

# A new way of life



# nexus

CONNECTING CHURCH AND COMMUNITY

Easter news from St Peter's Church, Elworth

# Hope in challenging times

What a year it has been since the first national lockdown in the run up to Easter 2020. So much seems to have changed, and many old familiar practices have had to be put to one side. Some, hopefully, only temporarily... such as hugging loved ones. But others perhaps more permanently, like squashing together on the London Underground. The advent of the new vaccines brings a hope that we will learn the lessons of the pandemic, and life will be better as the 2020s roll on.

2,000 years ago a new hope entered the world at a time of challenge and loss. Old practices were replaced with a new way. However, it didn't come through the skill of scientists, or the ingenuity of politicians, but by the grace of a loving God who chose to become one of us.

Jesus didn't use military power or economic might to do this, but sacrificial, perfect love. And in doing so, He died a cruel death that released us to be reunited with our Heavenly Father. Jesus was not only a man but also God, and when all seemed lost, his love demonstrated that mortal death is not the end. His coming back to life (what the church calls resurrection) on that first Easter Sunday gives us hope that one day we will rise again to share in Eternal Life. But how?



The answer that Jesus gave his disciples, and to us, is a simple one: Trust me, and live every day demonstrating that same self-giving love.

Maybe this Easter, as we hopefully enter a post-pandemic period, we can put away the anxieties of our old ways of self-focus. Let's discover a new life of selfless love that leads to a trust in Jesus, and a new hope for the future.

***“For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.”***

*John 3 : 16*

Happy Easter.

*David*

David Page

# Revised and revisited

***“Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and strangers, but fellow citizens with God’s people and also members of his household, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone.”***

*Ephesians 2 : 19-20*

I have been a member of St Peter’s ever since I was born! As I grow up, church is always a rock for me – an extended family (with lots of ‘Aunties and Uncles’).

I have seen a lot of changes throughout the years - this year more than most - and I feel that St. Peter’s has risen to the occasion!

Ever since the church hall fire in 2010 the community of Elworth has come together, and we are seeing more people interacting with the church through various groups and events we hold. Despite the challenges of Covid, many of these groups that would usually meet in person have used technology to continue meeting and supporting one another. Our Children and Families Worker has even been able to run a ‘virtual’ holiday club for primary-school-aged children.

As I write this, it is nearly a year since we were able to worship in our usual way, but the pandemic hasn’t stopped us. We have shared weekly online services, thoughts-of-the-day and other virtual events. We have hosted some outdoor services, including a carol service – which was lovely, if a bit cold! Recently St Peter’s performed the musical ‘Joseph’ over Zoom, with lots of members involved through the music, publicity, performance and costume design. It was a great evening!

The church family has a diverse range of members, but we have been able to keep in touch and support each other in new ways through the past year. It’s been great to see some of our older members embracing modern technology!

To get involved or just to find out more, please get in touch via our Church Office – we look forward to welcoming you!

Bethany Jones





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## Contact us

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Currently our services at Church and on-line are following Government guidelines.

Please check our website and social media accounts for our Easter activities and Services.

Find St Peter's Elworth on:

Facebook

YouTube

[www.stpeters-elworth.org.uk](http://www.stpeters-elworth.org.uk)



We're still here for you - if you need any help or support please get in touch.