

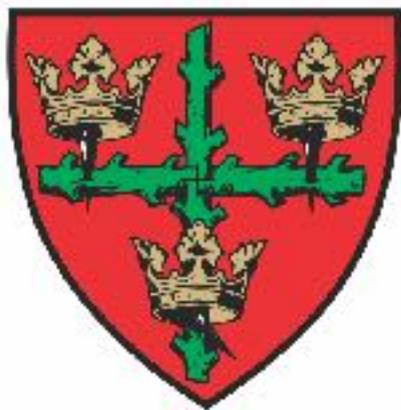
## St Peter's Church

in the Colchester Town Centre Parish

# A Civic Service for St George's Day

attended in Civic State by  
The Mayor of Colchester  
Councillor Julie Young  
and

Councillors of the Borough of Colchester



**Sunday 23rd April 2017**

**11:00am**

## Welcome to St Peter's Church.

Welcome to all those joining us for this morning's Civic Service. A particularly warm welcome to everyone with us today from St Botolph's, our sister church in the Colchester Town Centre Parish.

## Procession arrangements.

Please remain seated as the Civic Party process into the church, and also as the Clergy process shortly before the start of the service.

At the end of the service, please remain standing as the Clergy and Civic Party process to the West Door.

## Retiring Collection for the Mayor's Charities.

The Vicar and Churchwardens of St Peter's are pleased to support the Mayor's chosen charities. During her year of office, the Mayor is fundraising for the following charities:

- Beacon House
- Open Road
- Signpost
- The Rob George Foundation
- The Invicta Foundation

A retiring collection will be taken at the end of this morning's Civic Service in aid of the Mayor's chosen charities. Alternatively, donations can be made by cheque ("Mayors Charity Fund") and delivered to: The Mayoral Office, The Mayor's Parlour, Town Hall, High Street, Colchester.

Further details can be found at:

[http://www.colchester.gov.uk/article/12792/  
The-Mayors-Charities-and-Events](http://www.colchester.gov.uk/article/12792/The-Mayors-Charities-and-Events)

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## WELCOME & INTRODUCTION

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### **HYMN: Praise, my soul, the King of heaven**

Praise, my soul, the king of heaven!  
to his feet thy tribute bring;  
ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,  
who like me his praise should sing?  
Praise him! Praise him!  
Praise him! Praise him!  
Praise the everlasting King.

Praise him for his grace and favour  
to our fathers in distress;  
praise him still the same as ever,  
slow to chide and swift to bless:  
Praise him! Praise him!  
Praise him! Praise him!  
Glorious in his faithfulness.

Father-like, he tends and spares us;  
well our feeble frame he knows;  
in his hand he gently bears us,  
rescues us from all our foes.  
Praise him! Praise him!  
Praise him! Praise him!  
Widely as his mercy flows.

Angels, help us to adore him;  
ye behold him face to face;  
sun and moon, bow down before him,  
dwellers all in time and space.  
Praise him! Praise him!  
Praise him! Praise him!  
Praise with us the God of grace!

*Henry Francis Lyte, Praise Trust*

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## PRAYERS OF APPROACH

Praise the Lord, O my soul,  
**All and forget not all his benefits.**

Let us praise and thank God for all the blessings he has given us. For those who brought the Christian faith to this land, and for our heritage of Christian faith throughout the centuries,  
**All we thank you, O God.**

For the countless numbers in every age, who in their humble ways witnessed to your glory and contributed to the welfare of this country,  
**All we thank you, O God.**

For good kings and queens, statesmen and councillors; for able leaders of this nation, both past and present,  
**All we thank you, O God.**

For the armed forces and all who have died in the defence of this land and for the protection of their fellow citizens,  
**All we thank you, O God.**

For this country's advocacy of freedom, tolerance, and just government,  
**All we thank you, O God.**

O Lord, open our lips,  
**All and our mouths shall proclaim your praise.**

Let us worship the Lord.  
**All All praise to his name.**

**All Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, is now and shall be for ever. Amen.**

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## REFLECTIONS ON ST GEORGE'S DAY

*led by Rev David Barrett CF,  
Chaplain, 16 Air Assault Brigade*

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## THE OLD TESTAMENT READING

### Psalm 16

*read by Cllr Julie Young,*

*Mayor of Colchester*

Preserve me, O God, for in you I take refuge.

<sup>2</sup> I say to the LORD, "You are my Lord;  
I have no good apart from you."

<sup>3</sup> As for the saints in the land,  
they are the excellent ones,  
in whom is all my delight.

<sup>4</sup> The sorrows of those who run after  
another god shall multiply;  
their drink offerings of blood I will not pour out  
or take their names on my lips.

<sup>5</sup> The LORD is my chosen portion and my cup;  
you hold my lot.

<sup>6</sup> The lines have fallen for me in pleasant places;  
indeed, I have a beautiful inheritance.

<sup>7</sup> I bless the LORD who gives me counsel;  
in the night also my heart instructs me.

<sup>8</sup> I have set the LORD always before me;  
because he is at my right hand,  
I shall not be shaken.

<sup>9</sup> Therefore my heart is glad,  
and my whole being rejoices;  
my flesh also dwells secure.

<sup>10</sup> For you will not abandon my soul to Sheol,  
or let your holy one see corruption.

<sup>11</sup> You make known to me the path of life;  
in your presence there is fullness of joy;  
at your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**All Thanks be to God.**

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### HYMN: Tell out, my soul

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord:  
unnumbered blessings give my spirit voice;  
tender to me the promise of his word;  
in God my Saviour shall my heart rejoice.

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his Name:  
make known his might, the deeds his arm has done;  
his mercy sure, from age to age the same;  
his holy Name, the Lord, the Mighty One.

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his might:  
powers and dominions lay their glory by;  
proud hearts and stubborn wills are put to flight,  
the hungry fed, the humble lifted high.

Tell out, my soul, the glories of his word:  
firm is his promise, and his mercy sure.  
Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord  
to children's children and for evermore!

*Timothy Dudley-Smith, © 1961, Oxford University Press*

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## THE NEW TESTAMENT READING

### Acts 2:14a, 22-32

*read by Lt Col Ciaran Griffin OBE LANCs,*

*Commander, Colchester Garrison*

But Peter, standing with the eleven, lifted up his voice and addressed them:

<sup>22</sup> "Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with mighty works and wonders and signs that God did through him in your midst, as you yourselves know— <sup>23</sup> this Jesus, delivered up according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of lawless men. <sup>24</sup> God raised him up, loosing the pangs of death, because it was not possible for him to be held by it. <sup>25</sup> For David says concerning him,

"I saw the Lord always before me,  
for he is at my right hand  
that I may not be shaken;

<sup>26</sup> therefore my heart was glad,  
and my tongue rejoiced;  
my flesh also will dwell in hope.

<sup>27</sup> For you will not abandon my soul to Hades,  
or let your Holy One see corruption.

<sup>28</sup> You have made known to me the paths of life;  
you will make me full of gladness  
with your presence.'

<sup>29</sup> "Brothers, I may say to you with confidence about 'the patriarch David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day.

<sup>30</sup> Being therefore a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would set one of his descendants on his throne, <sup>31</sup> he foresaw and spoke about the resurrection of the Christ, that he was not abandoned to Hades, nor did his flesh see corruption. <sup>32</sup> This Jesus God raised up, and of that we all are witnesses.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**All Thanks be to God.**

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## **HYMN: Be still, for the presence of the Lord**

Be still, for the presence of the Lord,  
the Holy One, is here.  
Come, bow before him now,  
with reverence and fear.  
In him no sin is found,  
we stand on holy ground.  
Be still, for the presence of the Lord,  
the Holy One, is here.

Be still, for the glory of the Lord  
is shining all around;  
he burns with holy fire,  
with splendour he is crowned.  
How awesome is the sight,  
our radiant King of light!  
Be still, for the glory of the Lord  
is shining all around.

Be still, for the power of the Lord  
is moving in this place;  
he comes to cleanse and heal,  
to minister his grace.  
No work too hard for him;  
in faith receive from him.  
Be still, for the power of the Lord  
is moving in this place.

*David Evans, © 1986, Thankyou Music*

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## **SERMON**

*preacher: Rev Mark Wallace,  
the Town Centre Vicar*

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## **HYMN: Guide me, O thou great Redeemer**

Guide me, O thou great Redeemer,  
pilgrim through this barren land;  
I am weak, but thou art mighty,  
hold me with thy powerful hand;  
bread of heaven, bread of heaven,  
feed me till I want no more;  
feed me till I want no more.

Open now the crystal fountain  
whence the healing stream doth flow;  
let the fire and cloudy pillar  
lead me all my journey through:  
strong deliverer, strong deliverer;  
be thou still my strength and shield;  
be thou still my strength and shield.

When I tread the verge of Jordan,  
bid my anxious fears subside;  
death of death, and hell's destruction  
land me safe on Canaan's side:  
songs of praises, songs of praises,  
I will ever give to thee;  
I will ever give to thee.

*William Williams (1717-1791)*

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## **THE PRAYERS**

*led by Rev David Barrett CF*

*At the conclusion, we join in saying together...*

**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Lead us not into temptation  
but deliver us from evil,  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours  
now and for ever. Amen.**

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## **HYMN: Now thank we all our God**

Now thank we all our God,  
with hearts and hands and voices,  
who wondrous things hath done,  
in whom his world rejoices:  
who from our mother's arms  
hath blessed us on our way  
with countless gifts of love,  
and still is ours today.

O may this bounteous God  
through all our life be near us,  
with ever joyful hearts  
and blessed peace to cheer us;  
and keep us in his grace,  
and guide us when perplexed,  
and free us from all ills  
in this world and the next.

All praise and thanks to God  
the Father now be given,  
the Son and him who reigns  
with them in highest heaven,  
the one eternal God,  
whom earth and heav'n adore;  
for thus it was, is now,  
and shall be evermore.

*Martin Rinkart (1586-1649),  
trans. Catherine Winkworth (1827-1878)*

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## **THE NATIONAL ANTHEM**

God save our gracious Queen!  
Long live our noble Queen!  
God save the Queen!  
Send her victorious,  
happy and glorious,  
long to reign over us,  
God save the Queen.

Thy choicest gifts in store  
on her be pleased to pour,  
long may she reign.  
May she defend our laws,  
and ever give us cause,  
to sing with heart and voice,  
God save the Queen.

THE COLCHESTER  
**TOWN CENTRE PARISH**



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## **THE BLESSING**

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*Please remain standing  
as the procession leaves the church.*

*A retiring collection will be taken  
in aid of the Mayor's chosen charities.*

**All are invited to join the Mayor after the service  
for refreshments at the Town Hall.**