

Services in Lockdown Update (13th Jan 2021)

Whilst staying under review at the current time we are offering the following:

Services via zoom

Each Sunday we will offer a service via zoom (see notice sheets for details) and During the week we will hold morning prayer Monday - Thursday at 9am via zoom.

Communion (said)

On Sundays we will have a short said communion service alternating between Denbury and Ipplepen (see notice sheet for details). During the week we will continue (for the time being) to have said communions on a Tuesday at Ipplepen and Thursday at Denbury at the revised time of 10.15am.

We have reviewed our Covid precautions to ensure that our buildings and any physical services are COVID secure, especially procedures designed to avoid mingling before and after physical services. Services themselves have been pared right back to a simpler, shorter format. No one should feel any obligation to attend.

Written materials

In addition to services, we are producing weekly written reflections on the Sundays, readings via our notice sheet and are using our Facebook pages to offer further thoughts and reflections during the week.

We will be reviewing arrangements regularly so please look at the church notice sheet, notice boards, Facebook pages and website for up to date information in this rapidly changing situation.

Readings

	This week	Next week
Readings for this Sunday:		
First Reading	1 Samuel 3:1-10 (11-20)	Genesis 14:17-20
Psalm	139:1-5, 12-17	128
Second Reading	Revelation 5:1-10	Revelation 19:6-10
Gospel	John 1:43-51	John 2:1-11

Readings for the week ahead:	Mon	18 th	Mark 2:18-22
	Tue	19 th	Mark 2:23-End
	Wed	20 th	Mark 3:1-6
	Thurs	21 st	Mark 3:7-12
	Fri	22 nd	Mark 3:13-19
	Sat	23 rd	Mark 3:20-21

They can also be viewed/downloaded from <https://bible.oremus.org/>

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Beacon Parishes Mission Community of Ipplepen with Torbryan,
Denbury, Broadhempston and Woodland

Sunday 17th January 2021

Second Sunday of Epiphany

Today's Sunday Services

11am	Holy Communion (said)	- At St Andrew's Church, Ipplepen
5pm	Mission Community Evening Prayer	- Zoom
	For the Zoom password, email	rachelbelringer@gmail.com

Morning Prayer

9am-9.30am Monday to Thursday
this week on Zoom email rev.andrewdown@gmail.com for a link.

Private Prayer & Reflection

Our churches are open for private prayer and reflection throughout the week at the following times:

St Peter & St Paul's, Broadhempston	9am to 4pm	Sundays and Wednesdays
St Andrew's, Ipplepen	9am to 5pm	Daily
St Mary the Virgin, Denbury	10am to 5pm	Daily

Please note, St John the Baptist, Woodland is currently closed for private prayer and reflection.

Mid-Week Holy Communion Services

Tuesday 10.15am	- St Andrew's, Ipplepen
Thursday 10.15am	- St Mary's, Denbury

Next Sunday 24th January

9.30am	Holy Communion (said)	- At the Church of St Mary the Virgin, Denbury
11am	Mission Community Morning Prayer	- Zoom

Notices:

In memory

We keep in our prayers all who have lost loved ones in 2020

For prayer

As we are at the start of the Third National Lockdown we pray for those who are working in the NHS especially in hospitals that are near breaking point. We also pray for all those suffering from anxiety, depression and other mental illnesses who will find life increasingly difficult during this time.

The Beacon

The December – January Issue of the Beacon is available to pick up from churches.

Sermon for the 2nd Sunday after Epiphany - 17th Jan by Rev'd Preb. Philip Sourbut

Rev'd Preb. Philip Sourbut, Director of Mission & Ministry for the Diocese of Exeter, shares this sermon reflecting on John 1.43-51, and what it means to be known and seen by God.

<https://vimeo.com/cofedevon>



Reflection by Rev'd Anne Burden

Second Sunday of Epiphany

Samuel 3.1-10

John 1.43-51

Sunday 17th January 2021

I've been flicking through a book of prayers and meditations for Christmas and Epiphany hoping for inspiration for this week's reflection - and I paused at the sub-heading for the Epiphany section "When hope invites us to journey". It reinforces what I've often said - that Epiphany bids us to move on. We don't need to remain in the stable in Bethlehem because "The Word was made flesh and dwelt among us". God has made his home in our hearts and lives - so wherever we go, he goes too. We can safely say "what's next" - and travel with God - following the particular star he has put before us. Hope invites us to journey

Our readings today tell us that we don't have to decide on our journey alone because God calls us - individually and by name. He lives in us, so it is natural that he wants to communicate with us. Yet often we don't seem to expect this. Just like the boy Samuel and his religious guide Eli take some while to realise that it's God's voice Samuel can hear calling him - and that his response needs to be "Speak, Lord, for your servant hears". Many of us will have been given this advice as we learn to pray - particularly as we move on from the 'shopping list' prayers of childhood - "God bless ... please fix it ... please give me ... " to include prayer which is part of relationship - two parties communicating and growing together.

The trouble is that we too find it difficult to discern the voice of God. Is it God? - or the powerful voices of those around us, or from our past. Or is it our own hopes and dreams and bright thoughts - bound up with mixed motives and human confusion? That's why we all need an 'Eli' as we journey on. Eli was frail and full of human weakness - as we all are - but still had the wisdom to be able to say "It is the Lord; let him do what seems good to him" when the time was right. We need this sort of help too as we seek to discern God's voice. And don't worry about taking a while to get the message - God is patient and understanding!!

Our Gospel reading is about Jesus calling disciples - and much might be said - on another occasion! - about the questions and challenges Nathanael makes as he tries to discern who Jesus is - the one who calls him. For today - I just want to focus briefly on Philip, who Jesus calls with those simple words "Follow me". Somehow this brief encounter is enough for Philip to understand that Jesus is the Messiah who was spoken about in the Law and the Prophets. It was enough for Philip to have what we would now call an "epiphany moment" - a moment of realisation. His reaction is not to literally follow Jesus - but to pass on his moment of revelation to someone else - Nathanael. Nathanael asks questions which Philip doesn't attempt to answer. He just says "Come and see" - come and decide for yourself. Perhaps it should be the same for us in our calling - pass on the good news, don't worry about hard questions, just give the invitation to 'come and see'.

So as we move further into Epiphany let's not be afraid to leave the scene in Bethlehem behind. Our journey is in the present - and "Emmanuel, God with us" is in the present too. God is calling us today and tomorrow to be his voice in our world - and because he knows what it is to be human - he will surround us not only with his love, but with people who will help us on our journey.

To finish - a Christmas Blessing by John Johansen-Berg

Go into a hungry world to give the bread of life.

Go into a thirsty world to offer a cup of water.

Go into a violent world to bring Christ's peace.

*Go to a waiting world to share the blessing of love,
the benediction of God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.*

Amen



Image: Stained glass detail at Canterbury Cathedral