

11th April 2021

WELCOME

Easter 2

to

ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST



Collect

Almighty Father, you have given your only Son to die for our sins and to rise again for our justification: grant us so to put away the leaven of malice and wickedness that we may always serve you in pureness of living and truth; through the merits of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

9.45 a.m. FAMILY EUCHARIST

Hymns

- Ye choirs of new Jerusalem (omit *) (162)
- Breathe on me, Breath of God (174)
- Most glorious Lord of life, that on this day (151)
- Let all mortal flesh keep silence (309)
- Alleluia! Alleluia! vv 1 & 4 (137)

Psalm 133 (Page 520 in the red prayer book)

Readings

Acts 4 vv 32-35

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.

1 John 1 v 1 – 2 v 2

We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life – this life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it, and declare to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was revealed to us – we declare to you what we have seen and heard so that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son

Jesus Christ. We are writing these things so that our joy may be complete. This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

John 20 vv 19-end

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.'

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

Although there is no evening service today please do read through the following

EVENING PRAYER

Psalm 143 vv 1-11

Hymns

- Good Christians all, rejoice and sing (145)
- Jesus lives! Thy terrors now (148)

Readings

Isaiah 26 vv 1-9, 19

On that day this song will be sung in the land of Judah:

We have a strong city; he sets up victory like walls and bulwarks. Open the gates, so that the righteous nation that keeps faith may enter in. Those of steadfast mind you keep in peace – in peace because they trust in you. Trust in the Lord for ever, for in the Lord God you have an everlasting rock. For he has brought low the inhabitants of the height; the lofty city he lays low. He lays it low to the ground, casts it to the dust. The foot tramples it, the feet of the poor, the steps of the needy. The way of the righteous is level; O Just One, you make smooth the path of the righteous. In the path of your judgements, O Lord, we wait for you; your name and your renown are the soul's desire. My soul yearns for you in the night, my spirit within me earnestly seeks you. For when your judgements are in the earth, the inhabitants of the world learn righteousness.

Your dead shall live, their corpses shall rise. O dwellers in the dust, awake and sing for joy! For your dew is a radiant dew, and the earth will give birth to those long dead.

Luke 24 vv 1-12

On the first day of the week, at early dawn, the women who had accompanied Jesus came to the tomb, taking the spices that they had prepared. They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they went in, they did not find the body. While they were perplexed about this, suddenly two men in dazzling clothes stood beside them. The women were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, 'Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen. Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, that the Son of Man must be handed over to sinners, and be crucified, and on the third day rise again.' Then they remembered Jesus' words, and returning from the tomb, they told all this to the eleven and to all the rest. Now it was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the other women with them who told this to the apostles. But these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them. But Peter got up and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; then he went home, amazed at what had happened.

Reflection

The NASA Apollo 13 mission was to have been the third manned landing on the Moon. It blasted off from Cape Kennedy on this day in 1970. Two days into their journey a major explosion took place in the oxygen tanks and all electrical power was lost in the Command Module. The three astronauts had to move into the Lunar Module which would have been the only part to land on the Moon and would later

have blasted off to return to the Command Module for the return to Earth. There was no question of landing on the moon; the only hope was to return the three men to safety. The spacecraft travelled round the far side of the Moon, gaining speed from the Moon's gravity propelling the craft back to Earth. Very little energy remained for essential powering of the computer so the heat had to be cut off. Against all the odds the three astronauts returned safely to Earth.

Once the craft had travelled round the Moon and then faced towards Earth, Commander James Lovell looked out of the window and held his thumb to 'cover' the Earth. Reflecting later, he said, "*I could put everything I knew behind my thumb. It gives me a humble feeling of how insignificant we really are in our solar system.*"

Thank You from Claire Warsop

Thank you to everyone that made the church look so beautiful for Easter Sunday, even in these restricted times it looked wonderful and am sure was appreciated by all. For Chris and Charlotte for sorting the cross on the lawn, for Steve for putting up the banners, for the flower ladies Pam, Mary, Pat and Cynthia and Charlotte for helping me with the Easter Garden. I would also like to thank the sidespeople for dealing with the extra visitors we had at the service keeping everyone safe. Claire.

Thank You from Canon Elaine

May I also add my thanks to those of Claire's and also thank Andy and Frankie for their wonderful singing on Palm Sunday and Good Friday, and the choir members for Easter Day – it does make such a difference to hear singing when we are unable to sing ourselves. I'd also like to thank those who read the Passion Gospel so beautifully and led the prayers. Claire has been an absolute brick in drawing all things together by arranging rotas for everyone and arranging the seating! Sometimes this has proved to be a nightmare! So all of us owe her our thanks for keeping us safe.

200 Club Draw for 28th March

The winners are : £15 Kevin Wilkinson; £10 Vera Hobday; £5 Pat Gregory.

Mission of St. John's Church

To be a caring community striving to follow the teachings of Jesus Christ;
sharing in the love of God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit;
and to love our neighbour, having the Eucharist at the centre of our worship