



Alconbury, Buckworth, Hamerton, The Giddings, The Riptons, The Stukeleys, Upton and Winwick  
[www.norleigh.org.uk](http://www.norleigh.org.uk)

## Readings for Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> May

7<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter (the Sunday after Ascension Day) Year B Colour White

### Collect

O God the King of glory,  
you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ  
with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven:  
we beseech you, leave us not comfortless,  
but send your Holy Spirit to strengthen us  
and exalt us to the place where our Saviour  
Christ is gone before,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

### First Reading Acts 1.15–17, 21–26

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.  
In those days Peter stood up among the  
believers (together the crowd numbered about  
one hundred and twenty people). He said,  
'Friends, the scripture had to be fulfilled,  
which the Holy Spirit through David foretold  
concerning Judas, who became a guide for  
those who arrested Jesus – for he was  
numbered among us and was allotted his share  
in this ministry.

So one of the men who have accompanied us  
throughout the time that the Lord Jesus went in  
and out among us, beginning from the baptism  
of John until the day when he was taken up from  
us – one of these must become a witness with  
us to his resurrection.' So they proposed two,  
Joseph called Barsabbas, who was also known  
as Justus, and Matthias. Then they prayed and  
said, 'Lord, you know everyone's heart. Show us  
which one of these two you have chosen to take  
the place in this ministry and apostleship from  
which Judas turned aside to go to his own  
place.' And they cast lots for them, and the lot  
fell on Matthias; and he was added to the eleven  
apostles.

This is the word of the Lord  
**Thanks be to God.**

### Psalm 1

**R Happy are they who trust in the Lord.**

Happy are they who have not walked  
in the counsel of the wicked,  
nor lingered in the way of sinners,  
nor sat in the seats of the scornful!  
Their delight is in the law of the Lord,  
and they meditate on his law day and night. **R**  
They are like trees planted by streams of water,  
bearing fruit in due season,

with leaves that do not wither;  
everything they do shall prosper. **R**  
It is not so with the wicked:  
they are like chaff which the wind blows away;  
Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright  
when judgement comes,  
nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.  
For the Lord knows the way of the righteous,  
but the way of the wicked is doomed. **R**

### Second Reading 1 John 5.9–13

A reading from the first letter of John.  
If we receive human testimony, the testimony of  
God is greater; for this is the testimony of God  
that he has testified to his Son. Those who  
believe in the Son of God have the testimony in  
their hearts. Those who do not believe in God  
have made him a liar by not believing in the  
testimony that God has given concerning his  
Son. And this is the testimony: God gave us  
eternal life, and this life is in his Son. Whoever  
has the Son has life; whoever does not have the  
Son of God does not have life. I write these  
things to you who believe in the name of the  
Son of God, so that you may know that you  
have eternal life.

This is the word of the Lord  
**Thanks be to God.**

### Gospel John 17.6–19

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ  
according to John.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus looked up to heaven and prayed:  
'Father, I have made your name known to those  
whom you gave me from the world. They were  
yours, and you gave them to me, and they have  
kept your word. Now they know that everything  
you have given me is from you; for the words  
that you gave to me I have given to them, and  
they have received them and know in truth that I  
came from you; and they have believed that you  
sent me. I am asking on their behalf; I am not  
asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of  
those whom you gave me, because they are  
yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine;  
and I have been glorified in them. And now I am  
no longer in the world, but they are in the world,



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and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one. While I was with them, I protected them in your name that you have given me. I guarded them, and not one of them was lost except the one destined to be lost, so that the scripture might be fulfilled. But now I am coming to you, and I speak these things in the world so that they may have my joy made complete in themselves. I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. I am not asking you to take them out of the world, but I ask you to protect them from the evil one. They do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. As you have sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. And for their sakes I sanctify myself, so that they also may be sanctified in truth.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

#### **Post Communion Prayer**

Eternal God,  
giver of love and power,  
your Son Jesus Christ has sent us  
into all the world  
to preach the gospel of his kingdom:  
confirm us in this mission,  
and help us to live the good news we proclaim;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

#### **Prayer for the Week**

Risen ascended Lord,  
as we rejoice at your triumph,  
fill your Church on earth  
with power and compassion,  
that all who are estranged by sin  
may find forgiveness and know your peace,  
to the glory of God the Father. **Amen**

#### **Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> May**

9.30 am Morning Praise Alconbury (Livestreamed and Zoom)

9.30 am Holy Communion, Buckworth

11.30 am Family Communion, Gt Stukeley

11.30 am All Age Service, Abbots Ripton

#### **Friday 21<sup>st</sup> May**

12.00 Midday service for Little Gidding, followed by Zoom lunch

#### **Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> May**

2-4 Plant Sale in Upton Churchyard (in church if wet)

#### **Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> May Pentecost**

9.00 am Methodist service of Holy Communion in Alconbury

9.30 am Holy Communion, Little Stukeley

9.30 am Morning service, Great Stukeley

#### **Advance notice**

**Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> May** – Service for Trinity Sunday in St John's Little Gidding.

This is the only benefice service that Sunday, and the first service in Lt Gidding since March 2020. Seating is very limited and booking is essential. Please contact Fiona to book a place

**June 5-13<sup>th</sup> 'The Church's Count on Nature'**

<https://www.churchofengland.org/media-and-news/news-releases/churches-launch-nature-count-assess-biodiversity-within-national-park>

We are encouraged to use this week to find ways to explore and record the biodiversity in our churchyards. Is this something we can help your church use to welcome the community into the churchyard. Great Gidding will be using this as the first time we welcome the school children back into the church(yard). They'll be coming in their 'bubbles', explore the churchyard and have a small act of collective worship outside.

What could you do?

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