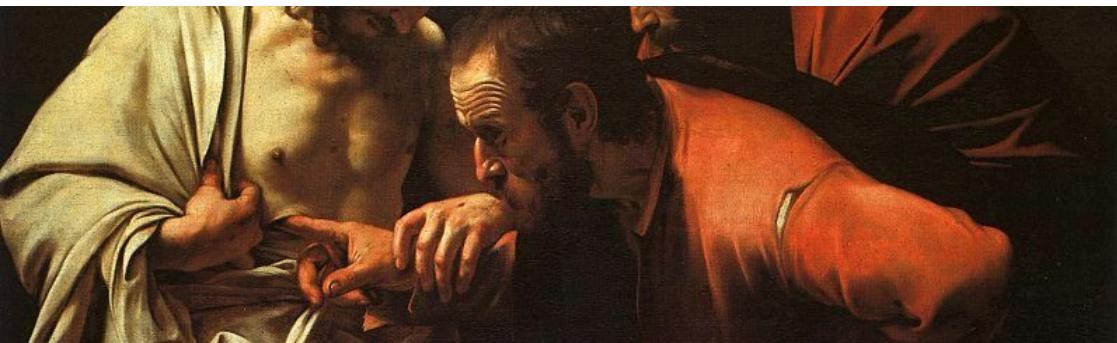




Where all find a welcome and are nurtured in their journey with Christ.

# The second Sunday of Easter

Sunday 11 April 2021 at 10.00 am



“My Lord and my God!”

*John 20:28*

# The Gathering

*Our worship begins at the sound of the bell, please stand as the sacred ministers enter, during which the introit hymn is sung.*

Light's glittering morn bedecks the sky;  
Heav'n thunders forth its victor-cry:  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
The glad earth shouts her triumph high,  
And groaning hell makes wild reply:  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

That Eastertide with joy was bright,  
The sun shone out with fairer light,  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
When, to their longing eyes restored,  
The glad apostles saw their Lord.  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

He bade them see his hands, his side,  
Where yet the glorious wounds abide;  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
The tokens true which made it plain  
Their Lord indeed was ris'n again.  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

All praise be thine, O risen Lord,  
From death to endless life restored;  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
All praise to God the Father be  
And Holy Ghost eternally.  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

*Words: John Mason Neale (1818-1866) and Compilers  
Music: melody from 'Geistliche Kirchengesang' (Cologne 1623)  
arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)*

In the name of the Father,  
and of the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

## **The Greeting**

Grace, mercy and peace  
from God our Father  
and the Lord Jesus Christ  
be with you

**and also with you.**

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

**He is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

# Words of Welcome

## Prayers of Penitence

In baptism we died with Christ,  
so that as Christ was raised from the dead,  
we might walk in newness of life.  
Let us receive new life in him  
as we confess our sins in penitence and faith.

*cf Romans 6.4*

*Silence is kept.*

Like Mary at the empty tomb,  
we fail to grasp the wonder of your presence.

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Like the disciples behind locked doors,  
we are afraid to be seen as your followers.

Christ, have mercy.

**Christ, have mercy.**

Like Thomas in the upper room,  
we are slow to believe.

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

*The president says*

May the God of love and power  
forgive you and free you from your sins,  
heal and strengthen you by his Spirit,  
and raise you to new life in Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

## **Gloria in Excelsis**

**Glory to God in the highest,  
and peace to his people on earth.**

**Lord God, heavenly King,  
almighty God and Father,  
we worship you, we give you thanks,  
we praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,  
Lord God, Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world:  
have mercy on us;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:  
receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father.**

**Amen.**

## **The Collect**

*The president introduces a period of silent prayer with the words 'Let us pray'.*

Risen Christ,  
for whom no door is locked, no entrance barred:  
open the doors of our hearts,  
that we may seek the good of others  
and walk the joyful road of sacrifice and peace,  
to the praise of God the Father.

**Amen.**

*Please sit.*

# The Liturgy of the Word

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

Acts 4:32-35

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Gospel Reading

*Please stand as we hear an acclamation is sung to herald the Gospel.*

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Jesus said, ‘I am the resurrection and the life.  
Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live,  
and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die.’

*John 11.25,26*

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

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

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.” When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.”

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord.” But he said to them, “Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and

my hand in his side, I will not believe.”

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.” Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!” Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.”

*John 20:19-end*

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## Sermon

*Please sit after the preacher leads us in prayer.*

## The Nicene Creed

*Please stand with the president.*

Let us declare our faith in God.

**We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is,  
seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary  
and was made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the  
dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and  
glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.**

**We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.**

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come.**

**Amen.**

# Prayers of Intercession

*Following an invitation to pray from the intercessor we sit and the response to the bidding.*

Lord, in your mercy.

**Hear our prayer.**

*Then at the end.*

Merciful Father,

**Accept these prayers for the sake of your Son,  
Our Saviour Jesus Christ.**

**Amen.**

## The Liturgy of the Sacrament

*Please stand with the president.*

### The Peace

The peace of the eternal Father be about you.

The peace of the risen Lord be within you.

The peace of the Holy Spirit be upon you.

*David Adam - Traces of Glory*

The peace of the Lord be always with you

**and also with you.**

# Preparation of the Table

*The table is prepared and bread and wine are placed upon it.*

*A Hymn is sung.*

Love's redeeming work is done;  
Fought the fight, the battle won:  
Lo, our Sun's eclipse is o'er,  
Lo, he sets in blood no more.

Vain the stone, the watch, the seal;  
Christ has burst the gates of hell;  
Death in vain forbids his rise;  
Christ has opened paradise.

Lives again our glorious King;  
Where, O death, is now thy sting?  
Dying once, he all doth save;  
Where thy victory, O grave?

Soar we now where Christ has led,  
Foll'wing our exalted Head;  
Made like him, like him we rise;  
Ours the cross, the grave, the skies.

Hail the Lord of earth and heav'n!  
Praise to thee by both be giv'n;  
Thee we greet triumphant now;  
Hail, the Resurrection thou!

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788)  
Music: John Wesley's 'Foundery Collection' (1742)

## Taking of the Bread and Wine

Risen Lord Jesus Christ,  
we believe you, and all we have heard is true.  
When you break bread  
may we recognise you as the fire that burns within us,  
that we may bring light to your world.

**Amen.**

## The Eucharistic Prayer

*Please sit*

The Lord is here.

**His Spirit is with us.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

## **It is right to give thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,  
always and everywhere to give you thanks,  
almighty and eternal Father,  
and in these days of Easter  
to celebrate with joyful hearts  
the memory of your wonderful works.  
For by the mystery of his passion  
Jesus Christ, your risen Son,  
has conquered the powers of death and hell  
and restored in men and women the image of your glory.  
He has placed them once more in paradise  
and opened to them the gate of life eternal.  
And so, in the joy of this Passover,  
earth and heaven resound with gladness,  
while angels and archangels and the powers of all creation  
sing for ever the hymn of your glory.

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness;  
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit,  
and according to your holy will,

these gifts of bread and wine  
may be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ;

who, in the same night that he was betrayed,  
took bread and gave you thanks;  
he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;  
do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper  
he took the cup and gave you thanks;  
he gave it to them, saying:  
Drink this, all of you;  
this is my blood of the new covenant,  
which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.  
Do this, as often as you drink it,  
in remembrance of me.

Jesus Christ is Lord:

**Lord, by your cross and resurrection  
you have set us free.**

**You are the Saviour of the world.**

And so, Father, calling to mind his death on the cross,  
his perfect sacrifice made once for the sins of the whole world;  
rejoicing in his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension,  
and looking for his coming in glory,  
we celebrate this memorial of our redemption.  
As we offer you this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving,  
we bring before you this bread and this cup

and we thank you for counting us worthy  
to stand in your presence and serve you.

Send the Holy Spirit on your people  
and gather into one in your kingdom  
all who share this one bread and one cup,  
so that we, in the company of Blessed Mary and all the saints,  
may praise and glorify you for ever,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord;

By whom, and with whom, and in whom,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father,  
for ever and ever.

**Amen.**

*Silence is kept.*

## **The Lord's Prayer**

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us.

**Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name;  
thy kingdom come;  
thy will be done;  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation;  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
the power and the glory,  
for ever and ever.  
Amen.**

## **Breaking of the Bread**

*The president breaks the consecrated bread.*

Look, Jesus Christ, the Bread of Heaven,  
is broken for the life of the world.

**Unite us in this sign.**

## **Invitation to Communion**

The gifts of God for the people of God.

Jesus, Bread of Life  
Bread for the world  
Feed us with your presence.

*The president and people receive communion. At the giving of communion, the president receives communion in both kinds.*

*The words of distribution (“The body and blood of Christ, broken/shed for us all”) are spoken to the congregation, and all who intend to receive reply with “Amen”.*

*At the distribution, Holy Communion is administered without speaking. The consecrated bread is dropped into the hands of communicants. To reduce the risk of spreading any infection, communion will be in one kind (bread) only. This is still considered to be complete communion by the Church of England.*

*For those at home it might be helpful to use this prayer during the distribution*

**Christ, our risen Lord, no tomb can keep you,  
no door is closed to you, no heart is barred to you,  
no mind is shut off from you.  
Come lead us out of darkness into light,  
out of doubt into faith, out of death into life eternal:  
Jesus Christ our risen Lord.  
Amen.**

## **The Post Communion Prayer**

*Please stand with the president who introduces a time of silent prayer with the words ‘Let us pray’.*

Lord God our Father,  
through our Saviour Jesus Christ  
you have assured your children of eternal life  
and in baptism have made us one with him:  
deliver us from the death of sin

and raise us to new life in your love,  
in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,  
by the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**Amen.**

**Father of lights,  
from whom comes every good and perfect gift:  
keep us in the light of Christ,  
to shine in your world,  
that all may believe in you,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

**Amen.**

*Please stand as a hymn is sung.*

Alleluia, alleluia,  
Hearts to heav'n and voices raise;  
Sing to God a hymn of gladness,  
Sing to God a hymn of praise:  
He who on the cross a victim  
For the world's salvation bled,  
Jesus Christ, the King of Glory,  
Now is risen from the dead.

Christ is risen, we are risen;  
Shed upon us heav'nly grace,  
Rain, and dew, and gleams of glory  
From the brightness of thy face;  
That we, with our hearts in heaven,  
Here on earth may fruitful be,  
And by angel-hands be gathered,  
And be ever, Lord, with thee.

Alleluia, alleluia,  
Glory be to God on high;  
Alleluia to the Saviour,  
Who has gained the victory;  
Alleluia to the Spirit,  
Fount of love and sanctity;  
Alleluia, alleluia,  
To the Triune Majesty.

Words: Christopher Wordsworth (1807-1885)  
Music: Arthur Seymour Sullivan (1842-1900)

## The Dismissal

### The Blessing

May Christ,  
who out of defeat brings new hope and a new future,

fill you with his new life;  
and the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always.

**Amen.**

## **The Dismissal**

With the power that raised Jesus from the dead at work within  
you,  
go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia.

**In the name of Christ. Amen. Alleluia, alleluia.**

*Light's glittering morn bedecks the sky*

Music © Oxford University Press

*Love's redeeming work is done*

Musical arrangement of verse 5 © Kevin Mayhew Ltd

Organ music during communion

© Kevin Mayhew Ltd

Organ voluntary

Final verse © Kevin Mayhew Ltd

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