**Today is the 5th Sunday of Lent**

Our gradual return to corporate public worship continues today with a single service: Plaxtol at 11am,

**Collect for Lent 5:**Gracious Father, you gave up your Son

out of love for the world:

lead us to ponder the mysteries of his passion,

that we may know eternal peace through the shedding of our Saviour’s blood, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**The Lenten Collect:**Almighty and everlasting God,

you hate nothing that you have made

and forgive the sins of all those who are penitent:

create and make in us new and contrite hearts

that we, worthily lamenting our sins

and acknowledging our wretchedness,

may receive from you, the God of all mercy,

perfect remission and forgiveness;

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.**

**Old Testament Reading:** Jeremiah 31:31-34

**Epistle Reading:** Hebrews 5:5-10

**Gospel:** John 12:20-33

Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, ‘Sir, we wish to see Jesus.’ Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. Jesus answered them, ‘The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honour. ‘Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say—“Father, save me from this hour”? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. Father, glorify your name.’ Then a voice came from heaven, ‘I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.’ The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, ‘An angel has spoken to him.’ Jesus answered, ‘This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. Now is the judgement of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.’ He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

**Music suggestion for today**[O sacred head, now wounded (Passion Chorale)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gzoj_QrSwxc)

[Come and see...the King of Love (G. Kendrick)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ajal5cQpjCs)

**Lent Book and Zoom Book-Club event**

Many of you are enjoying our Lent book:

**Phoebe: a story** by Paula Gooder. As promised, a Zoom 'Book-Club' event is planned for after Easter; expressions of interest should be forwarded to Joan (810955 or athomewithjoan@googlemail.com) or Marius (mcmarius5@gmail.com).

**Chocolate Easter Gifts for All Saints’, Chatham.**

Over the next week there will be a box at the back of church to collect Easter Eggs or other chocolate treats that we can take to the Magpie Centre for the folk at All Saints to give out through their community project. The last date for collection is Palm Sunday 28th March.

**Continuing our gradual return to church:**

**Sunday 28th March – Lent 6 – Palm Sunday**

8.00 – Holy Communion (1662) at Shipbourne

9.30 – Family Service at Shipbourne

11.00 – Family Communion at Plaxtol

**Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday of Holy Week**

21:00 – Compline on YouTube Live

**Thursday 1st April – Maundy Thursday**

20:00 – Holy Communion at Shipbourne

**Friday 2nd April – Good Friday**

Pre-recorded worship on YouTube – from 9.00

14:00 – Last Hour at the Cross – at Plaxtol

**Saturday 3rd April – Holy Saturday**

C*hurches closed except for Easter preparations.*

**Sunday 4th April – Easter 1**

8.00 – Easter Worship on YouTube Live

8.00 – Holy Communion (1662) at Plaxtol

9.30 – Family Communion at Shipbourne

11.00 – Family Communion at Plaxtol



Come and see, come and see!
Come and see the King of love.
See the purple robe and crown of thorns he wears.
Soldiers mock, rulers sneer,
as he lifts the cruel cross;
lone and friendless now he climbs towards the hill.

*We worship at your feet
Where wrath and mercy meet
And a guilty world is washed
By love's pure stream
For us he was made sin
Oh, help me take it in
Deep wounds of love cry out 'Father, forgive'
I worship, I worship
The Lamb who was slain.*

Come and weep, come and mourn
for your sin that pierced him there,
so much deeper than the wounds of thorn and nail.
All our pride, all our greed,
all our fallenness and shame;

and the Lord has laid the punishment on him…

Man of heaven, born to earth
to restore us to your heaven;
here we bow in awe beneath
your searching eyes.
From your tears comes our joy,
from your death our life shall spring;
by your resurrection power we shall rise…

**Psalm 119:9-16**

How shall young people cleanse their way

 to keep themselves according to your word?

With my whole heart have I sought you;

 O let me not go astray from your commandments.

Your words have I hidden within my heart,

 that I should not sin against you.

Blessed are you, O Lord;

 O teach me your statutes.

With my lips have I been telling

 of all the judgements of your mouth.
I have taken greater delight in the way of your

 testimonies, than in all manner of riches.

I will meditate on your commandments

 and contemplate your ways.

My delight shall be in your statutes

 and I will not forget your word.

O sacred head, surrounded

by crown of piercing thorn!

O bleeding head, so wounded,

reviled and put to scorn!

Death’s pallid hue comes o’er thee,

the glow of life decays;

yet angel hosts adore thee

and tremble as they gaze.

*I see thy strength and vigour*

*is withered up and gone,*

*and in thy wasted figure*

*I see death drawing on.*

O agony and dying!

O love to sinners free!

Jesus, all grace supplying

O turn thy face on me.

In this thy bitter passion,

Good Shepherd, think on me

with thy most sweet compassion,

unworthy though I be:

beneath thy cross abiding

for ever would I rest,

in thy dear love confiding,

and with thy presence blest.

Be near when I am dying,
O show thy cross to me;

and for my succour flying,

come, Lord, to set **me** free:

these eyes, new faith receiving,

from Jesus shall not move;

for he who dies believing,

dies safely, through **thy** love.

