



JESUS SAID, 'I AM THE VINE, YOU ARE THE BRANCHES'



FOR OUR PRAYERS

We pray for those who are in need of prayer at this time: Eileen; Matthew; Carson W; Lorna; Megan; Stephen C; David & Cynthia; Maegan; Tom; Riley & his mum and family; Jeanette, David & Grace; Paula.

We continue to pray for Woodside House Care Home and all those in our Church, friends and family who are managing long term health issues including Pete and Rosie; Doreen; Rosemary; Sheila; John and Jane; Shirley.

We pray too for all NHS and NSFT Staff.

We remember also those who have died in recent days and all who mourn.

A PRAYER FOR UNCERTAIN TIMES

God of compassion,
be close to those who are ill, afraid or feeling isolated. In their loneliness, be their consolation;
in their anxiety, be their hope;
in their darkness, be their light;
through him who suffered alone on the cross,
but reigns with you in glory,
Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**The Church of St Francis
Heartsease**

**Heavenly Father
We ask your blessing upon us.
Hold the Heartsease Community,
and all the world,
in your arms of love.
Be with us.
Give us your strength,
peace, and healing grace.
Watch over us,
protect us from harm;
and keep in safety
all those who care for the sick
and attend to our needs,
in Jesus name we pray.
Amen**

PRAYERS FOR THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

COLLECT

Almighty God, who through your only-begotten Son Jesus Christ have overcome death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life: grant that, as by your grace going before us you put into our minds good desires, so by your continual help we may bring them to good effect; through Jesus Christ our risen Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen

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

READINGS FOR FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

ACTS 8:26 - END

Then an angel of the Lord said to Philip, 'Get up and go towards the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.' (This is a wilderness road.) So he got up and went.

Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury.

He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah.

Then the Spirit said to Philip, 'Go over to this chariot and join it.'

So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, 'Do you understand what you are reading?' He replied, 'How can I, unless someone guides me?' And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him.

Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this:

'Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter, and like a lamb silent before its shearer, so he does not open his mouth.

In his humiliation justice was denied him.

Who can describe his generation?

For his life is taken away from the earth.'

The eunuch asked Philip, 'About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?'

Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus.

As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, 'Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?'

He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him.

When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing.

But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.



PSALM 22: 25 - end

25 From you comes my praise in the great congregation; ♦

I will perform my vows

in the presence of those that fear you.

26 The poor shall eat and be satisfied; ♦ those who seek the Lord shall praise him; their hearts shall live for ever.

27 All the ends of the earth

shall remember and turn to the Lord, ♦ and all the families of the nations shall bow before him.

**28 For the kingdom is the Lord's ♦
and he rules over the nations.**

29 How can those who sleep in the earth
bow down in worship, ♦
or those who go down to the dust
kneel before him?

**30 He has saved my life for himself;
my descendants shall serve him; ♦
this shall be told of the Lord for
generations to come.**

31 They shall come and make known his
salvation, to a people yet unborn, ♦
declaring that he, the Lord, has done it.

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning is now,
and shall be for ever. Amen**

1 JOHN 4:7- END

Beloved, let us love one another, because
love is from God; everyone who loves is born
of God and knows God.

Whoever does not love does not know God,
for God is love.

God's love was revealed among us in this
way: God sent his only Son into the world so
that we might live through him.

In this is love, not that we loved God but that
he loved us and sent his Son to be the
atoning sacrifice for our sins.

Beloved, since God loved us so much, we
also ought to love one another.

No one has ever seen God; if we love one
another, God lives in us, and his love is
perfected in us.

By this we know that we abide in him and he
in us, because he has given us of his Spirit.
And we have seen and do testify that the
Father has sent his Son as the Saviour of the
world.

God abides in those who confess that Jesus
is the Son of God, and they abide in God.

So we have known and believe the love that
God has for us.

God is love, and those who abide in love
abide in God, and God abides in them.

Love has been perfected among us in this:
that we may have boldness on the day of
judgement, because as he is, so are we in
this world.

There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts
out fear; for fear has to do with punishment,
and whoever fears has not reached
perfection in love.

We love because he first loved us.

Those who say, 'I love God', and hate their
brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do
not love a brother or sister whom they have
seen, cannot love God whom they have not
seen.

The commandment we have from him is this:
those who love God must love their brothers
and sisters also.

JOHN 15:1-8

Jesus said, 'I am the true vine, and my Father
is the vine-grower. He removes every branch
in me that bears no fruit.

Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to
make it bear more fruit.

You have already been cleansed by the word
that I have spoken to you.

Abide in me as I abide in you.

Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself
unless it abides in the vine, neither can you
unless you abide in me.

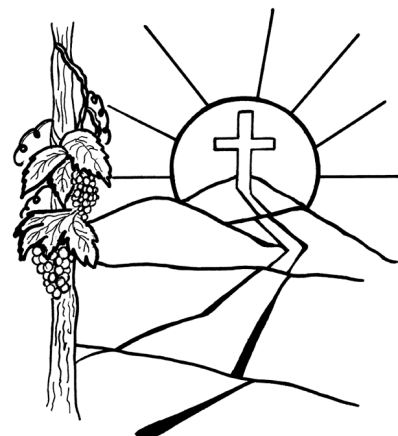
I am the vine, you are the branches.

Those who abide in me and I in them bear
much fruit, because apart from me you can
do nothing.

Whoever does not abide in me is thrown
away like a branch and withers; such
branches are gathered, thrown into the fire,
and burned.

If you abide in me, and my words abide in
you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be
done for you.

My Father is glorified by this, that you bear
much fruit and become my disciples.



FORTHCOMING SERVICES & EVENTS

Mon: Morning Prayer – 9am

Tues: Morning Prayer – 9am
Evening Prayer – 5pm

Weds: Morning Prayer – 9am
BCP Holy Communion – 11.30am
Evening Prayer - 5pm

Thurs: Morning Prayer – 9am
Evening Prayer – 5pm

Sun: Celebrating Together – 10.30am
[Holy Communion]

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK



We have collecting envelopes to pass on to those who would like to give. If you can distribute some of these please speak to Revd Janet or Revd Tracy.

A DATE FOR THE DIARY!

**Norwich East Deanery
Ascension Day Eucharist**

**7.00pm at St Stephen's Church
Thursday 13th May 2021**

Our Joint Rural Deans Lorna Allies and Edward Carter will preside and preach at this service, which will be a **'Time to see each other'** again.

The service will start outside in the churchyard with some singing and the proclamation of the Gospel, then we will move into the church for Communion, before moving back outside as we end.

All are welcome, both Deanery Synod members and others.

Please note, no refreshments will be served afterwards on this occasion.



**ST FRANCIS CHURCH
HEARTSEASE
96 – 98 RIDER HAGGARD ROAD**

**IF YOU
OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW
IS IN NEED OF A HELPING
HAND...**

**WE WILL DO OUR BEST
TO HELP**

**CALL IN AT THE CHURCH
WEEKDAYS 10AM – 12PM
OR
CALL OUR 24HR
ANSWERPHONE
01603 431259**



cma
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We have trained debt advisers

We can also help you before you get into debt
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Or email heartseasecmacentre@outlook.com



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