

Service of Morning Communion

Easter Sunday - 2 April 2021

Welcome

Hymn

The Greeting

The Lord be with you

ALL and also with you.

Prayer of Preparation

ALL 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.

Prayers of Penitence

Remember, Lord, Your compassion and love, for they are everlasting.

Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy.

Remember not the sins of our youth or our transgressions, but think on us in your goodness O Lord, according to your steadfast love.

Christ have mercy. Christ have mercy.

O keep our souls and deliver us; let us not be put to shame, for we have put our trust in you. Amen.

Absolution

The Collect

The LITURGY of the WORD

Reading

Acts 10:34-43 (New International Version)

Then Peter began to speak. "I now realize how true it is that God treats everyone the same," he said. "He accepts people from every nation. He accepts anyone who has respect for him and does what is right. You know the message God sent to the people of Israel. It is the good news of peace through Jesus Christ. He is Lord of all. You know what has happened all through the area of Judea. It started in Galilee after John preached about baptism. You know how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy

Spirit and with power. Jesus went around doing good. He healed all who were under the devil's power. God was with him.

“We are witnesses of everything he did in the land of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They killed him by nailing him to a cross. But on the third day God raised him from the dead. God allowed Jesus to be seen. But he wasn't seen by all the people. He was seen only by us. We are witnesses whom God had already chosen. We ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people. He told us to tell people that he is the one appointed by God to judge the living and the dead. All the prophets tell about him. They say that all who believe in him have their sins forgiven through his name.”

HYMN

Gospel Reading

John 20:1-18 (New International Version)

Early on the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene went to the tomb. It was still dark. She saw that the stone had been moved away from the entrance. So she ran to Simon Peter and another disciple, the one Jesus loved. She said, “They have taken the Lord out of the tomb! We don't know where they have put him!”

So Peter and the other disciple started out for the tomb. Both of them were running. The other disciple ran faster than Peter. He reached the tomb first. He bent over and looked in at the strips of linen lying there. But he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came along behind him. He went straight into the tomb. He saw the strips of linen lying there. He also saw the funeral cloth that had been wrapped around Jesus' head. The cloth was still lying in its place. It was separate from the linen. The disciple who had reached the tomb first also went inside. He saw and believed. They still did not understand from Scripture that Jesus had to rise from the dead. Then the disciples went back to where they were staying.

But Mary stood outside the tomb crying. As she cried, she bent over to look into the tomb. She saw two angels dressed in white. They were seated where Jesus' body had been. One of them was where Jesus' head had been laid. The other sat where his feet had been placed.

They asked her, “Woman, why are you crying?” “They have taken my Lord away,” she said. “I don't know where they have put him.” Then she turned around and saw Jesus standing there. But she didn't realize that it was Jesus.

He asked her, "Woman, why are you crying? Who are you looking for?" She thought he was the gardener. So she said, "Sir, did you carry him away? Tell me where you put him. Then I will go and get him."

Jesus said to her, "Mary."

She turned toward him. Then she cried out in the Aramaic language, "*Rabboni!*" Rabboni means Teacher.

Jesus said, "Do not hold on to me. I have not yet ascended to the Father. Instead, go to those who believe in me. Tell them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.' "

Mary Magdalene went to the disciples with the news. She said, "I have seen the Lord!" And she told them that he had said these things to her.

SERMON

The sermon can be found after the service on our website www.stjamesroundsgreen.com or on our Facebook page.

The Creed

We believe in God, the almighty Father, who is the creator of heaven and earth. We believe in Jesus Christ, His only begotten Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, given birth by the Virgin Mary and suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried, He descended to the dead.

On the third day He rose from the dead, ascended into heaven, is seated at the Father's right hand. He will return to judge the living and the dead.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and in everlasting life. Amen.

The Peace

Prayers of Intercession

Intercessions for Easter Sunday 2021

Risen Lord, your resurrection that first Easter morning was a surprise and a joy to your disciples. May your Easter rising continue to surprise your Church throughout the world with new life and hope. As we slowly emerge from the depressing darkness of Lockdown, may those of us who belong to you radiate your light and joy to all we meet. Shape us as witnesses of your grace and power.

We ask too that there will be a resurrection of interest in the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Connect us with any who are seeking after the truth and give us boldness to share our faith in you with compassion and grace – drawing people into the Christian fellowship instead of causing them to reject it.

Risen Lord, there seems to be so much unrest, dissatisfaction and anger being generated around the world. We ask you to raise up leaders in all walks of life and in all forms of government whose priority is to promote peace; we ask you to bless them with discernment and wisdom in order to be able to initiate and implement that peace.

We particularly ask that you give clarity and creative thinking to all governmental powers facing the cruel financial debt in the anxious aftermath of the pandemic. May there be a balancing out of resources and a dogged determination to 'get the books' straight honestly and fairly.

Risen Lord, your appearing changed lives and made witnesses from broken people. Our community is full of broken people completely unaware of your love for them. May our priority, as people of the living God, be to minister that love to them in practical ways.

We ask you to keep all the children safe and well during the Easter holidays. We ask you to give patience to the parents while they have the children at home all day again after what only seems five minutes back at school. We ask you to give peaceful rest to the teachers in the midst of preparing for the summer term. We ask you to bless our whole community with cohesion, calm and unity.

Risen Lord, you make the day dawn with promise. We ask you to raise the spirits of all who are ill, whether in body, mind, or spirit. We silently name those we know before you now.....Strengthen and uphold them in your life and love. May they know release from pain, peace from anxiety and hope for the future.

HYMN

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER H

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 right to praise you, Father, Lord of all creation; in your love you made us for yourself. When we turned away you did not reject us, but came to meet us in your Son.

ALL You embraced us as your children and welcomed us to sit and eat with you.

In Christ you shared our life that we might live in him and he in us.

ALL He opened his arms of love upon the cross and made for all the perfect sacrifice for sin.

On the night he was betrayed, at supper with his friends he took bread, and gave you thanks; he broke it and gave it to them saying: Take, eat: this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.

ALL Father, we do this in remembrance of him: his body is the bread of life.

At the end of supper, taking the cup of wine, he gave you thanks and said; Drink this, all of you, this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins; do this in remembrance of me.

ALL Father, we do this in remembrance of him: his blood is shed for all.

As we proclaim his death and celebrate his rising in glory, send your Holy Spirit that this bread and this wine may be to us the body and blood of your dear Son.

ALL As we eat and drink these holy gifts make us one in Christ, our risen Lord.

With your whole church throughout the world we offer you this sacrifice of praise and lift our voice to join the eternal song in heaven:

ALL Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.

Let us now continue in prayer using the words our Saviour taught us:

ALL: 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. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and for ever. Amen.

Breaking of the Bread

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

ALL Though we are many, we are one body, because we all share in one bread.

Invitation to Communion

Draw near with faith. Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ, which he gave for you, and his blood, which he shed for you. Eat and drink in remembrance that he died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

ALL Most merciful Lord, your love compels us to come in. Our hands were unclean, our hearts were unprepared; we were not fit even to eat the crumbs from under your table. But you, Lord, are the God of our salvation, and share your bread with sinners. So, cleanse and feed us with the precious body and blood of your Son, that he may live in us and we in him; and that we, with the whole company of Christ, may sit and eat in your kingdom. Amen.

THE PRIEST AND THE PEOPLE RECEIVE COMMUNION.

Prayer after Communion

ALL Almighty God, we thank you for feeding us with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Through him we offer you our souls and bodies to be a living sacrifice. Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen.

Hymn

Blessing

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord

ALL: In the name of Christ. Amen.