

Church and Community working together

“All the believers were one in heart and mind. No one claimed that any of their possessions was their own, but they shared everything they had. With great power, the apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus. And God’s grace was so powerfully at work in them all that there were no needy persons among them. For from time to time those who owned land or houses sold them, brought the money from the sales and put it at the apostles’ feet, and it was distributed to anyone who had need.” Acts 4:32-35 NIV

What a wonderful passage about coming together as a community. Serving each other to serve the Lord. This Easter I was blessed to experience the wonderful power that can come from a community coming together in this way.

Throughout the half term I worked alongside the ‘Alcester Lunch Club’ which offers free hot meals to children during the school holidays. Before children picked up food they were invited to come and take part in an activity or take away craft to do in their family group. These activities included egg box scavenger hunts which encouraged families to find items in nature which would help re-tell the Easter story, Easter story treasure trails, seed planting and much more. We also offered families an opportunity to hire litter picking sticks that they could take on their walks. When they returned them the next day the children received a certificate and a treat for their hard work. All of these activities were free to families and by the end of the school holiday over 400 crafts were given out and many more treats.

Working alongside Alcester Lunch Club the schemes were clearly such a help to families and the feedback was wonderful. However, strikingly what was so incredible was the generosity of the community in donating towards these schemes. Waitrose and Morrisons provided an enormous amount of treats and crafts, local high street shops donated and even people in the community came to me with offerings which were so gratefully received. Volunteers generously gave their time and Alcester Churches Together worked in partnership sharing resources and skills. Jubilee Fields Park become a hub of support to families and it was so incredible to serve the Lord this way.

We hope to do something similar over the summer. If you would like to volunteer or would be willing to donate please get in touch.

Beth Clarke, Children and Family Worker



Welcome to the Alcester Minster Group of Churches Sunday 02 May 2021

Easter 5 *White*

“Then the Spirit said to Philip, ‘Go over to this chariot and join it.’
Acts 8 v 29

Collect

Almighty God,
who through your only-begotten Son
Jesus Christ
have overcome death and opened to
us the gate of everlasting life:
grant that, as by your grace going
before us you put into our minds
good desires,
so by your continual help
we may bring them to good effect;
through Jesus Christ our risen Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Alternative 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.

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Ministry Team:

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17 Butter Street, Alcester, B49 5AL (Office Opening Hours 10.30 – 12.30pm)

Alcester Minster website: www.alcesterminster.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/AlcesterMinster

Next week's services and events

Sunday 02 May		Easter 5	<i>White</i>
Alcester	10.00 am	Holy Communion	
Haselor	10.00 am	Morning Prayer	
Sambourne	16:00 am	Holy Communion	

Tuesday 04 May			
Via Zoom	12.00 noon	Minster Prayer Gathering	

Sunday 09 May		Easter 6	<i>White</i>
Alcester	10.00 am	Holy Communion	
Arrow	10.00 am	Holy Communion	
Kinwarton	16:00 am	Evening Prayer	

Please remember to reserve a place at any of the church services, wear a face covering, unless exempt, and keep 2 metres distance. Thank you

A recording of the service to install Revd Katie Cross as the Rector of Alcester Minster Churches is available to view on the Welcome page of the Alcester Minster website www.alcesterminster.org

Further to the feature in last week's Notice Sheet about **Thy Kingdom Come**

You can register to 'Pause and Pray' every evening for **10 minutes at 7.30 pm between 13 – 23 May**
'Light up the world in prayer'

The 10 minutes via Zoom will include a short Bible reading, a reflection and time for personal prayer.

To register go to Thy Kingdom Come global website
<https://www.thykingdomcome.global/>

24 May - **SAINTS ALIVE! Singalong** - the Jerusalem Joy event was so popular to join Christian Music Ministries again, at Pentecost, to take part in our musical about the birthday of the church! Contact Helen on events@cmm.org.uk to book in and obtain the Zoom code.

Readings for the week

Today	Acts 8 v 26 – 40 John 15 v 1 - 8
Monday	1 Peter 1 v 1 – 12
Tuesday	1 Peter 1 v 13 – 25
Wednesday	1 Peter 2 v 1 – 10
Thursday	1 Peter 2 v 11 – 25
Friday	1 Peter 3 v 1 – 12
Saturday	1 Peter 3 v 13 - 22



Prayer

Please pray for the following topics:

1. Let us pray for America as it tries to deal with its gun culture which leads to so many fatalities, unrest and sorrow.
2. Let us pray for Doctors without Borders, sometimes the only medical staff toiling in the most dangerous parts of the world in horrendous conditions.

Please ensure all mobile phones are switched OFF during a service. Visitors are invited to Gift Aid their offerings in the envelopes provided.

Contact Tricia Berry 07840 284 294 or administrator@alcesterminster.org) by 6 pm on Tuesday to add notices of church activities to next week's notice sheet.

Check out the website calendar for further details on events/services coming up



Did you know that you can now 'LIKE' Alcester Minster on Facebook? Find details and pictures of events at www.facebook.com/AlcesterMinster If you would like to submit event notices or photos to be published on the page then please email administrator@alcesterminster.org