

Collect for the week.

*Lord of all power and might,
the author and giver of all good things:
graft in our hearts the love of your name,
increase in us true religion,
nourish us with all goodness,
and of your great mercy keep us in the same;
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.*



Join Us for Morning Prayer, Every Tuesday & Thursday Jeremy Douglas will be leading morning prayers in Ian's absence. Why not come along and join with him and others? We meet: 8:45-9:30am each Tuesday in All Saints' (with coffee!) 9:00-9:30am each Thursday on ZOOM (click the link on the home page of our website: <https://www.eastleighparish.com/>) *"The fervent prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective."* James 5:16



Faith of the Centurian

Keep in touch -

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OUTLOOK

EASTLEIGH
PARISH

Sunday 19th July 2026



In Acts 15:1-21, the passage recounts a dispute when some Judean believers insisted Gentile disciples must be circumcised to be saved. Paul and Barnabas challenged this, leading to a Jerusalem council of the apostles and elders. Peter testified that God had already accepted Gentiles by giving them the Ruach Ha-Kodesh (Holy Spirit), cleansing them through faith in Yeshua, not Torah-based righteousness. Paul and Barnabas confirmed this through miracles among the nations. James, quoting Amos, affirmed that Gentile inclusion fulfils prophetic restoration of David's fallen tent. He ruled that Gentiles need not become Jews but should follow four essential practices that honour holiness and table fellowship. Salvation is through Messiah's grace, while Jewish and Gentile believers remain distinct yet united in covenant community.

We are grateful today to have the Rev.'s Oliver and Phil Watson 9.30am) and Phil Watson (11am) officiating.

Acts 15:1-21 The council at Jerusalem

15 Certain people came down from Judea to Antioch and were teaching the believers: 'Unless you are circumcised, according to the custom taught by Moses, you cannot be saved.' **2** This brought Paul and Barnabas into sharp dispute and debate with them. So Paul and Barnabas were appointed, along with some other believers, to go up to Jerusalem to see the apostles and elders about this question. **3** The church sent them on their way, and as they travelled through Phoenicia and Samaria, they told how the Gentiles had been converted. This news made all the believers very glad. **4** When they came to Jerusalem, they were welcomed by the church and the apostles and elders, to whom they reported everything God had done through them. **5** Then some of the believers who belonged to the party of the Pharisees stood up and said, 'The Gentiles must be circumcised and required to keep the law of Moses.'

6 The apostles and elders met to consider this question. **7** After much discussion, Peter got up and addressed them: 'Brothers, you know that some time ago God made a choice among you that the Gentiles should hear from my lips the message of the gospel and believe. **8** God, who knows the heart, showed that he accepted them by giving the Holy Spirit to them, just as he did to us. **9** He did not discriminate between us and them, for he purified their hearts by faith. **10** Now then, why do you try to test God by putting on the necks of Gentiles a yoke that neither we nor our ancestors have been able to bear? **11** No! We believe it is through the grace of our Lord Jesus that we are saved, just as they are.'

12 The whole assembly became silent as they listened to Barnabas and Paul telling about the signs and wonders God had done among the Gentiles through them. **13** When they finished, James spoke up. 'Brothers,' he said, 'listen to me. **14** Simon^[a] has described to us how God first intervened to choose a people for his name from the Gentiles. **15** The words of the prophets are in agreement with this, as it is written:

16 "'After this I will return and rebuild David's fallen tent. Its ruins I will rebuild, and I will restore it, **17** that the rest of mankind may seek the Lord, even all the Gentiles who bear my name, says the Lord, who does these things"^[a] – **18** things known from long ago.^[a] **19** 'It is my judgment, therefore, that we should not make it difficult for the Gentiles who are turning to God. **20** Instead we should write to them, telling them to abstain from food polluted by idols, from sexual immorality, from the meat of strangled animals and from blood. **21** For the law of Moses has been preached in every city from the earliest times and is read in the synagogues on every Sabbath.'

Luke 7 1: 1-10 - The faith of the centurion - **7** When Jesus had finished saying all this to the people who were listening, he entered Capernaum. **2** There a centurion's servant, whom his master valued highly, was ill and about to die. **3** The centurion heard of Jesus and sent some elders of the Jews to him, asking him to come and heal his servant. **4** When they came to Jesus, they pleaded earnestly with him, 'This man deserves to have you do this, **5** because he loves our nation and has built our synagogue.' **6** So Jesus went with them.

He was not far from the house when the centurion sent friends to say to him: 'Lord, don't trouble yourself, for I do not deserve to have you come under my roof. **7** That is why I did not even consider myself worthy to come to you. But say the word, and my servant will be healed. **8** For I myself am a man under authority, with soldiers under me. I tell this one, "Go", and he goes; and that one, "Come", and he comes. I say to my servant, "Do this", and he does it.'

9 When Jesus heard this, he was amazed at him, and turning to the crowd following him, he said, 'I tell you, I have not found such great faith even in Israel.' **10** Then the men who had been sent returned to the house and found the servant well.