesday in Holy Week.*

- Monday 10.00 Communion at Henbrook House
- Wednesday 09.30 Eucharist SNPC  
11.00 Eucharist at Poppyfields
- Thursday 09.30 Eucharist (early Maundy Thursday) Eynesbury
- See separate notice for all the services from Maundy Thursday evening to Saturday night.*

## Services for next Sunday, 20<sup>th</sup> April, Easter Day:

- 8 a.m. Eucharist (BCP) St Neots Parish Church
- 9.30 a.m. Sung Festival Eucharist St Neots Parish Church
- 11 a.m. Sung Eucharist Eynesbury

### Giving for the work of the Church

We do not pass a collection plate around the congregation during the service, but we always welcome donations from those who attend worship, either in cash or by using the card reader near the door at SNPC before or after the service.

Please Gift Aid that donation if you can do so (envelopes are available).

We also encourage regular givers to become members of the Parish Giving Scheme (which is how many Church members make their donations).

Please ask at the door, or via the Office, if you want more information about this.

*The Parish of St Neots with Eynesbury, Reg Charity No 1195248, in the Church of England Diocese of Ely.*

*Rector: The Revd Paul Hutchinson, The Rectory, Church Street, 01480 471297*

*Parish Office: Church Street, 01480 370312; [office@stneots.org](mailto:office@stneots.org) - [www.stneots.org](http://www.stneots.org) .*

*Weekly Sheet 20250413*

## **Collect for Palm Sunday**

Almighty and everlasting God, who in your tender love towards the human race sent your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ to take upon him our flesh and to suffer death upon the cross:

grant that we may follow the example of his patience and humility, and also be made partakers of his resurrection;

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.

## **Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 50.4-9a**

The Lord God has given me the tongue of a teacher, that I may know how to sustain the weary with a word.

Morning by morning he wakens—

wakens my ear to listen as those who are taught.

The Lord God has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious, I did not turn backwards.

I gave my back to those who struck me,

and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard;

I did not hide my face from insult and spitting.

The Lord God helps me; therefore I have not been disgraced; therefore I have set my face like flint,

and I know that I shall not be put to shame; he who vindicates me is near.

Who will contend with me? Let us stand up together.

Who are my adversaries? Let them confront me.

It is the Lord God who helps me; who will declare me guilty?

## **Palm Gospel Reading (first at 9.30, later at 8 & 11): Luke 19.28-40**

When he had come near Bethphage and Bethany, at the place called the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two of the disciples, saying, 'Go into the village ahead of you, and as you enter it you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden. Untie it and bring it here. If anyone asks you, "Why are you untying it?" just say this: "The Lord needs it."' So those who were sent departed and found it as he had told them. As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, 'Why are you untying the colt?' They said, 'The Lord needs it.' Then they brought it to Jesus; and after throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. As he rode along, people kept spreading their cloaks on the road. As he was now approaching the path down from the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to praise God joyfully with a loud voice for all the deeds of power that they had seen, saying,

'Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord!

Peace in heaven, and glory in the highest heaven!

Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, 'Teacher, order your disciples to stop.'

He answered, 'I tell you, if these were silent, the stones would shout out.'

## **At 9.30am: the Passion according to St Luke (Luke 22.39 – 23.49)**

*Please sit for this exceptionally long reading.*

*It is read by multiple voices and is not printed in full here.*

*There is a moment during the trial of Jesus by Pilate that the whole congregation is invited to join in with energetic enthusiasm:*

Pilate: You brought me this man as one who was perverting the people; and here I have examined him in your presence and have not found this man guilty of any of your charges against him. Neither has Herod, for he sent him back to us. Indeed, he has done nothing to deserve death. I will therefore have him flogged and release him.

Luke: Then they all shouted out together,

Crowd: **Away with this fellow! Release Barabbas for us!**

Luke: (This was a man who had been put in prison for an insurrection that had taken place in the city, and for murder.) Pilate, wanting to release Jesus, addressed them again; but they kept shouting,

Crowd: **Crucify, crucify him!**

## **New Testament Reading (not used in service): Philippians 2.5-11**

*We have been using an adaptation of this text as our Affirmation of Faith in Lent.*

Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,  
who, though he was in the form of God,

did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited,  
but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness.  
And being found in human form, he humbled himself

and became obedient to the point of death— even death on a cross.

Therefore God also highly exalted him

and gave him the name that is above every name,  
so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend,  
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,  
and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father.

## **Alternative Collect**

True and humble king, hailed by the crowd as Messiah:  
grant us the faith to know you and love you,  
that we may be found beside you on the way of the cross,  
which is the path of glory.

## **Post-Communion Prayer**

Lord Jesus Christ, you humbled yourself in taking the form of a servant,  
and in obedience died on the cross for our salvation:  
give us the mind to follow you and to proclaim you as Lord and King,  
to the glory of God the Father.

**Collect for Maundy Thursday:** God our Father, you have invited us to share in the supper which your Son gave to his Church to proclaim his death until he comes: may he nourish us by his presence, and unite us in his love; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

**Collect for Good Friday:** Almighty Father, look with mercy on this your family for which our Lord Jesus Christ was content to be betrayed and given up into the hands of sinners and to suffer death upon the cross; who is alive and glorified with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

### **Services for the 'Triduum'**

*This year's major services have a strong focus on the Gospel of Luke (including his distinctive telling of the story of the Last Supper on Maundy Thursday, the extra elements in the morning on Good Friday, his words on the Cross in the afternoon, and the more prominent roles for women throughout the three days). Some of the story has been read on Palm Sunday, but these services give us more time to reflect, to ponder, and to follow through.*

Maundy Thurs	<u>7.30pm</u>	<u>Eucharist of the Lord's Supper &amp; Watch</u>	St Neots
	9.45pm	Night Prayer to conclude Watch	St Neots
Good Friday	9.00am	Quiet Morning Prayer for Good Friday	St Neots
	<u>11.00am</u>	<u>Good Friday Parish Morning Service</u>	Eynesbury
	11.00am	Good Friday 'All Aboard' (All Age)	SN Ch Room
	<i>Both these services followed by frugal lunch in the SN Church Room</i>		
	<u>2.00pm</u>	<u>Last Hour Service</u> before the Cross	St Neots
	<i>This year, there is no liturgical reading of the St John Passion</i>		
	<i>The church is quiet from 3pm</i>		
Holy Saturday	<i>Both churches are decorated in the morning</i>		
	<u>8.00pm</u>	<u>Vigil, Service of Light &amp; Sung Eucharist</u>	St Neots
	<i>A service that uses various interior and exterior spaces.</i>		

### **Good Friday – Walk of Witness and gathering in the Market Square**

We have just (Thursday 10<sup>th</sup>) been notified that members of the congregation at Berkley Street Methodist Church will be carrying a cross from the church to the Market Square on Good Friday and then gathering there for informal act of witness. If you would like to join in, please either be at Berkley Street by 10.30am (if you want to follow the cross into town) or go directly to the Market Square for 11am (when they are due to arrive).

### **Looking further ahead**

On Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> (Easter 2), in addition to the normal morning services and a Baptism at Eynesbury, there will be Choral Evensong at St Neots at 6pm.

After Easter, 'All Aboard' will next take place on 11<sup>th</sup> May at 3.30pm.

On Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> May, the Choir and others will be travelling to Christ Church, St Leonards on Sea, to join in their 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebrations (they were founded by a former Vicar of St Neots). After the 8am service at St Neots, there will only be ONE UNITED SERVICE HERE – at Eynesbury at 10am, followed by Coffee and Biscuits.