

NOTICES

Sunday 8th March

9.45 Calstone: Holy Communion
6.00pm Cherhill: Informal Evening Worship
11.15 Heddington: Holy Communion

Monday 9 th March	10.00 Heddington Coffee Morning
Tuesday 10 th March	9.15 Little Fishes
Wednesday 11 th March	9.30 Cherhill: Mid week Communion 10.15 Cherhill Coffee Morning
Sunday 15 th March	9.45 Calstone: Mothering Sunday Service 10.00 Cherhill: Mothering Sunday Service 10.00 Compton Bassett: Mothering Sunday Service 11.15 Heddington: Mothering Sunday Service

Contact details

Administrator: Emma Marsh 07821 836233

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Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursdays, 9 am to 12 noon

Benefice Office: 8 Court Farm Stables, Heddington, SN11 0PN

Rector: Rev Matthew Earwicker, 01249 821329 mattearwicker@gmail.com

(Day off - Friday)

You will find contact details for the churchwardens in the Villages magazine.

**If you need help with safeguarding issues, please contact the Safeguarding Officer on
07864 000906**

8th March Third Sunday of Lent Exodus 17.1-7 John 4.5-42



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.

**Next week:
Mothering
Sunday**

**Colossians
3.12-17**

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.

Welcome

We hope you feel welcome at our church and find it a place where you can meet with God. If you are unsure about anything, please ask the person who gave you this sheet.

We love children and we understand they will make some noise; don't worry about it! However, if you feel your youngest ones would benefit from playing quietly in a corner, do ask the people who welcomed you and they can point you in a suitable direction. We may even have the odd book or toy for them to play with.

A **loop system** may be provided in this church. Please ask or check by switching your hearing aid to the "T" position.

PLEASE TAKE THIS LEAFLET HOME WITH YOU

Old Testament Reading: Exodus 17.1-7

The whole Israelite community set out from the Desert of Sin, travelling from place to place as the LORD commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. So they quarrelled with Moses and said, 'Give us water to drink.'

Moses replied, 'Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you put the LORD to the test?'

But the people were thirsty for water there, and they grumbled against Moses. They said, 'Why did you bring us up out of Egypt to make us and our children and livestock die of thirst?'

Then Moses cried out to the LORD, 'What am I to do with these people? They are almost ready to stone me.'

The LORD answered Moses, 'Go out in front of the people. Take with you some of the elders of Israel and take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. I will stand there before you by the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it for the people to drink.' So Moses did this in the sight of the elders of Israel. And he called the place Massah and Meribah because the Israelites quarrelled and because they tested the LORD saying, 'Is the LORD among us or not?'

Gospel Reading: John 4.5-42

So he came to a town in Samaria called Sychar, near the plot of ground Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired as he was from the journey, sat down by the well. It was about noon.

When a Samaritan woman came to draw water, Jesus said to her, 'Will you give me a drink?' (His disciples had gone into the town to buy food.)

The Samaritan woman said to him, 'You are a Jew and I am a Samaritan woman. How can you ask me for a drink?' (For Jews do not associate with Samaritans.)

Jesus answered her, 'If you knew the gift of God and who it is that asks you for a drink, you would have asked him and he would have given you living water.'

'Sir,' the woman said, 'you have nothing to draw with and the well is deep. Where can you get this living water? Are you greater than our father Jacob, who gave us the well and drank from it himself, as did also his sons and his livestock?'

Jesus answered, 'Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give them will become in them a spring of water welling up to eternal life.'

The woman said to him, 'Sir, give me this water so that I won't get thirsty and have to keep coming here to draw water.'

He told her, 'Go, call your husband and come back.'

'I have no husband,' she replied.

Jesus said to her, 'You are right when you say you have no husband. The fact is, you have had five husbands, and the man you now have is not your husband. What you have just said is quite true.'

'Sir,' the woman said, 'I can see that you are a prophet. Our ancestors worshipped on this mountain, but you Jews claim that the place where we must worship is in Jerusalem.'

'Woman,' Jesus replied, 'believe me, a time is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You Samaritans worship what you do not know; we worship what we do know, for salvation is from the Jews. Yet a time is coming and has now come when the true worshippers will worship the Father in the Spirit and in truth, for they are the kind of worshippers the Father seeks. God is spirit, and his worshippers must worship in the Spirit and in truth.'

The woman said, 'I know that Messiah' (called Christ) 'is coming. When he comes, he will explain everything to us.'

Then Jesus declared, 'I, the one speaking to you – I am he.'

Just then his disciples returned and were surprised to find him talking with a woman. But no one asked, 'What do you want?' or 'Why are you talking with her?'

Then, leaving her water jar, the woman went back to the town and said to the people, 'Come, see a man who told me everything I've ever done. Could this be the Messiah?' They came out of the town and made their way towards him.

Meanwhile his disciples urged him, 'Rabbi, eat something.'

But he said to them, 'I have food to eat that you know nothing about.'

Then his disciples said to each other, 'Could someone have brought him food?'

'My food,' said Jesus, 'is to do the will of him who sent me and to finish his work. Don't you have a saying, "It's still four months until harvest"? I tell you, open your eyes and look at the fields! They are ripe for harvest. Even now the one who reaps draws a wage and harvests a crop for eternal life, so that the sower and the reaper may be glad together. Thus the saying "One sows and another reaps" is true. I sent you to reap what you have not worked for. Others have done the hard work, and you have reaped the benefits of their labour.'

Many of the Samaritans from that town believed in him because of the woman's testimony, 'He told me everything I've ever done.' So when the Samaritans came to him, they urged him to stay with them, and he stayed two days. And because of his words many more became believers.

They said to the woman, 'We no longer believe just because of what you said; now we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this man really is the Saviour of the world.'

Easter Morning vigil and Sunrise service

This year, alongside the usual services over the Easter period, we will be adding another special service for those who like something a little different.

Very early on Easter Sunday morning, (weather permitting) we will be holding a vigil around a fire in Yatesbury churchyard followed by a short service to mark the sunrise.

The current plan is:

5 am – lighting of the fires

5.30 – vigil

6.30 – sunrise celebration

7 am – light breakfast together