Sunday 11 May 2025 Easter 4

### **COLLECT**

Risen Christ, faithful shepherd of your Father's sheep: teach us to hear your voice and to follow your command, that all your people may be gathered into one flock,

to the glory of God the Father. Amen.

### **ACTS 9:36-43**

In Joppa there was a disciple named Tabitha (in Greek her name is Dorcas); she was always doing good and helping the poor. About that time she became ill and died, and her body was washed and placed in an upstairs room. Lydda was near Joppa; so when the disciples heard that Peter was in Lydda, they sent two men to him and urged him, 'Please come at once!' Peter went with them, and when he arrived he was taken upstairs to the room. All the widows stood round him, crying and showing him the robes and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was still with them. Peter sent them all out of the room; then he got down on his knees and prayed. Turning towards the dead woman, he said, 'Tabitha, get up.' She opened her eyes, and seeing Peter she sat up. He took her by the hand and helped her to her feet. Then he called for the believers, especially the widows, and presented her to them alive. This became known all over Joppa, and many people believed in the Lord. Peter stayed in Joppa for some time with a tanner named Simon.

## **THIS WEEK**

Tuesday 13th 10am, Holy communion Friday 16th, 2:30pm Hymns we Love Sunday 18th 10am, Morning worship (see overleaf)

Today's Psalm: Psalm 23 NT reading: Revelation 7:9-17

## **JOHN 10:22-30**

At that time the festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon. So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, 'How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly.' Jesus answered, 'I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name testify to me; but you do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep. My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. What my Father has given me is greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father's hand. The Father and I are one.'

## **HYMNS WE LOVE**

This Friday, 16th May, 2:30-4pm, led by Jenny Metherell, who will be leading worship from the ecumenical community at Taizé. Please sign up at the back.

### **CHRISTIAN AID WEEK**

Is THIS week, from today to Saturday. There are envelopes in church or you can give online using this link. Please tell Liz Kearns if you could collect money outside the shops for an hour on Saturday 17th between 9.30 and 12.30.

## **CONGRATULATIONS!**

To Penny Frost as she takes up her role as Mayor of Richmond this Tuesday, May 13th.

## LAST EVER SACRED SPACE

Next Sunday, 18th May, 7-8pm, at St Andrew's Church. The monthly musical community café takes place for the final time. The theme is 'Heaven'. All are welcome for an hour of music, craft, cake, drinks, and poetry.

# Sunday

### **COLLECT**

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.

### **ACTS 11:1-18**

The apostles and the believers throughout Judea heard that the Gentiles also had received the word of God. So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticised him and said, 'You went into the house of uncircumcised men and ate with them.' Starting from the beginning, Peter told them the whole story: 'I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. I saw something like a large sheet being let down from heaven by its four corners, and it came down to where I was. I looked into it and saw four-footed animals of the earth, wild beasts, reptiles and birds. Then I heard a voice telling me, "Get up, Peter. Kill and eat." I replied, "Surely not, Lord! Nothing impure or unclean has ever entered my mouth." The voice spoke from heaven a second time, "Do not call anything impure that God has made clean." This happened three times, and then it was all pulled up to heaven again. Right then three men who had been sent to me from Caesarea stopped at the house where I was staying. The Spirit told me to have no hesitation about going with them. These six brothers also went with me, and we entered the man's house. He told us how he had seen an angel appear in his house and say, "Send to Joppa for Simon who is called Peter. He will bring you a message through which you and all your household will be saved." As I began to speak, the Holy Spirit came on them as he had come on us at the beginning. Then I remembered what the Lord had said: "John baptised with water, but you will be

baptised with the Holy Spirit." So if God gave them the same gift he gave us who believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I to think that I could stand in God's way?' When they heard this they had no further objections and praised God, saying, 'So then, even to Gentiles God has granted repentance that leads to life.'

## **JOHN 13:31-35**

When Judas was gone, Jesus said, 'Now the Son of Man is glorified and God is glorified in him. If God is glorified in him, God will glorify the Son in himself, and will glorify him at once. My children, I will be with you only a little longer. You will look for me, and just as I told the Jews, so I tell you now: where I am going, you cannot come. A new command I give you: love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.'

### **ASCENSION DAY: 29TH MAY**

10am Joint Holy communion service to which we welcome members of St Peter's Petersham

## SIMON COUPLAND

is away in Frankfurt in Germany this weekend, where he is receiving an award for his coin work over the last 40 years! The medal of the Society for International Monetary History is awarded annually to honour 'outstanding individuals who have distinguished themselves in the field of numismatics'. Simon is only the second English scholar to receive it. In return he has to give a 45-minute lecture in German! Heather has gone with him.

#### THIS WEEK

Monday 19th 6.30pm PCC meeting Tuesday 20th 10am, Morning prayer Sunday 25th 10am, Holy communion

Today's Psalm: Psalm 148 NT reading: Revelation 21:1-6