

# St Andrew's Church, Corbridge

## Lent, Holy Week and Easter Services and Events



Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> February  
to  
Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> April 2026

[www.corbridgechurch.org.uk](http://www.corbridgechurch.org.uk)

## Lent – journeying together to Easter

While many people in society think of Christmas as the major Christian Festival, the Church has always given primacy of honour to Easter. This is because the Lord's Cross and Resurrection stand at the very heart of the Christian Faith. Without the Cross and Resurrection there would be no Christianity at all. The dying and rising of Jesus permeate all Christian worship, but we give special attention to these saving events in Lent, Holy Week and Easter.

The word *Lent* comes from an Old English word meaning 'lengthening'. For gradually, the days are getting longer as we look forwards the Spring Equinox. Lent began as a period of preparation for Easter, a kind of Christian spiritual 'spring clean'. Lent invites us to take seriously the reality of sin and our conflict with 'the world, the flesh and the devil'. It invites us, where appropriate, to fast or to think seriously about the food we eat. It encourages us to read the Bible daily and give time to private prayer. It asks us to consider our Christian giving of time, talents and money. The ancient tradition of 'giving up things for Lent' is to help us to focus on God and to avoid excess. As Lent progresses so the focus narrows onto the Cross and Passion of Jesus as we enter Passiontide, and then as we follow the events of Jesus' final week before his death in Holy Week. The great 'Three Days' of Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Day help us to reflect on and celebrate the great salvation he has won for us, and the great cost that he bore for us.

We hope and pray that Lent, Holy Week and Easter will be a time of spiritual growth for all of us; that our minds and imaginations will be 'lengthened' to see with greater clarity the love of God the Father, of Jesus who gave himself up for all of us, and the Holy Spirit who leads us into all truth. May we all keep a holy Lent and so grow in the grace and knowledge of our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

## Special Themes for Lent 2026

We will be exploring special themes this year during Lent.

### **Sunday Worship – Through Lent with John’s Gospel.**

On Sunday mornings, after considering the story of the Temptations of Jesus on the First Sunday of Lent, we will read and reflect on some of the great narratives from John’s Gospel:

- John 3:1-17 ‘You must be born from above’ - Jesus meets Nicodemus
- John 4:5-42 ‘I will give you living water’ - Jesus meets the Samaritan woman
- John 9 ‘I came that you may see’ - Jesus heals the man born blind
- John 11:1-45 ‘I am the resurrection and the life’ – Jesus raises Lazarus from death

### **Sunday afternoons at Simply Worship at 4.00pm.**

Beholding the Glory: Exploring John’s Gospel.

- Fullness of Life – John 10:1-18
- Saviour of the World – John 12:20-36a
- Worshipping the Risen Lord – John 20:19-23

## **Lent Complines (Night Prayer) 7.30-8.05pm**

Compline or Night Prayer is an ancient late evening devotion to be said at the close of day. We light the chancel with candles, enjoy the stillness of the Church building, listen to an address and then say Compline together. We meet each Tuesday evening in March and then daily in Holy Week.

This year, the addresses will be on 'Reflective Psalms'. The Book of Psalms is the 'hymnbook' of the Old Testament. While there are many types of Psalms, in this series we will be using Psalms that compliment the themes of Lent. Jesus knew the Psalms by heart and they sustained him on the hard journey to the Cross. They will sustain us as we seek to 'take up our cross and follow him. We will consider Psalms 51, 139, 121, 125, 130, 131, 27, 39, 42, 43, 22.

## **Regular Mid-week Worship and Meetings**

### **Morning and Evening Prayer**

Morning Prayer is said Monday to Friday at 8.50am, and Saturday at 9.15am. Evening Prayer is said at 4.15pm, Monday to Saturday (Please check the weekly pew leaflet for any variations). Can you find time to join us at least once a week during Lent?

### **Prayer Group**

The Prayer Group meets each Thursday at 2.30pm in the church please contact Jennifer Wright: [jenwright73@btinternet.com](mailto:jenwright73@btinternet.com) for further information

### **Home Group**

Please see page 19

## Ash Wednesday: 18<sup>th</sup> February

Please make a good start by being at worship on Ash Wednesday, one of the holiest days of the year as a day of penitence and reflection.

8.50am	Morning Prayer and Litany
10.00am	Holy Communion with imposition of ashes
4.15pm	Evening Prayer
7.30pm	Sung Communion with hymns, address and the imposition of ashes

Receiving ash, in the form of a cross, is a powerful outward sign of the truth that, though we are dust and ashes, though we are sinful and mortal, the cross saves us from sin and death. It is an optional ceremony for any who find it helpful devotionally.

**The Collect for Ash Wednesday and any day during Lent**  
Almighty and everlasting God, you hate nothing that you have made and forgive the sins of all those who are penitent: create and make in us new and contrite hearts, that we, worthily lamenting our sins, and acknowledging our wretchedness, may receive from you, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord. Amen.

## Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> February

2.30pm	Prayer Group
4.00pm	Home Group

# Lent 1

## Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> February

8.00am Holy Communion

10.00am Parish Communion:

**Sermon theme:** The Temptations of Jesus

**Bible readings:** Romans 5:12-19; Matthew 4:1-11

4.00pm River – I am the Light of the World (Please see page 17)

## Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> February

10.00am Holy Communion

11.00am Exploring the Bible: Jeremiah – the cost of faithfulness: Introduction, overview, Jeremiah's call and early ministry

7.30pm Corbridge Chamber Music Festival Concert

## Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> February

10.00am Service led by the Methodist church

2.30pm Prayer Group in the church

4.00pm Home Group

## Lent 2

### Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> March

9.00am Holy Communion at Halton

10.00am Parish Communion:

**Sermon theme:** 'You must be born from above' -  
Jesus meets Nicodemus

**Bible readings:** Romans 4:1-5, 13-17; John 3:1-17

4.00pm Simply Worship: Fullness of Life – John 10:1-20  
(Please see page 19)

### Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March

7.30pm Address and Compline

**Reflective Psalms**

Psalm 51: The Depths of Repentance

### Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> March

10.00am Holy Communion

11.00am Exploring the Bible: Jeremiah – the cost of  
faithfulness: Examples of Jeremiah's teaching –  
word and symbolic action

### Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March

2.30pm Prayer Group in the church

4.00pm Home Group

## Lent 3

### Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> March

8.00am Holy Communion

10.00am Parish Communion:

**Sermon theme:** 'I will give you living water' - Jesus meets the Samaritan woman

**Bible readings:** Romans 5:1-11; John 4:5-42

4.00pm Messy Church – Lenten Journey (Please see page 16)

### Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> March

7.30pm Address and Compline

**Reflective Psalms**

Psalm 139: The Hound of Heaven

### Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> March

10.00am Holy Communion

11.00am Exploring the Bible: Jeremiah – the cost of faithfulness: Not all doom and gloom – promises of salvation

### Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> March

10.00am Service led by the Methodist Church

2.30pm Prayer Group in the church

4.00pm Home Group

## Lent 4 / Mothering Sunday

### Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> March

10.00am Parish Communion:

**Sermon theme:** 'I came that you may see' – Jesus heals the man born blind

**Bible readings:** Ephesians 5:8-14; John 9

4.00pm Simply Worship – Saviour of the World, John 12:20-36a

### Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> March

7.30pm Address and Compline

**Reflective Psalms**

Psalms 121, 125: Looking to the Hills

### Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March

10.00am Holy Communion

11.00am Exploring the Bible: Jeremiah – the cost of faithfulness: The sufferings of Jeremiah

### Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March

2.30pm Prayer Group in the church

4.00pm Home Group

## Passion Sunday / Lent 5

### Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> March - Giving Commitment Sunday

8.00am Holy Communion

10.00am Parish Communion: Giving Commitment Sunday

**Sermon theme:** 'I am the resurrection and the life' -  
Jesus raises Lazarus from death

**Bible readings:** Romans 8:6-11; John 11:1-45

4.00pm River – I am the Good Shepherd

### Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> March

7.30pm Address and Compline

**Reflective Psalms**

Psalms 130, 131: Wrestling and Nestling

### Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March

10.00am Holy Communion

### Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> March

10.00am Service led by the Methodist Church

2.30pm Prayer Group in the church

4.00pm Home Group

## Introduction to Holy Week

In our Holy Week worship, we dramatically and symbolically enter into the great narrative of the dying and rising of Jesus. On Palm Sunday, outside the Church building, we acclaim him with 'hosanna' as our Messiah-King, but then we enter the Church as Jesus entered the city to die for us, and we read dramatically the narrative of his passion, this year from St Luke's Gospel. On Maundy Thursday we are with him in the upper room as we celebrate the Lord's Supper, as we wash feet and remember the 'maundy', the new commandment that we should love one another and serve one another. Then we go with him to Gethsemane in the North Transept to watch and pray with him. On Good Friday we watch at the Cross in wonder, love and praise. At the Easter Dawn Service, we light the Easter Candle and process into the pitch black Church which gradually fills with light as we greet his rising (with percussion instruments) in the joy of dawn, renew our baptism at the font, and celebrate his presence with us in communion. This risen joy fills the worship of the day; at the 10am Communion we also renew our baptism and celebrate his living presence in word and sacrament.

We are not simply remembering what happened 2,000 years ago. Wonderfully, through faith and baptism, we have been joined to these saving acts. As St Paul teaches, through faith and in baptism we have died with Jesus, we have been buried with him in his tomb and we have been raised with him from the dead (see Romans chapter 6). Jesus' story has become our story. His death and resurrection stand at the intersection of the old world of sin, death and corruption which is passing away, and the new life of love, joy and peace which leads us to eternal glory. In celebrating Holy Week, we are celebrating our salvation, the victory we share through Jesus our Lord. So let us celebrate the feast with faith, in wonder, and in gratitude.

## **Holy Week & Easter**

There are a variety of services to mark this the most sacred week in the Church Year. Please try to come to one of our services each day as we walk closely with Jesus to the Cross.

### **The Collect for Holy Week**

Almighty and everlasting God, who in your tender love towards the human race sent your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ to take upon him our flesh and to suffer death upon the cross: grant that we may follow the example of his patience and humility, and also be made partakers of his resurrection; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### **Palm Sunday, 29<sup>th</sup> March (Clocks go forward this weekend)**

10.00am      Procession and Parish Communion

This service will begin at the Lych-gate in the Churchyard (for those who find standing difficult, please go directly into Church) when we will remember how the crowds greeted Jesus as Messiah - King with shouts of 'hosanna'. Then we symbolically go with him into the city as we process into Church and we all join in a dramatic reading of Matthew's Passion, before celebrating communion.

6.00pm      Choral Evensong

## **Monday in Holy Week, 30<sup>th</sup> March**

8.50am	Morning Prayer
<b><u>9.30am</u></b>	Holy Communion
1.30pm	Wedding
2.00pm	Lent Reflection led by Women's Fellowship at Corbridge Community Hub.
4.15pm	Evening Prayer
7.30pm	Address and Compline
	<b>Reflective Psalms</b>
	Psalm 27: Light and desire

## **Tuesday in Holy Week, 31<sup>st</sup> March**

8.50am	Morning Prayer
<b><u>9.30am</u></b>	Holy Communion
4.15pm	Evening Prayer
7.30pm	Address and Compline
	<b>Reflective Psalms</b>
	Psalm 39: A Passing Breath

## **Wednesday in Holy Week, 1<sup>st</sup> April**

8.50am	Morning Prayer
10.00am	Holy Communion
4.15am	Evening Prayer
7.30pm	Address and Compline
	<b>Reflective Psalms</b>
	Psalms 42, 43: Longing for the Lord

## **Maundy Thursday, 2<sup>nd</sup> April**

8.50am	Morning Prayer
11.00am	Blessing of Oils at Newcastle Cathedral
4.15pm	Evening Prayer

7.30pm The Communion of the Last Supper with stripping of the Sanctuary followed by the watch. In this dramatic service, we are in the upper room with Jesus as we recall the events of Maundy Thursday.

### **Good Friday, 3<sup>rd</sup> April**

8.50am Morning Prayer and Litany  
11.00am - Messy Church activities for families  
12.30pm in the church.  
2.00pm Ecumenical worship for Good Friday  
3.30pm Evening Prayer  
7.30pm Address and Compline  
**Reflective Psalms**  
Psalm 22: The Mystery of the Cross

### **Easter Eve, 4<sup>th</sup> April**

8.50am Morning Prayer  
1.00pm Wedding  
3.00pm Evening Prayer  
5.30pm Easter Service at Whittonstall

### **Easter Day, 5<sup>th</sup> April**

5.30am Service of Light and Dawn Communion followed by Bacon Sandwiches with Prosecco & Bucks Fizz. This dramatic service begins with a bonfire in the churchyard; we light the Easter Candle and filling St Andrew's with candle-light we welcome the Resurrection light of Christ, renew our baptism and celebrate communion at the dawn of day. Please bring percussion instruments to acclaim 'Christ is risen. Alleluia!'

8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)
9.00am	Easter Communion at Halton
10.00am	Family Easter Communion with Baptism and Easter eggs for the children
4.00pm	Simply Worship for Easter Worshipping the Risen Lord – John 20:19-23

## FURTHER INFORMATION

### Messy Church



**Messy Church** isn't like 'ordinary church'! For a lot of the time people are walking around, chatting, or helping their child with a craft activity or a game. But it is still 'church' of course, and there is always a short Bible-based story time. There's some singing for everyone to join in, and we always pray as well.

We usually meet in church on a Sunday each month from 4.00pm to 5.00pm.

8<sup>th</sup> March      Lenten Journey

The Easter Messy Church is on **Good Friday** at 11.00am. 'The Easter Journey'. We'll end at 12.30pm after a light snack lunch.



River meets in the church (not by the River!) on a Sunday afternoon each month. We begin at 4.00pm with refreshments and conversation followed by a time including worship, discussion, reflection and prayer, usually sat around tables. The songs are not traditional, and are led by our small group of musicians and singers. There is always some input on a theme to engage with, but not a sermon. We end between 5.00pm and 5.15pm. Titles/themes will appear on our website and on posters in/around church.

22<sup>nd</sup> February, 22<sup>nd</sup> March, and 26<sup>th</sup> April at 4.00pm at St. Andrew's.

Over the coming months, we will reflect on a series of Jesus' great "I am" sayings from the Gospel. Each of these statements reveals something profound about who Jesus is and how he meets us in our lives.

From "*I am the way*" and "*I am the light of the world,*" through to "*I am the good shepherd*" and "*I am the resurrection and the life,*" we are invited to deepen our faith, renew our hope, and consider how these truths shape the way we live and pray.

22<sup>nd</sup> February: I am the Light of the World

22<sup>nd</sup> March I am the Good Shepherd.

26<sup>th</sup> April I am the Resurrection and the life.

# Exploring the Bible: Jeremiah

## Jeremiah – the cost of faithfulness

The Book of Jeremiah is one of the most poignant books in the Old Testament. It is full of spiritual insight, but it is a long and complex book – some 52 Chapters. But Jeremiah is perhaps the most Christ-like of the Prophets, not least because of his unswerving fidelity to preaching God’s true and living word – whatever the cost, and also by the fact that he suffered greatly. In all this he points forward to Christ.

In four sessions, we will consider the main themes of his book and explore its meaning for us today. As in previous Exploring the Bible sessions, there will be teaching input and group discussion of some of the key passages.

We will meet in the Cottage from 11am to 12.30 on the following Wednesdays:

- |                       |  |
|-----------------------|--|
| Wednesday 25 February | Introduction, overview, Jeremiah’s call and early ministry |
| Wednesday 4 March     | Examples of Jeremiah’s teaching – word and symbolic action |
| Wednesday 11 March    | Not all doom and gloom - promises of salvation             |
| Wednesday 18 March    | The sufferings of Jeremiah                                 |

We begin with coffee, and in each session there will be teaching and group discussion. Everyone welcome.

## Home Group

The Home Group meets on Thursdays, starting with refreshments at 4.00pm and ending at 5.30pm. We enjoy informal discussion, usually on a passage from the Bible. We usually meet at the home of Max and Monica Philbrick (11, Crofts Avenue). For more details on what we're doing during Lent, ring Max Philbrick (632707) or Paul Morris (633148). You are most welcome to come.

## Simply Worship

**Simply Worship** is an informal service of God's word. We meet on Sundays at 4.00pm in church, on two or three Sundays each month.

In March and April we are exploring:

1 <sup>st</sup> March	John 10:1-18	Fullness of Life
15 <sup>th</sup> March	John 12:20-36a	Saviour of the World
5 <sup>th</sup> April	John 20:19-23	Worshipping the Risen Lord

## Giving Commitment Sunday

Please note **Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> March is Giving Commitment Sunday**. As we remember the 'love so amazing, so divine' that demands our life, our soul, our all, we ask all members of St Andrew's and Halton prayerfully to consider their Christian giving for the next twelve months. Information on our Church budgets and financial needs will be available for all Church members.

## Church spring clean and tidy-up of the Churchyard

**Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March 9.30am to 11.30am.** Please drop in when you can. Cleaning materials provided, if you are working outside, please bring your own gardening gloves and secateurs. We need help inside and outside the Church. Tea and coffee will be provided.

## Easter Flowers

### Donations for Easter Flowers

Please help us to make St Andrew's and Halton look magnificent for Easter. Would you be willing to give a donation in memory of a loved one. Please use one of the special flower donation envelopes on the table at the Church door and ensure that your donation is given by Palm Sunday.

## Church of England Lent Theme: Draw Near



The Church of England's Lent theme for 2026 is  
**Draw Near: Life-giving habits for Lent.**

Each week a different contributor explores a different aspect of Christian discipleship – **worshipping** together, **praying**, **exploring the Bible**, sharing **communion**, offering **service** and **sharing the good news** with other.

A parallel 40-day challenge for families and children will also be available - exploring the life-giving habit of generosity in partnership with 40 acts.

**Daily reflections via Everyday Faith app:** You can read and listen to daily Lent reflections from the 18<sup>th</sup> February through the Everyday Faith app, the new daily devotional app from the Church of England, which is available to [download here](#).