



Eastertide with the gathered community of
St. George's Anglican Church
worshipping at home and online at
www.facebook.com/StGeorgesAnglicanChurch/

Ante-communion for the Second Sunday of Easter April 19, 2020 at 10 am.

Officiant - The Rev. Susan Spicer
Reader - The Rev. Deacon Marilyn Metcalfe
Organist - Mr. Surinder Mundra
Cello - Shannon Knights
Intercessions - prepared by Geoffrey Lee

The Gathering of the Community

Sentence Have you believed, Thomas, because you have seen
me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet
believe. *John 20:29*

HYMN 232 Jesus Is Risen from the Grave

Jesus is risen from the grave, Jesus is risen from the grave,
Jesus is risen from the grave, alleluia.

Jesus was seen by Mary, Jesus was seen by Mary,
Jesus was seen by Mary, alleluia.

Peter will soon be smiling, Peter will soon be smiling,
Peter will soon be smiling, alleluia.

Thomas will stop his doubting, Thomas will stop his doubting,
Thomas will stop his doubting, alleluia.

Jesus will meet his people, Jesus will meet his people,
Jesus will meet his people, alleluia.

Jesus will live forever, Jesus will live forever,
Jesus will live forever, alleluia.

Officiant Alleluia! Christ is risen.
People **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Officiant May his grace and peace be with you.
People **May he fill our hearts with joy.**

Officiant Almighty God,
All **to you all hearts are open, all desires known
and from you 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.**

THE GLORIA

Officiant Glory to God in the highest,
All **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 OF THE DAY

Officiant Almighty and eternal God, the strength of those
who believe and the hope of those who doubt,
may we, who have not seen, have faith and receive
the fullness of Christ's blessing, who is alive and
reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now
and forever. **Amen.**

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

FIRST READING

Reader A reading from Acts (2:14a, 22-32)

But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, “You that are Israelites, listen to what I have to say: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with deeds of power, wonders, and signs that God did through him among you, as you yourselves know— this man, handed over to you according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of those outside the law. But God raised him up, having freed him from death, because it was impossible for him to be held in its power. For David says concerning him, ‘I saw the Lord always before me, for he is at my right hand so that I will not be shaken; therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced; moreover my flesh will live in hope. For you will not abandon my soul to Hades, or let your Holy One experience corruption. You have made known to me the ways of life; you will make me full of gladness with your presence.’ “Fellow Israelites, I may say to you confidently of our ancestor David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. Since he was a prophet, he knew that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would put one of his descendants on his throne. Foreseeing this, David spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, saying, ‘He was not abandoned to Hades, nor did his flesh experience corruption.’ This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are witnesses.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE PSALM (16) *Please join the reading.*

**Protect me, O God, for I take refuge in you;
I have said to the Lord, “You are my Lord,
my good above all other.”**

**All my delight is upon the godly that are in the land,
upon those who are noble among the people.**

**But those who run after other gods
shall have their troubles multiplied.**

**Their libations of blood I will not offer,
nor take the names of their gods upon my lips.**

O Lord, you are my portion and my cup;
it is you who uphold my lot.

My boundaries enclose a pleasant land;
indeed, I have a goodly heritage.

I will bless the Lord who gives me counsel;
my heart teaches me, night after night.

I have set the Lord always before me;
because he is at my right hand I shall not fall.

My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spirit rejoices;
my body also shall rest in hope.

For you will not abandon me to the grave,
nor let your holy one see the Pit.

You will show me the path of life;
in your presence there is fullness of joy,
and in your right hand are pleasures for evermore.

SECOND READING

Reader A reading from 1 Peter (1:3-9)

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, so that the genuineness of your faith—being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. Although you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE GOSPEL

GOSPEL HYMN 244 **We Walk by Faith, and Not by Sight**

We walk by faith, and not by sight;
no gracious words we hear
from him who spoke as non e'er spoke;
but we believe him near.

We may not touch his hands and side,
nor follow where he trod;
but in his promise we rejoice
and cry, "My Lord and God!"

Help then, O Lord, our unbelief;
and may our faith abound,
to call on you when you are near,
and seek where you are found:

Deacon The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
 according to John (20:19-31)
People: **Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

The gospel is proclaimed.

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.

Deacon
People

The Gospel of Christ.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

THE SERMON
A brief silence is kept.

Rev. Susan Spicer

SOLO *It is Well with my Soul*

THE APOSTLES' CREED *(Please stand.)*

Officiant:
All:

Let us confess the faith of our baptism, as we say,
**I believe in God,
the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.
He 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,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again
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.**

THE PRAYERS OF THE COMMUNITY

Thanksgiving, Intercessions and Petitions

Bidding The Lord is risen indeed.
Response **Alleluia!**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Officiant Dear friends in Christ, God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy; he welcomes sinners and invites them to his table. Let us confess our sins, confident in God's forgiveness.

Officiant Most merciful God,
All **we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us, that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your name. Amen.**

Officiant Almighty God have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

People. **Amen.**

THE EXCHANGE OF THE PEACE

Please stand

Officiant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

We share God's peace, greeting one another and saying "The peace of Christ," or "Peace be with you."

OFFERTORY HYMN 237 **Now the Green Blade Rises**

Now the green blade rises from the buried grain,
wheat that in dark earth many days has lain;

love lives again, that with the dead has been;
love is come again like wheat arising green.

In the grave they laid him, Love by hatred slain,
thinking that he would never wake again,
laid in the earth like grain that sleeps unseen;
love is come again like wheat arising green.

Forth he came at Easter, like the risen grain,
He that for three days in the grave had lain;
raised from the dead, my living Lord is seen;
love is come again like wheat arising green.

When our hearts are wintry, grieving, or in pain,
your touch can call us back to life again,
fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been;
love is come again like wheat arising green.

BLESSING OF OUR OFFERINGS

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Officiant And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us,
 we are bold to say,

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name.
Your kingdom come, your will be done
On earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread,
Forgive us our sins
As we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
And deliver us from evil
For the kingdom, the power
and glory are yours,
Now and forever. Amen.**

BLESSING

CLOSING HYMN 231 That Eastertide with Joy Was Bright

That Eastertide with joy was bright;
the sun shone out with fairer light, alleluia, alleluia!

when, to their longing eyes restored,
the apostles saw their risen Lord. Alleluia [x5]

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 risen again. Alleluia [x5]

Jesus, the king of gentleness,
do thou thyself our hearts possess, alleluia, alleluia!
that we may give thee all our days
the tribute of our grateful praise. Alleluia [x5]

DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Sunday School moves over to Zoom at 11:30. See you there!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thank you to all who have made special Easter donations. The wardens are most grateful, and will be providing a financial update shortly.

Worship is online via facebook live: Tuesday through Saturday at 8 am Morning Prayer and 8:30 pm Compline. 10 am on Sundays.

QUESTIONS, QUESTIONS! What are your questions about God, about the Bible, about the Church, about anything! Ask it and Rev. Susan will arrange a pop-up bible study for discussion. All questions welcome – including the ones you’ve been afraid to ask.

ZOOM MEETINGS THIS WEEK

Watch your email for the invitations.

Meditation on Tuesday at 10 am and 7 pm. If you would like to attend, speak to Rev. Marilyn

Wardens Meeting on Thursday at 3 pm

Coffee hour on Friday at 10 am

ZOOM youth on Friday at 7 pm.

The Serenity Prayer

*God grant me the serenity
to accept the things I cannot change;
courage to change the things I can;
and wisdom to know the difference.*

*Living one day at a time;
enjoying one moment at a time;
accepting hardships as the pathway to peace;
taking, as He did, this sinful world
as it is, not as I would have it;
trusting that He will make all things right
if I surrender to His Will;
that I may be reasonably happy in this life
and supremely happy with Him
forever in the next. Amen.
reinhold niebuhr (1892-1971)*

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