The Somersham Benefice

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10th May 2026

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Collect Prayer

God our redeemer, you have delivered us from the power of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of your Son: grant, that as by his death he has recalled us to life, so by his continual presence in us he may raise us to eternal joy; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Genesis 8.20 – 9.17

Noah built an altar to the LORD, and took of every clean animal and of every clean bird, and offered burnt-offerings on the altar. And when the LORD smelt the pleasing odour, the LORD said in his heart, 'I will never again curse the ground because of humankind, for the inclination of the human heart is evil from youth; nor will I ever again destroy every living creature as I have done. As long as the earth endures, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night, shall not cease.' God blessed Noah and his sons, and said to them, 'Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth. The fear and dread of you shall rest on every animal of the earth, and on every bird of the air, on everything that creeps on the ground, and on all of the fish of the sea; into your hand they are delivered. Every moving thing that lives shall be food for you; and just as I gave you the green plants, I give you everything. Only, you shall not eat flesh with its life, that is, its blood. For your own lifeblood I will surely require a reckoning: from every animal I will require it and from human beings, each one for the blood of another, I will require a reckoning for human life. Whoever sheds the blood of a human, by a human shall that person's blood be shed; for in his own image God made humankind. And you, be fruitful and multiply, abound on the earth and multiply in it.' Then God said to Noah and to his sons with him, 'As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you, and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the domestic animals, and every animal of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark. I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth.' God said, 'This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth.' God said to Noah, 'This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth.'

Acts 17.22–31

Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, 'Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way. For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, "To an unknown god." What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. From one ancestor he made all nations to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, so that they would search for God and perhaps grope for him and find him – though indeed he is not far from each one of us. For "In him we live and move and have our being"; as even some of your own poets have said, "For we too are his offspring." Since we are God's offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold, or silver, or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.'

John 14.15–21

Jesus said to his disciples: 'If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you for ever. This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you. I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them.'

Post communion payer

God our Father, whose Son Jesus Christ gives the water of eternal life: may we thirst for you, the spring of life and source of goodness, through him who is alive and reigns, now and for ever. Amen.

Church Contacts:

- Weddings, Funerals, Memorials, Baptisms -
Rev. Fred Kilner 01487 842864 kilner@btinternet.com

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Pidley cum Fenton *All Saints*
Kevin Doyle 01487 840834

Old Hurst *St Peter*
Nicky Torrance 07979 863063 nickytorrance@outlook.com

Prayer Diary

Sunday 10th May - Easter VI

Deanery of Wisbech Lynn Marshland; Rural Dean: The Revd Dr Richard Hines; Lay Chair: Canon Alex Gullon.
The Church of Pakistan (United)

Monday 11th

Benefice of Clenchwarton:
The Revd Barbara Burton
The Diocese of Yokohama -
The Nippon Sei Ko Kai (Japan)

Tuesday 12th

Benefice of East Marshland (Terrington St John, Tilney All Saints, Tilney St Lawrence, Wiggenhall St Germans with St Mary the Virgin and Islington, Wiggenhall St Mary Magdalen); LLMs: Mrs Jo Chilvers, Dr Cyril Dodd, Mr Mark Wright
The Diocese of Yola - The Church of Nigeria

Wednesday 13th

Benefice of Leverington, Newton in the Isle with St Mary in the Marsh and Tydd St Giles: The Revd Sandra Gardner; LLM: Mrs Kate Pateman
The Diocese of York - The Church of England

Thursday 14th (Ascension Day)

Benefice of Outwell: The Revd Daphne Calvert LLM: Mrs Raine Thorrold
The Diocese of New York - The Episcopal Church

Friday 15th

Benefice of St Augustine, Wisbech: The Revd Paul Kite, The Revd Sue Squires-Dutton; LLM: Mr Keith Aplin
The Diocese of Western New York - The Episcopal Church USA

Saturday 16th

Benefice of St Peter and St Paul, Wisbech: The Revd Paul Kite, The Revd Sue Squires-Dutton; LLM: Mr Keith Aplin
The Diocese of Ysabel - The Anglican Church of Melanesia

Your prayers are asked for:

Kevin Shillington, Roy Brown, Roz and Tim Berry, Mary M, Ernest, Riley, Jamie, Karen, Gwen, Isabel, Carol, Jane, Leesa. Lyn, Karel Hermary, Lea.

Services this week and next:

Sunday 10th (*Easter 6*)

09.00	Old Hurst	Holy Communion
09.00	Pidley	Service of the Word
10.30	Somersham	Holy Communion

Wednesday 13th

09.30	Somersham	Holy Communion

Sunday 17th May (*Sunday after Ascension*)

10.00	Pidley	Service of the Word
10.30	Somersham	Holy Communion

Wednesday 20th

09.30	Somersham	Holy Communion

Regular Activities

Welcome Café
Somersham Church 4th Sat of the month. 10:30-11:30 am. Coffee, Cake, Chat. Next: 23rd May.

Woodhurst Open Church
1st Sat of the month. 10.30-12 noon.
Next: 6th June

MiniMum
Somersham Church, 1st Weds of the month 10.30 am. Next meeting 3rd June

Benefice Homegroup
Next: 12th May, 32 Norwood Road, Somersham.

Remembering Group for the bereaved.
2nd Weds of the month, 2pm. Next: 13th May.

Creative Minds.
Coffee & mindful activity/ crafts. Somersham Church 3rd Weds of the month, 2.30-4.30pm, No May meeting, next: 17th June

Little Acorns baby and toddler group.
Tuesdays 9.30-11am. (During term times)

Messy Church
Next is 26th May, 10.00 am

Dynamite
Tweens' youth group for school years 4-8 at the Baptist Church, Somersham in partnership with St. John the Baptist, Somersham. Next meetings: 8th May; 22nd May.

Coffee servers sought!

We need more volunteers to help with coffee after service in Somersham. Please see Pauline if you think you might be interested.

Spring into Summer

On Saturday 30th May at 7.30 pm Woodhurst Church presents "Spring into Summer" an evening of words and music with **Tapestry Singers** and guest star **Rula Lenska.** Tickets £15 (under 16s free) phone Martin on 07721 586300 or book direct at: https://woodhurst-church-events.square.site