



# The Parish of Boxmoor

St John's Boxmoor  
St Stephen's Chaulden & St Francis Hammerfield

## Choral Evensong during Eastertide



**Sunday 21 April 2024**  
**6.30pm**

### **Introit: All in the April evening**

All in the April evening  
April airs are abroad  
The sheep with their little lambs  
Passed me by on the road  
The sheep with their little lambs  
Passed me by on the road  
All in the April evening  
I thought on the Lamb of God.

The lambs were weary and crying  
With a weak human cry  
I thought on the Lamb of God  
Going meekly to die  
Up in the blue blue mountains  
Dewy pastures are sweet  
Rest for the little bodies  
Rest for the little feet.

But for the lamb, the Lamb of god  
Up on the hilltop green  
Only a cross, a cross of shame  
Two stark crosses between.

All in the April evening  
April airs were abroad  
I saw the sheep with the lambs  
And thought on the Lamb of God.

*Hugh S. Robertson (1874–1952)*

### **Office Hymn: Lord, enthroned in heavenly splendour**

Lord, enthroned in heavenly splendour,  
first-begotten from the dead,  
thou alone, our strong defender,  
liftest up thy people's head.  
Alleluia!  
Jesu, true and living bread.

Here our humblest homage pay we;  
here in loving reverence bow;  
here for faith's discernment pray we,  
lest we fail to know thee now.  
Alleluia!  
Thou art here, we ask not how.

Though the lowliest form doth veil thee  
as of old in Bethlehem,  
here as there thine angels hail thee,  
Branch and Flower of Jesse's stem.  
Alleluia!  
We in worship join with them.

Paschal Lamb, thine offering, finished  
once for all when thou wast slain,  
in its fullness undiminished  
shall for evermore remain,  
Alleluia!  
cleansing souls from every stain.

Life-imparting heavenly Manna,  
stricken Rock with streaming side,  
heaven and earth with loud hosanna  
worship thee, the Lamb who died,  
Alleluia!  
risen, ascended, glorified.

*St Helen 296 NEH*

**Psalm 81: 8–16**

I proved thee also: at the waters of strife.  
Hear, O my people, and I will assure thee, O Israel:  
if thou wilt hearken unto me,  
there shall no strange god be in thee:  
neither shalt thou worship any other god.  
I am the Lord thy God, who brought thee out of the land of Egypt:  
open thy mouth wide, and I shall fill it.  
But my people would not hear my voice: and Israel would not obey me.  
So I gave them up unto their own hearts' lusts:  
and let them follow their own imaginations.  
O that my people would have hearkened unto me:  
for if Israel had walked in my ways,  
I should soon have put down their enemies:  
and turned my hand against their adversaries.  
The haters of the Lord should have been found liars:  
but their time should have endured for ever.

*All stand.*

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son: and to the Holy Ghost;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be:  
world without end. Amen.

**Old Testament Lesson: Exodus 16: 4–15**

**Canticles: Evening Service in G**

*Charles Villiers Stanford (1852–1924)*

**New Testament Lesson: Revelation 2: 12–17**

**Anthem: Let all mortal flesh keep**

Let all mortal flesh keep silence, and stand with fear and trembling, and lift itself above all earthly thought. For the King of kings and Lord of lords, Christ our God, cometh forth to be our oblation, and to be given for food to the faithful. Before him come the choirs of angels, with every principality and power, the cherubim with many eyes, and winged seraphim, who veil their faces as they shout exultingly the hymn: Alleluia!

*Edward Bairstow (1874–1946)*  
*Liturgy of St James*

**The Sermon**

## Hymn: Bread of heaven, on thee we feed

Bread of heaven, on thee we feed, for thy flesh is meat indeed; ever may our souls be fed with this true and living bread, day by day with strength supplied through the life of him who died.	Vine of heaven, thy blood supplies this blest cup of sacrifice; 'tis thy wounds our healing give; to thy cross we look and live: thou our life! O let us be rooted, grafted, built on thee.
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*Bread of heaven 276ii NEH*

## The Prayers

### Hymn: Guide me, O thou great Redeemer

*during which a Collection is taken.*

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, feed me till I want no more.	Open now the crystal fountain whence the healing stream doth flow; let the fiery cloudy pillar lead me all my journey through: strong Deliverer, be thou still my strength and shield.
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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  
I will ever give to thee.

*Cwm Rhondda 368 NEH*

## The Blessing

**Voluntary:** xxx

yyyyyyyyyyyyyyyyyyyyyy  
(yyyyyyyyyyyyyyyyyyyyyy)

*The choir was directed by our Director of Music, Keith Beniston, and the organ played by Nicholas King.*

*Cover illustration:*

*Supper at Emmaus by Caravaggio (1601)*

*The National Gallery*