

**Second Sunday of Easter  
11<sup>th</sup> April 2021  
10am**



**Welcome to St John's Church.**

**We seek to be an inclusive church community where all are valued, regardless of age, race, ethnicity, gender or sexuality.**

**The Easter Season, which lasts for fifty days from Easter Sunday to Pentecost, is a celebration of the Risen Lord Jesus who breaks the power of death and shares his risen life with his followers.**

This is a very unusual time for the Church. Once again, we can't physically be with one another for the celebration of the Eucharist, instead it will be offered for us all from inside the church.

As ever, wherever we are, as the Body of Christ and by the power of the Holy Spirit we are united in fellowship with one another and with the whole company of heaven. We are delighted to welcome you.

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The service is led by **The Revd Alan Hargrave**

A prayer for before the Mass begins:

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hidden: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

### **Hymn**

#### **Refrain**

**Lift High the Cross  
the love of Christ proclaim  
till all the world adore his sacred name.**

**Come let us follow  
Where our Saviour trod  
O'er death victorious  
Christ the Son of God:**

#### **Refrain**

**O Lord, once lifted  
On the glorious tree,  
As though has promised  
Draw us into thee:**

#### **Refrain**

**Let every race  
And every language tell  
Of him who saves  
From fear of death and hell:**

#### **Refrain**

**Set up thy throne,  
That earth's despair may cease  
Beneath the shadow  
Of its healing peace:**

## Refrain

**For thy blest Cross  
Which doth for all atone,  
Creation's praises rise  
Before thy throne**

## Refrain

✠ In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**

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 and introduction

Christ our Risen Lord comes forth to greet us.  
Let us receive this new life in him as we confess our sins in penitence  
and faith.

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 God of all healing and forgiveness  
draw you to himself, that you may behold the glory of his Risen Son, and  
be cleansed  
from all your sins, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

As people are forgiven and renewed, we say the Gloria:

**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.**

After a time of silence the president prays:

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. **Amen**

**First Reading** – Acts. 4:32-35

We sit for the first Bible reading

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.

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God**

## **Second Reading** 1 John 1:1-2:2

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.

## **Gospel Reading** – John 20. 19-31

### **Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

"You believe because you can see me.

Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe"

### **Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

The Lord be with you, **and also with you**

Here 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.'

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.

This is the Gospel of the Lord – **Praise to you, O Christ, for this your holy Gospel**

## **Sermon**

We are invited to reaffirm our faith:

Brothers and sisters, I ask you to profess together the faith of the Church.

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.  
I believe in Jesus Christ,  
his only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;**

**he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand  
of the Father,  
and he will come to judge  
the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

We sit when the priest introduces the intercessions:

Let us pray for the Church and the World, and thank God for his goodness.

The response:

Lord Hear Us

**Lord graciously hear us**

After the prayer for the dead:

Rest eternal grant unto them, O Lord,  
**and let light perpetual shine upon them.**

The prayers may conclude with

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou among women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb Jesus.

**Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners now and at the hour of our death. Amen**

Merciful Father, **accept these prayers  
for the sake of your Son,  
our saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

## **The Peace**

The risen Christ came and stood among his disciples and said, 'Peace be with you.'

Then were they glad when they saw the Lord.

The peace of the Lord be always with you  
**and also with you.**

The altar is prepared

The Lord is here.

All **His Spirit is with us.**

Lift up your hearts.

All **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

It is indeed right,

it is our duty and our joy,

at all times and in all places

to give you thanks and praise,

holy Father, heavenly King,

almighty and eternal God,

through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.

For he is your living Word;

through him you have created all things from the beginning,

and formed us in your own image.

All **To you be glory and praise for ever.**

Through him you have freed us from the slavery of sin,

giving him to be born of a woman and to die upon the cross;

you raised him from the dead

and exalted him to your right hand on high.

All **To you be glory and praise for ever.**

Through him you have sent upon us

your holy and life-giving Spirit,

and made us a people for your own possession.

All **To you be glory and praise for ever.**

Therefore, with angels and archangels,

and with all the company of heaven,

we proclaim your great and glorious name,

for ever praising you and saying:

**All 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.**

Accept our praises, heavenly Father,  
through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ,  
and as we follow his example and obey his command,  
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit  
these gifts of bread and wine  
may be to us his body and his blood;  
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.

**All To you be glory and praise for ever.**

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.

**All To you be glory and praise for ever.**

Therefore, heavenly Father,  
we remember his offering of himself  
made once for all upon the cross;  
we proclaim his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension;  
we look for the coming of your kingdom,  
and with this bread and this cup  
we make the memorial of Christ your Son our Lord.

Jesus Christ is Lord:

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

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

Accept through him, our great high priest,  
this our sacrifice of thanks and praise,  
and as we eat and drink these holy gifts

in the presence of your divine majesty,  
renew us by your Spirit,  
inspire us with your love  
and unite us in the body of your Son,  
Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **To you be glory and praise for ever.**

Through him, and with him, and in him,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
with all who stand before you in earth and heaven,  
we worship you, Father almighty,  
in songs of everlasting praise:

All **Blessing and honour and glory and power  
be yours for ever and ever.**

**Amen.**

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray

### **The Lord's Prayer**

**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.**

The priest breaks the consecrated bread.

We break this bread to share in the Body of Christ.  
**Though we are many, we are one body,  
because we all share in one bread.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins  
of the world: have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins  
of the world: have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins  
of the world: grant us peace.**

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.  
**Therefore, let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

THE LITURGY FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION:

In union, O Lord with the faithful at every altar of your Church,  
where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated,  
I desire to offer you praise and thanksgiving.  
I present to you my soul and body with the wish  
that they may always be united to you.  
And since I cannot now receive you in this sacrament,  
I ask you to come spiritually into my heart.  
I unite myself to you, and embrace you with all the affections of  
my soul.  
Let nothing ever separate you from me.  
May I live and die in your love. Amen.

**Post Communion prayer**

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**

Almighty God, **we thank you, Lord,  
that you have fed us in this sacrament,  
united us with Christ,  
and given us a foretaste of the heavenly banquet prepared for  
all. Amen.**

## Notices

### The Blessing

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**He is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

The God of peace,  
who brought again from the dead our  
Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep,  
through the blood of the eternal covenant,  
make you perfect in every good work  
to do his will, working in you  
that which is well-pleasing in his sight;  
and the blessing of God almighty,  
✠ the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,  
be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.  
Alleluia, alleluia.

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

## Notices

**The APCM** is on Sunday 25th April. If you are submitting a report please send it by email to Susi ASAP. Nominations are needed for churchwardens and PCC members. Susi has completed her time as Churchwarden and is required to stand down. Nominations for Churchwarden need to be received before 18th April. Nomination papers will be sent out separately.

### Re-opening Church

**Re-opening Church** from next week 18<sup>th</sup> April we will be opening church for our 10am Sunday Service. Numbers will be limited and you need to book your place. Contact Susi on 07903 115327 or e-mail [se.artis@ntlworld.com](mailto:se.artis@ntlworld.com) your place.

### Food bank

We would be grateful for donations for the food bank. Especially tins of veg, fruit, baked beans, spaghetti, pasta and pasta sauces, cereal and UHT milk.

Donations can be brought to church on Tuesdays 19.00–19.30, Wednesdays 10.30-12.00 and Fridays 18.00-18.30. Thank you

## Services this week

### Services and events this week

<b>Monday 12<sup>th</sup> April</b> <b>6pm</b>	Evening Prayer via Zoom
<b>Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> April</b> <b>10am</b>	Live-streamed Morning Prayer on YouTube
<b>Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> April</b> <b>11am</b> <b>11-12pm</b> <b>6pm</b>	Zoom coffee Food bank Evening Prayer via Zoom
<b>Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> April</b> <b>10am</b>	Live-streamed Morning Prayer on YouTube
<b>Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> March</b> <b>10.00</b> <b>11.00</b>	Parish Eucharist on YouTube Zoom coffee

### Church Contacts

<b>MINISTRY TEAM</b> <b>Associate Priest</b>	Rev David Jones urbanrover@googlemail.com
<b>Licensed Lay</b> <b>Minister</b>	Susi Artis 0115 910 3003 / 07903 115327 se.artis@ntlworld.com
<b>Church Army</b> <b>Evangelist</b>	Denis Tully denistully@gmail.com
<b>Children &amp;</b> <b>Families' Worker</b>	Lindy Jones lindyadel@hotmail.co.uk
<b>Parish Assistant</b>	Currently vacant: please contact Susi Artis

<b>Churchwardens</b>	<p>Susi Artis    0115 910 3003  07903 115327  se.artis@ntlworld.com</p> <p>Asela Premachandra  asela.stjohnscarrington@gmail.com</p>
<b>Deputy wardens</b>	Cynthia Hoggett, Carol Lewis, Ray Hotson
<b>Organist</b>	Shaun Hooper
<b>Safeguarding Officer</b>	Jane Harwood safeguardingstjohnscarrington@gmail.com
<b>Caretaker</b>	Pete Chilvers:    07584 097 003



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