

Sunday 3rd May 2020 4th Sunday of Easter A Service of Holy Communion

Introit

God be In My Head (Walford Davies)

sung by George Coates, accompanied by Sue Wheeldon (from an appropriate distance with help from the birds and a cat!)

The Gathering

Alleluia. Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Jesus is the resurrection and the life.

Those who believe in him shall never die.

Alleluia!

Praise God! For the Lord our God the almighty reigns! Let us rejoice and be glad and give him the glory. Alleluia!

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

Christ died to sin once for all, and now he lives to God.

Let us renew our resolve to have done with all that is evil and confess our sins in penitence and faith.

All Almighty God, our heavenly Father, we have sinned against you and against our neighbour in thought and word and deed, through negligence, through weakness, through our own deliberate fault.

We are truly sorry and repent of all our sins.

For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,

who died for us, forgive us all that is past, and grant that we may serve you in newness of life to the glory of your name.

Amen.

The president says

May the God of love and power forgive you and free you from your sins, heal and strengthen you by his Spirit, and raise you to new life in Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

The Gloria (Singing lead by Louise and Rod McPhee)

Glory to God, Glory to God in the highest,

Peace to his people, Peace to his people, Peace to his people on earth.

Glory to God, Glory to God, Glory to God in the highest,

Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.

Glory to God, Glory to God, Glory to God in the highest,

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;

Glory to God, Glory to God in the highest,

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, glory of God, Glory of God the Father.

Amen.

The Collect

Risen Christ,
faithful shepherd of your Father's sheep:
teach us to hear your voice
and to follow your command,
that all your people may be gathered into one
flock, to the glory of God the Father. Amen

Gospel Reading (read by Becky Johnson Hunt)

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John

All Glory to you, O Lord.

John 10: 1-10

Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a

thief and a bandit. The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers." Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them. So again Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All Praise to you, O Christ.

Reflection Canon Jonathan Baker

'He Shall Feed His Flock' from Handel's Messiah sung by Louise McPhee, accompanied by Libby Burgess

Intercessions led by Rev'd Anne Almond

Lord in your mercy **Hear our Prayer**

Merciful Father, accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

The Peace

ΑII

The risen Christ came and stood among his disciples, in a locked room,

where they sheltered from the crowds that they feared.

Meeting them there, where they were, He said, 'peace be with you'.

The Peace of the Lord be with you **And also with you**

The Eucharistic Prayer

We gather as God's people, in our different places, around this table of our communion.

We bring bread, knowing our need to be fed,
And aware that many are hungry.

We bring wine, knowing our need for joy,
And aware that many are lonely.

We bring ourselves, trusting that you will take and share

Our time, our talents, and our treasures,

And make them enough. Amen.

The Lord be with you

All and also with you.

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 indeed right, our duty and our joy, always and everywhere to give you thanks, almighty and eternal Father, and in these days of Easter to celebrate with joyful hearts the memory of your wonderful works. For by the mystery of his passion Jesus Christ, your risen Son, has conquered the powers of death and hell and restored in men and women the image of your glory.

He has placed them once more in paradise and opened to them the gate of life eternal. And so, in the joy of this Passover, earth and heaven resound with gladness, while angels and archangels and the powers of all creation

sing for ever the hymn of your glory.

All Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of
the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

We praise and bless you, loving Father, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; and as we obey his command, send your Holy Spirit, that broken bread and wine outpoured may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

On the night before he died he had supper with his friends and, taking bread, he praised you. He broke the bread, gave it to them and said: Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;

do this in remembrance of me.

When supper was ended he took the cup of wine.

Again he praised you, gave it to them and said: Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.

Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did, in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice made once for all upon the cross.

Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of

we proclaim his death and resurrection until he comes in glory.

Great is the mystery of faith:

ΑII Christ has died: Christ is risen: Christ will come again.

> Lord of all life. help us to work together for that day when your kingdom comes and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth.

Look with favour on your people, gather us in your loving arms and bring us with all the saints to feast at your table in heaven. Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father,

for ever and ever.

ΑII Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray 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.

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

Giving of Communion

Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

ΑII Lord, I am not worthy to receive you, but only say the word, and I shall be healed.

Prayer after Communion

Merciful Father,

you gave your Son Jesus Christ to be the good shepherd,

and in his love for us to lay down his life and rise again:

keep us always under his protection, and give us grace to follow in his steps; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

ΑII Amen

ΑII 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.

Final Hymn

The Lord's My Shepherd (arranged, played and sung by Alison and Nick Wise)

> The Lord's my shepherd, I'll not want; He makes me lie in pastures green. He leads me by the still, still waters, His goodness restores my soul.

And I will trust in You alone, And I will trust in You alone, For Your endless mercy follows me, Your goodness will lead me home.

He guides my ways in righteousness, And He anoints my head with oil, And my cup, it overflows with joy, I feast on His pure delights.

And though I walk the darkest path, I will not fear the evil one, For You are with me, and Your rod and staff

Are the comfort I need to know.

The Dismissal

The God of peace,

who brought again from the dead our Lord lesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, make you perfect in every good work to do his will:

and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

ΑII Amen.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

In the name of Christ. Amen. ΑII