**Services for next week:**

**Hampton-in-Arden**

**Thursday 22nd**

10am Communion

**Sunday 25th**

8.15am B.C.P

11am Morning Prayer with Craig Taylor leading and preaching

6.30pm Bible Study

**Bickenhill**

**Sunday 25th**

11am Eucharist

**Barston**

**Sunday 25th**

9.45am Prayer Time

10.30am Holy Communion

**Readings for next week**: Acts 16. 9-15, John 14. 23-29

**We pray for:** Bob Middleton, Judy Middleton, David Mort, Mike Beasley, Ann Hall, Tony Worthington, Angela Jones, Mona Cardall, Dot Barton, Richard Herne, Barrie and Mavis Thompson, David Vickers and Sue Restall.Rick Smallwood, Paul Pilkington-Birch, Val Sharp, David Scannell, Colin McDonald and Gordon O’Conner.

We also pray for the families of those who have died; Andrew Sumner, Roger Grain, George Colin Macnair and Irene Sutton. If you would like people to be prayed for do let us know at office@hamptoninardenchurch.org.uk)



**Hampton. Barston. Bickenhill.**

**Three Churches Together.**

**Sharing God’s Love, Growing Faith and Worshipping Together.**

**18th May 2025- 5th Easter**

Acts 11. 1-18, John 13. 31-35

**Thought for the week**.

Jn 13.31-35

Dear friends,

Jesus said, “Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another.”

But love isn’t new, is it? The Old Testament already taught us to love God and our neighbour.

So, what’s “new” about Jesus’ command? The word “new” here means fresh—something deeper and richer than before. Jesus gives love a new shape:

• New relationships: We’re not just neighbours—we’re now family in Christ.

• New example: Don’t just love like you love yourself—love like Jesus loves you: fully and sacrificially.

• A new witness to the world: This Christ-like love is our clearest testimony. “By this all will know that you are my disciples.” Our love for one another makes the invisible God visible.

As we go about our week, may we live this “new” love with fresh devotion, drawing others to the One who first loved us.

Blessings,

Martin

**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.

****

**Hampton**

* Wednesday 21st May 2.30pm Funeral of Irene Sutton in church.
* There is a **new Art class** starting in the church hall next Thursday. Check out the Chronicle for details on how to join this new local venture.
* Please see the lovely **thank-you card from Acorns** on the Communications Board. Thank you to Peter for all his work co-ordinating our support to them.
* **Church Cleaning** - in an effort to make life a little easier for the 8 of us that 'clean' in church, I'm looking for (say) 2 more volunteers (this would reduce the number of times we'd all need to go into church).  To reiterate, each visit usually lasts between about 45 and 60 minutes; visits would be every 3 or 4 weeks; NOTHING is particularly heavy-going ... at all.  Please email me on kim.rawson@btinternet.com (or text on 075 275 405 29) - I'm going to be setting up the rota for July to December in a few weeks' time.  Thank you - Kim [Training will be given  ]
* Our next **PCC meeting** will be held on 28th May at 7.30pm in the church office.
* The **Ascension Day service** is at St. Peter’s Church (large car park) in Balsall Common at **8pm** on 29th May.
* Date for the diary - our **next fundraiser** will be Garden Games at the Purcell’s on the afternoon of June 7th… save the date. Further details to follow!
* We are starting to co-ordinate our church efforts for the **Hampton Festival** on July 5th. Please contact Anna in the office if you are able to offer any help. We are already collecting good-quality books and jigsaw puzzles so please put these at the back of church if you have any donations.

**Barston**

* The **APCM** will follow the service today after we have had coffee . We hope you will be able to stay for this very important meeting in the life of our church.
* St. Swithin’s House, Tuesday 20th **Hobby House** 10-12 and **Tea Club** 2-4pm. All welcome.
* Thursday 22nd **Prayer time** for St. Swithin’s House 9-9.30am. Rehearsal of wedding of Jake and Laura at 5pm. Please pray for them as they take this big step. **Bellringing** at 6.45pm. The bells will be ringing at the wedding the following day.
* Friday 23rd 2pm **Wedding of Laura and Jake**. Pray that it will be a very special day for them and their families and friends. Pray for Stuart as he takes the service and for Alan as he plays.
* **Open the Book** Team. This week the team will be taking the following assemblies at:
Lady Katherine Leveson on Monday.
Balsall Common -Tuesday & Thursday
Springfield on Wednesday. A busy week for the team. A great opportunity to share a Bible story through drama involving the whole school.
* Wednesday at **Eastcote Park** – service at 11am.
* **Quiet Morning**. Saturday 7th June at The Old Hall, Temple Balsall (adjacent to church building). Coffee available from 9.30am as you arrive for a prompt start. Finishing at 12noon. Theme of “Pentecost”. If interested, please contact Doug Timmins (Organiser) on 01676 534346.

**Bickenhill**

Next **PCC meeting** 21st May.