



Worship for Sunday 19th April 2020 - Second Sunday of Easter

Welcome

Today is the second Sunday of Easter a time in the church year known as Eastertide. During this time, we continue to celebrate and rejoice in the resurrection of Jesus. The gospel readings during this time focus on Jesus resurrection appearances giving us an opportunity to reflect deeper on the significance to the resurrection for how we live our lives as well as on our theology of death. As I was prepared to lead worship today the phrase that stuck me and has been giving me strength and comfort this week was Jesus words to the disciples “Peace be with you’. As we gather for worship this morning let us take a moment to hear these words – to hold them in our hearts – and to find a place of stillness in God’s presence.

Space for stillness and quite

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

The lord be with you **and also with you**

Alleluia! Christ is risen. **He is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Come, embrace the risen Christ. Come, embrace the Prince of peace. Come, embrace his pierced hands. Come, meet your Lord and God.

Hymn: Come people of the risen King

Let us pray. We are the people of God. Risen Lord, as we gather today, may we see you and hear you and may we know your presence with us now. **Amen**

Prayers of Penitence (taken from our Eastertide service sheet)

There is a video for this part of the service.

Jesus Christ, risen Master and triumphant Lord, we come to you in sorrow for our sins, and confess to you our weakness and unbelief.

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.**

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy upon us, pardon and deliver us from all our sins, confirm and strengthen us in all goodness, and keep us in eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Collect for the 2ND Sunday of Easter

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**

Bible Reading: Acts 2: 14a, 22-32

Each Sunday during Eastertide we have a reading from the book of Acts as we hear and learn from the Early Church.

Hymn: Alleluia sing to Jesus

Gospel reading: John 20: 19-31

Talk

There is a video for this part of the service.

Declaring Our Faith

We believe in God the Father, from whom every family in heaven and earth is named.

We believe in God the Son, who lives in our hearts through faith and fills us with his love.

We believe in God the Holy Spirit, who strengthens us with power from on high.

We believe in one God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen

Hymn: Breath on me breath of God

Prayers

There is a video for this part of the service.

God of peace and love may your love drive out the darkness in our hearts, so that we may be more open to your will. Help us, through the fellowship of others, and through your peace and courage, to be witness to your truth. May our strength derive from you and our faith depend on you. Deepen our understanding, Lord, through our experience of your grace. Lord hear us, Lord, **graciously hear us.**

Build the capacity in your church, we ask, Lord, so that your great work can be carried out with vigour and fresh insights as we seek to share your love, light and compassion with the world. May your kingdom be brought nearer by the prayers and actions of your faithful people. Direct us, Lord, in all our doings in your name, so that we can be ambassadors of Christ, advocates of your peace. Lord hear us, Lord, **graciously hear us.**

In a world of temptations and compromise, give us the passion and hope to make things better. When we see hardship and suffering, oppression and injustice, empower and equip us to act, as we seek to make the world a better place. We remember people and places currently involved in conflicts and where lasting peace seems like a distant dream. We pray for the leaders of the nations and those in authority under them, give them wisdom and grace as they seek to guide and lead their people through these challenging times. Lord hear us, Lord, **graciously hear us.**

In our own community we pray for our local schools as they prepare for the new terms on Monday. Guide and strengthen teachers and parents as they seek to nurture children's learning at home. We pray for families who are struggling and ask that you protect those who find themselves in unsafe home situations. We give thanks for all those who are helping to support and care for others at this time, for volunteers and neighbours, for NHS workers and carers, for social workers and shop workers, for refuse collectors and farmers. Bless them with the resources they need to stay safe and to care for others. Lord hear us, Lord, **graciously hear us.**

We pray for those who need peace of mind: those weighed down by the stresses and strains of everyday life, those who are struggling with their mental health and wellbeing, those who suffer with anxiety, those who are oppressed

by worry and fear; for those who find it hard to let go of things and trust in you. Lord, bring then your peace which passes all understanding. Your Son showed your compassion for the sick through his ministry. Let those who are suffering in mind, body or spirit experience that same love. In a moment of quite we name before you any that we know who are in particular need of prayer this day. *Silence*. Bring to them your healing and comfort. Lord hear us, Lord, **graciously hear us**.

We remember those who have died and are now at peace with you and in a moment of silence we name before you any that we have known who have recently died. *Silence*. We bring before you all who are mourning at this time remembering especially those who are unable to attend funerals, to gain comfort from meeting with family and friends and are struggling in their grief, may they know your love, comfort and hope. Lord hear us, Lord, **graciously hear us**.

In a moment of stillness and quite take a moment to offer our own prayers to God. *Silence*

Merciful father, **accept these prayers for the sake of you son our saviour Jesus Christ. Amen**

Peace (Taken from our Eastertide service sheet)

The risen Christ came and stood among his disciples and said, 'Peace be with you.' Then they were glad when they saw the Lord. Alleluia. Alleluia! the peace of the risen Christ be always with you. **And also with you. Alleluia.**

Let us offer one another a sign of God's peace.

I know that we are not together physically today and not able to share the peace in our normal way. However, this does not mean that we are not able to share the peace. Bring to mind members of our church family and as you do wish them God's peace. "..... (the name of a member of our church family) God's peace be with you.

Hymn: And can it be

Light – written by David Adams and taken from 'The Bumper Book of Resources: Easter, Ascension and Pentecost' published by Kevin Mayhew 2015

May the Christ raised in glory scatter the darkness from our hearts and minds and from this world. May the light of the risen Christ shine upon us this day and always. Alleluia, Christ is risen. **He is risen indeed. Alleluia. Amen**

We go out (Taken from our Eastertide service sheet)

God the father, by whose glory Christ was raised from the dead, strengthen us to walk with him in his risen life; And the blessing of God almighty the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among us and remain with us always. **Amen.**

With the risen life of Christ within you, go in the peace of Christ. Alleluia! Alleluia!
Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!