



**The Team Parish of Christ the King  
St Aidan's Church Brunton Park  
Sunday 19th April 2026**

**Third Sunday of Easter**

This week, as we continue to celebrate the risen Christ, we hear the story of the road to Emmaus. This famous passage is one that asks us to consider where we too might meet the risen Jesus.

Two disciples, Cleopas and his companion, are walking to Emmaus with heavy hearts. They don't understand the reality of the resurrection, and yet in their downcast journey Jesus comes to walk alongside them. How often in the moments of our journey that feel dark and difficult has Jesus been by our side but we've not recognised his presence? Yet he is always there. Even if we can't recognise him we can be assured that there is no part of our walk of faith in which Jesus does not accompany us.

Then we're given two moments of revelation. First, on the road, Jesus begins to interpret the scriptures to them. They still don't know that it's him, but they later say of that moment 'were not our hearts burning within us'. As we too read the scriptures, through Christ's Holy Spirit, we might find our hearts burning within us as they point us to deeper knowledge of the risen Christ and his work in our lives. And then the moment of full recognition comes as Jesus takes bread, blesses and breaks it, and gives it to them. It's a moment that echoes the last supper, and that finally reveals him. For us too, as we share in the meal Jesus gave us, we recognise the risen Christ. In the eucharist Jesus is present, real, and in our midst, as through our worship, he takes bread, blesses and breaks it and gives us his own body. So this week, in word and sacrament, may we too meet, and know, the risen Christ.

**Acts 2. 14a, 36-41**

Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd in Jerusalem: <sup>36</sup>'Let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified.'

<sup>37</sup> Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, 'Brothers, what should we do?' <sup>38</sup> Peter said to them, 'Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. <sup>39</sup> For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him.' <sup>40</sup> And he testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, 'Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.' <sup>41</sup> So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added

## Luke 24. 13 -35

Now on that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, <sup>14</sup>and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. <sup>15</sup>While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, <sup>16</sup>but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. <sup>17</sup>And he said to them, 'What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?' They stood still, looking sad. <sup>18</sup>Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, 'Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?' <sup>19</sup>He asked them, 'What things?' They replied, 'The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, <sup>20</sup>and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. <sup>21</sup>But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. <sup>22</sup>Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, <sup>23</sup>and when they did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. <sup>24</sup>Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but they did not see him.' <sup>25</sup>Then he said to them, 'Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! <sup>26</sup>Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?' <sup>27</sup>Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.

<sup>28</sup> As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. <sup>29</sup>But they urged him strongly, saying, 'Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over.' So he went in to stay with them. <sup>30</sup>When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. <sup>31</sup>Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. <sup>32</sup>They said to each other, 'Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?' <sup>33</sup>That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. <sup>34</sup>They were saying, 'The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!' <sup>35</sup>Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

**TODAY 9.30am 3rd Sunday of Easter Rev'd Gerard Rundell will preside and preach**

## THE WEEK AHEAD

<b>Mon</b>		<b>Bible Study Goup</b>
<b>Wed</b>	10.00am	<b>BCP Midweek Eucharist</b>
<b>Thurs</b>	2.00pm	Community Room <b>Chat and Craft</b>
<b>Sat</b>	10.00am	<b>Saturday Café</b>
<b>Sun</b>	9.30am	<b>Easter 4 Rev'd Gerard Rundell will preside and preach</b>

## DATES FOR THE DIARY

**Tuesday April 28<sup>th</sup> 1.40 – 7pm NHS Blood and Transplant Team - Church**

**Friday May 1<sup>st</sup> Beetle Drive**

**Sunday May 10<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> Christian Aid Week**

**Saturday May 16<sup>th</sup> Christian Aid Big Breakfast - Community Room**

**Sunday May 17<sup>th</sup> 11am AGM**

## NOTICES

TODAY'S SERVICE LINK <https://bit.ly/StAidans2026Easter3>

**GARDENING GROUP** – First meeting Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> April 2.30pm outside St Aidan's Church Community Room. We will be planning what we are going to grow in our new vegetable planters and sowing seeds and seedlings together. Would you like to be involved and garden together? Please come and join us or contact Helen on 07962802193

**NHS BLOOD DONORS TEAM** – will be setting up in church on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> April 1.40-7pm, for donors to give blood. For more information on giving blood please call the donor helpline on 0300 123 23 23 or visit [www.blood.co.uk](http://www.blood.co.uk)

**BEETLE DRIVE** – Friday 1<sup>st</sup> May 6pm with a choice of pizzas and salad. Adults £10 children £5. Please add your name to the list if you would like to come to this very popular social event.

**ST AIDAN'S ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING-** Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> May 11am. There are vacancies for new members to join the DCC. If anyone is interested in joining, please speak to Rev'd Gerard or the churchwardens.

**TECH TEAM** - If anyone is interested in joining the Tech Team, full training will be given, please contact Rev'd Gerard.

**REFRESHMENTS ROTAS** -There are new rotas for volunteers to serve in the Saturday Café and Sunday morning refreshments. If you feel that you are able to assist, it would be appreciated if you could please add your name or speak to Catherine for more information. Thank you.

## Living on God's Good Earth: April

### Generous God

Some of you may know the offertory prayer used in lots of churches: 'all things come from you and of your own do we give you'. As the world springs into life, God's abundant generosity is easy to see. So, this month's challenge is to think about how we can be generous in response. What might we offer to help protect and restore God's many gifts to us? At Saturday Café this year, one of our chosen charities is Northumberland Wildlife Trust. Perhaps there is a similar charity or organisation you could support, as a way of giving thanks for all God's goodness.

### SUNDAY SERMONS

For anyone who would like one, written copies of the Sunday sermon are available from the preacher on request. Please contact either Gerard or the preacher of the day to be sent a copy

### For Our Prayers:

**For the church-** Mark Edwards and St Cuthbert's and St Matthew's. Ruth Stradling and St Columba's. Safeguarding officer Catherine, that our church would be a safe place for all.

**For the community-** Refugees and recent arrivals in our community, for all who have come to our city in search of safety and peace. For those in our community who are searching for God, that they would come to faith, those preparing for baptism.

**For the world** – all countries facing hardship and conflict especially in the Middle East. For our own national and political life

**For those in need** – Esther Wooler, Sue Bates, Christine Crompton, Charlie Bennett, Lindsay Miller, Marion Newitt, Joyce Richardson.

**For those who have died, and, on their anniversaries** – Arthur Gibson, Marion Fothergill, Nevison Lorraine, Brian Donkin, Edna Pargeter.



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