



Worship for Sunday 11th April 2021

Welcome

Good morning and welcome to worship on this the Second Sunday of Easter. It is lovely to have you with us this morning as we gather this Easter Season to celebrate the glorious resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. Let us take a moment to be still in the presence of God so that we are ready for worship this morning.

Call to worship

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!**

We gather as the disciples did, on the day that Jesus rose. **Come, risen Lord, and stand among us.**

We open the doors of our hearts to you. **Come, risen Lord, and stand among us.**

Grant us your peace and breathe upon us. **Come, risen Lord, and stand among us.**

Hymn: To God be the glory <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3vbGFupxwu0>

A prayer

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house were locked, Jesus stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' Lord, we recognise your presence with us now. We acclaim you as our risen Saviour. May your peace be with us as we gather to worship and sing your praise. **Amen**

Prayers of Penitence

Christ our passover lamb has been sacrificed for us. Let us therefore rejoice by putting away all malice and evil and confessing our sins with a sincere and true heart.

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 you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Collect for 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**

Reading: Acts 4: 32-35

The Lord is my strength and my song: he has become my salvation.

The Lord is my strength and my song: he has become my salvation.

I shall not die, but live, and declare the works of the Lord.
He has become my salvation.

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.
The Lord is my strength and my song: he has become my salvation.

Hymn: Breathe on me breath of God <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TssHTATafi0>

Reading: John 20: 19-end

Meditation: He was just a man that's what I thought – Thomas
Written by Nick Fawett taken from

He was just a man, that's what I thought.
A wonder person, fantastic teacher, the most caring sort of bloke you could ever hope to meet, but just a man.
And nothing wrong with that, of course; it's not every day you meet someone as special.
In fact, thank God he was a man, as much flesh and blood as we are.
He knew what it was to be human, to share our hopes and fears, our joys and sorrows, our life and death
He laughed as we do, wept as we do, suffered as we do.
I know, for I was with him for three years of his life.
But I'd thought that his life was over, when they laid him in that tomb and rolled the stone across.
I'd really thought that was it, until something happened, something astonishing, marvellous, incredible – he
appeared to me again, just as he'd appeared to the rest of the disciple, as large as life,
and I knew then that he wasn't just a man: he was God!
I understood at last what he'd been on about before, those words which had never made sense earlier:
'Whoever has seen me has seen the Father, not has ever seen God, but I have made him known to you.'
'Of course' I Said 'Of course!' and I fell down and worshipped him.

Do you know, God was more real to me then that I'd ever dreamed he could be.
So when shortly after he disappeared, you can imagine we were gutted.
It felt as though our world had fallen apart, as if we'd been cut off from God, until all at once we knew he was with
us after all, nearer than he'd ever been before.
It didn't matter that we could not see him.
It didn't matter that we could not touch him.
We felt his presence deep inside, guiding us, renewing us, working through us.
And again I remembered his words, 'The Holy Spirit, who the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things.
God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and in truth.'

He was a man, he really was, as human as you and me.
But he was God - he showed us the Father;
I know that sounds incredible but it's true.
Yet he's also Spirit – God with us now, deep in our hearts.
You don't need my word for that, you don't need anyone's, for you can experience it for yourselves.

Silence

Prayer

Mighty God, beyond all space and time, greater than our minds can fully grasp, ruler over all that is and has been
and shall be, we worship you. We worship you as the God made known to us in Christ, a God all good and wholly
other, and yet a God who loves us as a father loves his children, a God who has shared our humanity. We worship
you as the God we experience within us, the God who fires our imagination and sets our hearts aflame. Mighty God,
help us to catch a sense of your greatness, opening our hearts and minds to your presence made known through
Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen

Creed

**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: Make me a channel of your peace <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g8eorCEMIK4>

Prayers

I have made a video of the prayers the link is below and in the email sent with this service sheet.

 [Prayers for Sunday 11th April 2021.mp4](#)

Our prayers today offer moments of stillness and invite you to offer your own prayers after each bidding.

Let us pray

Compassionate God, into your love we commit, your church throughout the world, its leaders, congregations, and mission. Silence. Lord hear us, **Lord graciously hear us.**

Compassionate God, into your love we commit our world, with its needs and failures, hope, and despair. We bring before you anything that has touched our hearts in the news this week. Silence.
Lord hear us, **Lord graciously hear us.**

Compassionate God, into your love we commit our community, our homes, our families, and friends. Silence
Lord hear us, **Lord graciously hear us.**

Compassionate God, into your love we commit those of all ages who are in danger and live in fear. Silence.
Lord hear us, **Lord graciously hear us.**

Compassionate, into your love we commit those who are suffering whether in body, mind, or spirit. Silence
Lord hear us, **Lord graciously hear us.**

Compassionate God, into your love we commit those who have recently died and all who mourn for them. Silence
Lord hear us, **Lord graciously hear us.**

Compassionate God, into your love we commit ourselves, our worries, and concerns. Silence
Lord hear us, **Lord graciously hear us.**

Heavenly father, our help in times of need, **accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our saviour Jesus Christ.
Amen**

The Lord's Prayer

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. Alleluia. The peace of the lord be always with you. **and also with you.** 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: Go forth and tell <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XNyDd9qtuk0>

We go out

Christ's peace be with you in all you do. Christ's peace be with you in all that you are. Christ peace be with you in all that you will be. This day and evermore. **Amen**

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

With the risen life of Christ within you, go in the peace of Christ.

Alleluia! Alleluia! **Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

Material for this service was taken from Common Worship: Times and Seasons produced by Church House publishing. Copyright The Archbishops Council 2006, New Patterns for worship, Church House Publishing 2002, The 'Bumper book of resources: Easter, Ascension and Pentecost. Published by Kevin Mayhew 2015 and three hundred intercessions on Biblical Themes by Susan Sayers, Kevin Mayhew, 2000.