

18th April 2021

WELCOME

Easter 3

to

ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST



Collect

Almighty Father, who in your great mercy gladdened the disciples with the sight of the risen Lord: give us such knowledge of his presence with us, that we may be strengthened and sustained by his risen life and serve you continually in righteousness and truth; 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.

9.45 a.m. FAMILY EUCHARIST

Hymns

- Alleluia, alleluia, give thanks to the risen Lord (136)
- Love's redeeming work is done (150)
- Lord, enthroned in heavenly splendour vv 1, 2, 4 & 5 (311)
- Christ is alive! Let Christians sing (140)
- The strife is o'er, the battle done (159)

Psalm 4 (Page 349 in the red prayer book)

Readings

Acts 3 vv 12-19

When Peter saw it, he addressed the people, 'You Israelites, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we had made him walk? The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our ancestors has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you handed over and rejected in the presence of Pilate, though he had decided to release him. But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. And by faith in his name, his name itself has made this man strong, whom you see and know; and the faith that is through Jesus has given him this perfect health in the presence of all of you. And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer. Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out.'

1 John 3 vv 1-7

See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God;

and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God’s children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure. Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him. Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

Luke 24 vv 36b-48

While they were talking about what they had heard, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, ‘Peace be with you.’ They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. He said to them, ‘Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.’ And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, ‘Have you anything here to eat?’ They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took it and ate in their presence. Then he said to them, ‘These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you – that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.’ Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, ‘Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things.’

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

EVENING PRAYER

Psalm 142

Hymns

- Now is eternal life (152)
- Sing choirs of heaven! Let saints and angels sing! (156)

Readings

Deuteronomy 7 vv 7-13

It was not because you were more numerous than any other people that the Lord set his heart on you and chose you – for you were the fewest of all peoples. It was because the Lord loved you and kept the oath that he swore to your ancestors, that the Lord has brought you out with a mighty hand, and redeemed you from the house of slavery, from the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt. Know therefore that the

Lord your God is God, the faithful God who maintains covenant loyalty with those who love him and keep his commandments, to a thousand generations, and who repays in their own person those who reject him. He does not delay but repays in their own person those who reject him. Therefore, observe diligently the commandment – the statutes and the ordinances – that I am commanding you today. If you heed these ordinances, by diligently observing them, the Lord your God will maintain with you the covenant loyalty that he swore to your ancestors; he will love you, bless you, and multiply you; he will bless you, and multiply you; he will bless the fruit of your womb and the fruit of your ground, your grain and your wine and your oil, the increase of your cattle and the issue of your flock, in the land that he swore to your ancestors to give you.

Revelation 2 vv 1-11

'To the angel of the church in Ephesus write: These are the words of him who holds the seven stars in his right hand, who walks among the seven golden lampstands: 'I know your works, your toil and your patient endurance. I know that you cannot tolerate evildoers; you have tested those who claim to be apostles but are not, and have found them to be false. I also know that you are enduring patiently and bearing up for the sake of my name, and that you have not grown weary. But I have this against you that you have abandoned the love you had at first. Remember then from what you have fallen; repent, and do the works you did at first. If not, I will come to you and remove your lampstand from its place, unless you repent. Yet this is to your credit: you hate the works of the Nicolaitans, which I also hate. Let anyone who has an ear listen to what the Spirit is saying to the churches. To everyone who conquers, I will give permission to eat from the tree of life that is in the paradise of God.

'And to the angels of the church in Smyrna write: These are the words of the first and the last, who was dead and came to life: 'I know your affliction and your poverty, even though you are rich. I know the slander on the part of those who say that they are Jews and are not, but are a synagogue of Satan. Do not fear what you are about to suffer. Beware, the devil is about to throw some of you into prison so that you may be tested, and for ten days you will have affliction. Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life. Let anyone who has an ear listen to what the Spirit is saying to churches. Whoever conquers will not be harmed by the second death.

Reflection – Fear of Losing You

The slim model I had my eye on is on my lap.

Silky bright thing I can't keep my eyes off, constantly watchful, alert, waiting to respond to its every signal.

I have such fear of losing friends, but the battery is low and it is low on funds.

Then why not fall back on the one true God, who never fails us?

If we seek him, we need have no fear of losing friends; he will give us all, his love poured out upon us.

He knows all our needs.

He is always there for us, watching, waiting, always ready to receive us.

David Hodges

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 11th April 2021

The winners are : £15 Philip Hilton; £10 Christine Shelton; £5 Louise Harper.

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