

Morning Prayer 19th April 2020:

Preparation:

Grace, mercy and peace
from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ
be with you
and also with you.

This is the day that the Lord has made.

Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

We have come together in the name of Christ
to offer our praise and thanksgiving,
to hear and receive God's holy word,
to pray for the needs of the world,
and to seek the forgiveness of our sins,
that by the power of the Holy Spirit
we may give ourselves to the service of God.

Christ our Passover 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:

**Lord God,
we have sinned against you;
we have done evil in your sight.
We are sorry and repent.
Have mercy on us according to your love.
Wash away our wrongdoing and cleanse us from our sin.
Renew a right spirit within us
and restore us to the joy of your salvation;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

May the Father of all mercies
cleanse you from your sins,
and restore you in his image
to the praise and glory of his name,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Blessed is the Lord,
for he has heard the voice of our prayer;
therefore shall our hearts dance for joy
and in our song will we praise our God.

Blessed are you, Lord our God,
creator and redeemer of all;
to you be glory and praise for ever.
From the waters of chaos you drew forth the world
and in your great love fashioned us in your image.
Now, through the deep waters of death,
you have brought your people to new birth
by raising your Son to life in triumph.
May Christ your light ever dawn in our hearts
as we offer you our sacrifice of thanks and praise.
Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit:
Blessed be God for ever.

The Word of God:

Psalm: *Psalm 16*

Protect me, O God, for in you I take refuge.

**I say to the Lord, 'You are my Lord;
I have no good apart from you.'**

As for the holy ones in the land, they are the noble,
in whom is all my delight.

**Those who choose another god multiply their sorrows;
their drink-offerings of blood I will not pour out
or take their names upon my lips.**

5 The Lord is my chosen portion and my cup;
you hold my lot.

**The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places;
I have a goodly heritage.**

I bless the Lord who gives me counsel;
in the night also my heart instructs me.

**I keep the Lord always before me;
because he is at my right hand, I shall not be moved.**

Therefore my heart is glad, and my soul rejoices;
my body also rests secure.

**For you do not give me up to Sheol,
or let your faithful one see the Pit.**

You show me the path of life.

In your presence there is fullness of joy;
in your right hand are pleasures for evermore.

**Glory to the Father and the Son and to the Holy Spirit
As it was in the beginning is now, and shall be for ever. Amen.**

Epistle: Acts 2:14a, 22-32

Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them:

‘You that are Israelites, listen to what I have to say: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with deeds of power, wonders, and signs that God did through him among you, as you yourselves know— this man, handed over to you according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of those outside the law. But God raised him up, having freed him from death, because it was impossible for him to be held in its power. For David says concerning him,

“I saw the Lord always before me,
for he is at my right hand so that I will not be shaken;
therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced;
moreover, my flesh will live in hope.
For you will not abandon my soul to Hades,
or let your Holy One experience corruption.
You have made known to me the ways of life;
you will make me full of gladness with your presence.”

‘Fellow Israelites, I may say to you confidently of our ancestor David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. Since he was a prophet, he knew that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would put one of his descendants on his throne. Foreseeing this, David spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, saying,

“He was not abandoned to Hades,
nor did his flesh experience corruption.”

This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are witnesses.

The Easter Anthems:

1 Corinthians 5.7b, 8; Romans 6.9-11 & 1 Corinthians 15.20-22

**Christ our passover has been sacrificed for us:
so let us celebrate the feast,
not with the old leaven of corruption and wickedness:
but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.**

**Christ once raised from the dead dies no more:
death has no more dominion over him.
In dying he died to sin once for all:
in living he lives to God.
See yourselves therefore as dead to sin:
and alive to God in Jesus Christ our Lord.**

Christ has been raised from the dead:

**the first fruits of those who sleep.
For as by man came death:
by man has come also the resurrection of the dead;
for as in Adam all die:
even so in Christ shall all be made alive.**

**Glory to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning is now
and shall be for ever. Amen.**

Gospel: *John 20: 19- end*

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.' When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.'

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, 'We have seen the Lord.' But he said to them, 'Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.'

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' Then he said to Thomas, 'Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.' Thomas answered him, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him, 'Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.'

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

Sermon: *Rt. Rev. Philip Mounstephen, Bishop of Truro*

The Creed:

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,

born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.
Amen.

Prayers:

Lord Jesus, you are the resurrection,
Lord Jesus, you are our life

Lord Jesus we pray for all who bear particular responsibility for the rest of us in this crisis. We pray for local and national government, the emergency services and everyone who works to care for the most vulnerable in our society. We pray too for those working hard to ensure that our foodbanks remain stocked and staffed.

And we pray for our Churches, in this strange time. Even though we cannot meet, strengthen us as your body and give us the inspiration and creativity of your Holy Spirit that we may know just how best we might love and care for those in our communities within the constraints that are placed upon us.

And we pray that you will lift this shadow from us: that the spread of this virus be slowed and reversed. Give us hope for the future, and protection here in the present.

Lord Jesus, you are the resurrection,
Lord Jesus, you are our life

Lord Jesus, we pray for all those who are lonely and fearful of what the future holds. Turn fear into hope by your presence; turn doubt into confidence through your gift of faith.

We pray for all those who care for us in this time of trial. We pray especially for all those working in the NHS. We thank you for them and we pray that you will bless, strengthen and encourage them.

We pray especially for those who are sick and suffering. We pray that your caring hand will rest upon them to give them comfort and peace.

And we pray for all those who are bereaved, and for those who care for them: may they know that as they weep so you weep with them. Give them confidence in the resurrection of the dead.

And however we can, help us all to be truly good neighbours to one another.

Lord Jesus, you are the resurrection,
Lord Jesus, you are our life

Lord Jesus, in this troubled time we pray that you will help us to be people of hope, people who have hopes for a better future beyond all this. And may we be people who see those hopes come to fruition. Help us together to work for a better, a more compassionate, a less acquisitive and a more sustainable and loving world.

And Lord whatever trials and troubles we may currently face, keep us strong in hope knowing that you are indeed the resurrection and the life; and help us so to tell the story of all you have done for us that many others too come to know you as their Lord and their God

Lord Jesus you are the resurrection,
Lord Jesus, you are our life. Amen

Collect for the Second 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.

Gathering our prayers and praises into one,
let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done;
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;**

**but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power, and the glory
for ever and ever.
Amen.**

The Conclusion

The Blessing:

The God of peace
who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus,
that great shepherd of the sheep,
through the blood of the eternal covenant,
make you perfect in every good work to do his will,
working in you that which is well pleasing in his sight;
and the blessing of God Almighty,
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,
be amongst you and remain with you both now and evermore. Amen

The Grace:

**The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ
And the love of God
And the fellowship of the Holy Spirit
Be with us all evermore.
Amen**