

Online Service for Easter 2
19 April 2020



Today is the second Sunday of Easter. In the orthodox church it is called 'St Thomas Sunday', because the Gospel of the Day is the appearance of Jesus to Thomas, one week after he appeared to the other disciples in John's Gospel.

To participate in our service today, you will need a Bible and a candle. If there is more than one of you, you can share out leading, and the readings; but it is perfectly possible to participate just on your own.

Welcome

Light the candle to begin, and pray that Jesus will, in his own way, make himself known to you as you are worshipping this morning.

We make the sign of the cross, saying together,

and of the Holy Spirit.

All Amen

Leader The Lord be with you.

All and also with you.

Leader Alleluia. Christ is risen.

All He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

We take a moment to think about coming into the presence of God and joining with others, either virtually or in our own homes, on this second Sunday of Easter.

We have not always lived our lives as we should have done. We have done wrong and hurt others. Let's recall our sins and seek God's forgiveness. We pray together:

All

Like Mary at the empty tomb we fail to grasp the wonder of your presence. Lord, have mercy.

Like the disciples behind locked doors, we are afraid to be seen as your followers Christ, have mercy.

Like Thomas in the upper room, we are slow to believe Lord, have mercy.

Leader

May the Father forgive us by the death of his Son and strengthen us to live in the power of the Spirit all our days. Amen.

Let's praise God's glory. Please join in with Jonathan by clicking on this link:

https://youtu.be/OKHJedSoSk0

Glory be to God in heaven, peace to those who love him well; on the earth let all his people speak his grace, his wonders tell: Lord, we praise you for your glory, mighty Father, heaven's king; hear our joyful adoration and accept the thanks we bring.

Only Son of God the Father, Lamb who takes our sin away, now with him in triumph seated for your mercy, Lord, we pray: Jesus Christ, most high and holy, Saviour, you are God alone in the glory of the Father with the Spirit: Three-in-One!

We pray the Collect – the prayer for the day

Leader 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 forever.

Amen.

Bible Readings

Kevin is going to read the first reading from Acts 2.14a, 22-32.

https://youtu.be/xiHE8SheM3c

If you can, please stand to read the Gospel out loud

Gospel of the Day: John 20.19-end

Homily

Please click on the link to hear Mthr Helen's homily for today.

https://youtu.be/uloVRpTr_sE

Let's remind ourselves of the beliefs of the Christian faith.

All We believe in God the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on 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.

Music

To lead into our time of prayer, we have a piece of music played by Martin, Abi and Gabriella. It is from Paul de Wailly's Six Pieces (No 5 - Regrets)

https://youtu.be/TlfSTyfyK9Q

The Prayers

Martin is leading our intercessions today. Click on this link. https://youtu.be/zld2noeCp50

As we finish our prayers, let us say together the Lord's Prayer, and our Coronovirus prayer:

Almighty God, our Shield and our Defender, guide and protect us at this time.
We pray for our loved ones, our neighbours, our key workers, and our country in this time of health emergency.
Deliver us from harm, and may your love and care ever grow in our community.
Through Jesus Christ, Our Lord, Amen.

Let's finish with a rousing hymn. Click on this link for the music and join in with lonathan

https://youtu.be/S5BGP0d_aoY

The Day of Resurrection!
Earth, tell it out abroad;
the Passover of gladness,
the Passover of God.
From death to life eternal,
from earth unto the sky,
our Christ hath brought us over,
with hymns of victory.

Our hearts be pure from evil, that we may see aright the Lord in rays eternal of resurrection light; and listening to his accents, may hear so calm and plain his own "All hail!" and, hearing, may raise the victor strain.

Now let the heavens be joyful!
Let earth her song begin!
The round world keep high triumph, and all that is therein!
Let all things seen and unseen their notes in gladness blend, for Christ the Lord hath risen, our joy that hath no end.

Praying for God's blessing

We pray

All May Christ,

who out of defeat brings new hope and a new future, fill us with his new life and may the blessing of God Almighty

★ the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit be among us and remain with us all now and forever. Amen.

Jonathan's closing voluntary today is, Rachmaninov's, Prelude C sharp minor

https://youtu.be/Mn2bYgVZ0dk

We normally have refreshments after the service, so why not make a cup of tea or coffee, and ring someone you know from church for a chat?