



# *Not-in-the-pewsheet*

## *St Thomas' Day - 5 July*

*This service will be available on YouTube at 10.15am on Sunday (search for 'St Thomas' Church Wednesfield'), along with all earlier services. The soundtrack of the service is also available from Sunday morning until Wednesday, at 01902 504 590. We hope that this service sheet helps you to take part in whatever way you're able.*

### **Worship for St Thomas' Day**

#### **We enter into worship**

Grace, mercy and peace  
from God our Father  
and the Lord Jesus Christ  
be with you  
**and also with you.**

This is the day that the Lord has made.  
**Let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

#### **Call to Worship**

We gather as people on a journey.  
**We believe & we have doubts,  
we do good & we sin.  
We are imperfect humans,  
and still beloved by God.**

Love and grace. Hope and faith.  
These are the essence of the one we  
call God.

**We seek forgiveness & grace from  
the One and from those we've  
harmed.**

Assured of that grace,  
we are ready to grow again.  
**We yearn for a new way,  
a new perspective,  
and a clear path.**

Though we are full of trust  
and full of doubt, we are here.

#### **Silence**

Speak to us, God!  
Continue creating us!  
**Inspire our hearts.  
Enlighten our minds.  
Guide our actions. Amen.**

### **Hymn – The Church's one foundation**

The Church's one foundation  
is Jesus Christ her Lord;  
she is his new creation  
by water and the word:  
from heaven he came and sought her  
to be his holy bride;  
with his own blood he bought her,  
and for her life he died.

Elect from every nation,  
yet one o'er all the earth,  
her charter of salvation  
one Lord, one faith, one birth;  
one holy name she blesses,  
partakes one holy food,  
and to one hope she presses  
with every grace endued.

Though with a scornful wonder  
men see her sore oppress,  
by schisms rent asunder,  
by heresies distressed,  
yet saints their watch are keeping,  
their cry goes up, 'How long?'  
and soon the night of weeping  
shall be the morn of song.

Mid toil and tribulation,  
and tumult of her war,  
she waits the consummation  
of peace for evermore;  
till with the vision glorious  
her longing eyes are blest,  
and the great Church victorious  
shall be the Church at rest.

Yet she on earth hath union  
with God the three in one,  
and mystic sweet communion  
with those whose rest is won;  
O happy ones and holy!  
Lord, give us grace that we,  
like them the meek and lowly,  
on high may dwell with thee.  
*Stone, S.J.*

### Invitation to Confession

The story of Thomas reminds us that  
God doesn't call us to a blind faith,  
but to a faith that is eye-opening and  
mind-expanding.  
But we often find it easier to persuade  
ourselves  
that it is lack of evidence or  
understanding,  
not lack of will or love,  
that keeps us from following Jesus  
wholeheartedly.

So in a moment of quiet we examine  
our hearts, and confess to God where  
we know we hold back from his call.

### Kyrie Confession

Lord Jesus, in your love you invite us to  
be your friends:  
for the times when we wait for the  
invitation to be spelled out  
rather than felt in our hearts;  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, in your joy you choose us  
to go out and spread your peace:  
for the times when we wait for all to be  
clear  
before taking the first step;  
Christ, have mercy.  
**Christ, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, in your power you send us  
to be your faithful witnesses:  
for the times when our actions and  
words  
sow doubt in the hearts of others;  
Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

May the Father of all mercies  
cleanse you from your sins,  
and restore you in his image  
to the praise and glory of his name,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

### Te Deum

**Refrain: Alleluia, alleluia. Alleluia,  
alleluia.**

Father, we praise you as Lord,  
all of the earth gives you worship,  
for your majesty fills the heavens, fills  
the earth. **R**

Blessed apostles sing praise;  
prophets and martyrs give glory:  
'for your majesty praise the Spirit,  
praise the Son!' **R**

You are the Christ everlasting  
born for us all of a virgin,  
you have conquered death, opened  
heaven to all believers. **R**

Help those you saved by your blood,  
raise them to life with your martyrs.  
Save your people, Lord, as their ruler  
raise them up. **R**

### Collect

Almighty and eternal God,  
who, for the firmer foundation of our  
faith,  
allowed your holy apostle Thomas  
to doubt the resurrection of your Son  
till word and sight convinced him:  
grant to us, who have not seen, that we  
also may believe  
and so confess Christ as our Lord and  
our God;  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

## **We hear God's Word**

### **Ephesians 2.19-22**

<sup>19</sup>You are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God, <sup>20</sup>built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone. <sup>21</sup>In him the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord; <sup>22</sup>in whom you also are built together spiritually into a dwelling-place for God.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **Hymn – The splendour of the king**

The splendour of the king,  
Clothed in majesty;  
Let all the earth rejoice,  
All the earth rejoice.  
He wraps Himself in light,  
And darkness tries to hide,  
And trembles at His voice,  
And trembles at His voice.

*How great is our God, sing with me,  
How great is our God, and all will  
see  
How great, how great is our God.*

And age to age He stands,  
And time is in His hands;  
Beginning and the end,  
Beginning and the end.  
The Godhead, three in one,  
Father, Spirit, Son,  
The Lion and the Lamb,  
The Lion and the Lamb.

*Name above all names,  
Worthy of all praise;  
My heart will sing:  
How great is our God.  
(Repeat)*

*Chris Tomlin, Jesse Reeves & Ed Cash  
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## **John 20.24-29**

<sup>24</sup>Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. <sup>25</sup>So the other disciples told him, 'We have seen the Lord.' But he said to them, 'Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.'

<sup>26</sup>A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' <sup>27</sup>Then he said to Thomas, 'Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.' <sup>28</sup>Thomas answered him, 'My Lord and my God!' <sup>29</sup>Jesus said to him, 'Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.'

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **Sermon**

### **Hymn – Thomas: From doubt to trust**

Thomas knew you when he saw you,  
in the upper room;  
may we learn to trust you fully  
conquerer of the tomb.  
Happy we who have not seen you,  
yet believe you  
Lord and God.

God who used a man who doubted,  
keep our faith alight;  
give us insights that will help us  
put our doubts to flight.  
Happy we who have not seen you,  
yet declare you  
Lord of might.

When we fail to understand you,  
hold us in your sight;  
guide us through our inner darkness

to your own true light.

Happy we who have not seen you,  
yet confess you  
Lord of light.

When our worries overcome us,  
never let us fall;  
make us strong and keen to serve you;  
help us hear your call.  
Happy we who have not seen you,  
yet proclaim you  
Lord of all.

*M Alexander © 1977 Mike Alexander  
(alt.), used by permission*

### **The Apostles' Creed**

Do you believe and trust in God the Father?

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe and trust in his Son Jesus Christ?

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

Do you believe and trust in the Holy Spirit?

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting.  
Amen.**

### **We pray together**

*We use this or another response  
introduced by the prayer leader.*

Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

### **The Lord's Prayer**

**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Lead us not into temptation  
but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours  
now and for ever.  
Amen.**

### **Hymn – Thine be the glory**

Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son,  
endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won;  
angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away,  
kept the folded grave-clothes where thy body lay.  
Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son,  
endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won.

Lo, Jesus meets us, risen from the tomb;  
lovingly he greets us, scatters fear and gloom;  
let the church with gladness hymns of triumph sing,  
for her Lord now liveth, death hath lost its sting:

Thine be the glory, risen, conquering  
Son,  
endless is the victory thou o'er death  
hast won.

No more we doubt thee, glorious  
prince of life;  
life is naught without thee: aid us in our  
strife;  
make us more than conquerors  
through thy deathless love;  
bring us safe through Jordan to thy  
home above:  
Thine be the glory, risen, conquering  
Son,  
endless is the victory thou o'er death  
hast won.

*Budry, E. L.*

### **We go to serve God in the world**

#### **A Prayer from Christian Aid**

*"You believe because you have seen  
me. Blessed are those who haven't  
seen me and believe anyway."*

Jesus,  
We dare to believe in the things we  
cannot see:  
In your love for us  
In your love for those around us  
In the hope of eternity.  
We dare to believe that another world  
is possible  
That suffering can end  
That we can play a part  
In the kingdom to come.  
We dare to believe in heaven on earth  
In the light breaking through  
In justice made new  
In your love for us.

#### **Commission and Blessing**

*Jesus said: "Peace be with you. As the  
Father sent me, so I am now sending  
you".*

He believes in you. The busy world

awaits your compassion.  
**God believes in us.**

Sometimes you will give your best yet  
fail.

#### **God believes in us**

At other times you will succeed in spite  
of your stumbling.

#### **God believes in us**

Go gladly, daring to succeed or fail to  
the glory of God,  
and then at the very end, nothing shall  
dismay you.

#### **God believes in us**

**With Christ's own breath within us,  
we shall travel well.**

May you know the wisdom of the living  
Father,  
the help of the saving Christ,  
and the support of the loving Spirit,  
every step of your life's journey.  
And may the blessing of God be upon  
you  
and all to whom he sends you,  
now and always.

**Amen.**

Go in peace to love and serve the  
Lord.

**In the name of Christ. Amen.**

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### **Reopening for public worship**

We will be opening church for public worship from Sunday 12 July, but it won't be what we've been used to! There will be a said communion service (with some music, but no singing) at 9.30am, and we encourage people to follow this with the service online or on the phone line (01902 504 590) at 11am. This pattern will change as time goes on, and we can hopefully build up our worship together in church again.

We can only open church to a limited number, as we have to keep social distancing intact except for administering communion, when other strong precautions will be in place. In total we can use 19 seats and pews of varying size - so up to 19 individual people or households/ bubbles of up to 5 can fit in. Once these are all taken, we will not be able to admit anyone else to church - but if this proves to be an issue we will add extra services as needed.

We are required to keep the service 'as short as reasonably possible' and not to encourage people to come early or stay after the service. Please try not to arrive before 9.15am, and if you have to wait outside please keep social distancing!

If you would prefer to wear a face covering you are very welcome to do so, but this is not a requirement.

Government advice is that anyone who is clinically vulnerable should not attend church, but you are free to make a decision in the knowledge of your own situation.

Further information will be posted online, or phone Rev'd Nick on 01902 731 462 with any questions.



### **Opening for private prayer**

To make it possible to open safely for public worship, there will be changes to the times of opening church for private prayer. After this Sunday (church open 3-5pm) there will be no further Sunday afternoon opening, and the midweek opening (from this week onwards) will be on Wednesday, initially 5-7pm.

All of these plans, for public worship and private prayer, will be reviewed as time goes on and situations change. If making a special journey do check online or by calling Rev'd Nick on 01902 732 462.

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## Daily Hope

The Church of England's 'Daily Hope' freephone line has a wide range of daily services, hymns and prayers - just dial 0800 804 8044.

## Would you like a DVD of our worship?

If you can't join us online for worship, but have a DVD player, we'd like to try to get a copy of the service to you. Please call Rev'd Nick on 01902 731 462.

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## Keeping in touch

If you're online, please keep checking our Facebook page and website.

We will try to distribute this leaflet weekly to any who wish to receive it - please call the office (01902 723 310) if you know anyone who would like to receive a copy. You may have to leave a message!

Below is a card with a number we're making available to the wider community, to try to make sure no-one is isolated. Please pass this on to any who might need it.

You can (as always) call Rev'd Nick on 01902 731 462 at any (reasonable!) time. If you get the answering machine, please leave a message rather than calling back later!



## The Sick

Iris Turley; Paul Collins; Iris White; David Frith;  
Ken Ellson; Jean Nicholson; Paul Hammond;  
Max Roper; Violet Langford; Tracy Gornall; Natalie White; Simon Hughes;  
Ken Hamilton; Claire Lawson; James Harrison-Lovatt; Doris Turner;  
Rev'd John Porter; Emma Evans; David Morgan; George & Margaret  
Belcher; Maurice Trubshaw

## Recently Departed

Dorothy Davies; Peter Vernon; Frank Robson; Doreen Seymour;  
Denise Cullen; Betty Lloyd; Nellie Jones

## Anniversaries

Terence Osborne; Michelle (Billie) Clemson; John Wilkes; Edward Day;  
Roy Lambard



A free phone line of hymns,  
reflections and prayers



**St Thomas' Church**  
Meeting God at the Heart of Wednesfield

Do you, or someone you know  
in the WV11 area, need help or  
support because of COVID-19?  
Please text or call:

**07401 197424**

We can help with:

- Keeping in touch with regular phone calls
- Finding someone who can help with shopping
- Linking you up with other sources of support

Calls and texts to this number will only be responded to by individuals who have DBS checks. Your contact details will only be passed on to others with your agreement. You can find out more on our website [www.wednesfieldteam.org.uk](http://www.wednesfieldteam.org.uk).

Coronavirus is contagious. Please take every precaution. Avoid physical contact (2m distance), wash your hands regularly. Items should be left on your doorstep.