

Holy Communion at St Paul's, Ashgrove

Second Sunday of Easter 16/4/23



THERE ARE TWO OF US

Hymn: TiS 156 Morning Has Broken

Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever.

Christ is risen. Alleluia

He is risen indeed. Alleluia

[Let us pray.]

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.

Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to God's people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.
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;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.
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 the Father. Amen.

Almighty and eternal God,
the strength of those who believe
and the hope of those who doubt:
may we, who have not seen, have faith
and receive the fullness of Christ's blessing;
who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. Amen.

God of the nations,
whose sovereign rule brings justice and peace,
have mercy on our broken and divided world.
Shed abroad your peace in the hearts of all
and banish from them the spirit that makes for war,
that all races and peoples may learn to live
as members of one family
and in obedience to your law,
through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

God who made our home,
And made your home with us,
Yet often had no place to lay your head,
Have mercy today on all who have no home.
Provide shelter and protection,
A future and a hope,
To all whose beds tonight will be unsafe, unstable or exposed.
Grant wisdom and compassion,
To everyone with power or resources
To provide housing solutions,
So that all may live in peace
And share with equity and thanksgiving
The good things you provide
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

A reading from the book of Acts

2:14a, 22-32

On the Day of Pentecost, Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd.

“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.

Hear the word of the Lord, **Thanks be to God**

Psalms 16

- 1 Preserve me, O God:
for in you have I taken refuge.
- 2 I have said to the Lord, You are my lord:
and all my good depends on you.
- 3 As for those who are held holy on the earth:
the other gods in whom people delight,

- 4 Though the idols are many that they run after:
**their offerings of blood I will not offer,
nor take their name upon my lips.**
- 5 The Lord is my appointed portion and my cup:
you hold my lot in your hands.
- 6 The share that has fallen to me is in pleasant places:
and a fair land is my possession.
- 7 I will bless the Lord who has given me counsel:
at night also he has instructed my heart.
- 8 I have set the Lord always before me:
he is at my right hand, and I shall not fall.
- 9 Therefore my heart is glad and my spirit rejoices:
my flesh also shall rest secure.
- 10 For you will not give me over to the power of death:
nor suffer your faithful one to see the Pit.
- 11 You will show me the path of life:
**in your presence is the fulness of joy,
and from your right hand flow delights for evermore.**

A reading from the first letter of Peter 1:3-9

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, so that the genuineness of your faith—being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honour when Jesus Christ is revealed. Although you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

Hear the word of the Lord, **thanks be to God**

LA: Hymn: TiS 691 Faith Will Not Grow From Words Alone

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to **John**

chapter **20** beginning at verse **19** **Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ**

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.

This is the gospel of the Lord, **praise to you Lord Jesus Christ**

Sermon

Silence

LA: Let us together affirm the faith of the Church

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one being with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge
the living and the dead
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son
is worshipped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen**

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Let us pray for the world and for the Church.

Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Accept our prayers through Jesus Christ our Lord, who taught us to 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.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours
now and for ever. Amen.**

**Lord, have mercy
Christ, have mercy
Lord, have mercy**

Christ our Passover Lamb has been offered for us, therefore we come to celebrate the festival
Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith, with a sincere and a true heart.

**Merciful God,
our maker and our judge,
we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed,
and in what we have failed to do:
we have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves;
we repent, and are sorry for all our sins.
Father, forgive us.
Strengthen us to love and obey you in newness of life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Almighty God,
who has promised forgiveness to all who turn to him in faith:
pardon you and set you free from all your sins,
strengthen you in all goodness
and keep you in eternal life,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

We are the body of Christ.
His Spirit is with us.
The peace of the risen Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

All may exchange a sign of peace, maintaining 1.5m separation and without touching.

HYMN: SPBH 21 Let There Be Love

All may exchange a sign of peace, maintaining 1.5m separation and without touching.

While we will now be passing around the collection bowls again you may like to also consider giving electronically through your bank.

St Paul's bank details are BSB: 704901 Acc NO: 00004420

THANKSGIVING 5 (Season of Easter)

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Loving God, we thank you for this world of wonder and delight.

You have given it to us to care for,

so that all your creatures may enjoy its bounty.

Lord our God,

we give you thanks and praise.

We thank you that when we turned away from you,

you sent Jesus to live and work as one of us,

and bring us back to you.

He showed us how to love you

and set us free to love and serve one another.

Lord our God,

we give you thanks and praise.

We thank you that on the cross

Jesus took away our sin,

all that keeps us from each other and from you.

He frees us from hate and fear,

from all that destroys love and trust.

Lord our God,

we give you thanks and praise.

And now we give you thanks

that you raised Jesus to life triumphant,

and exalted him in glory.

By his victory over death,

the reign of sin is ended,

a new day has dawned,

a broken world is restored

and we are made whole once more

And so with everyone who believes in you,

with all the saints and angels,

we rejoice and praise you, saying:

**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 Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

And now we thank you for these gifts of bread and wine;
may we who receive them, as Jesus said,
share his body and his blood.

On the night he was betrayed, he took bread and gave you thanks.
He broke the bread and gave it to his friends, and said,
'Take and eat. This is my body given for you.
Do this in remembrance of me. '

After supper he took the cup and gave you thanks.
He shared the cup with them and said,
'This is my blood poured out so that sins may be forgiven.
Do this in remembrance of me. '

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

You have gathered us together to feed on Christ
and to remember all he has done for us:

Fill us with your Spirit that we may follow Jesus
in all we do and say,
working for justice and bringing your peace
to this world that you have made.

Accept our prayers through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Blessing and honour and glory and power
are yours for ever and ever. Amen.**

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.
We who are many are one body,
for we all share in the one bread.

Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us.

Jesus, bearer of our sins, have mercy on us.

Jesus, redeemer of the world, grant us your peace.

The gifts of God for the people of God.

May we who share these gifts be found in Christ and Christ in us. (*NZ Prayer Book*)

Please come forward to receive the bread and wine. Gluten free wafers are available (please ask). If you prefer not to receive communion, please come forward for a blessing (keep your hands behind your back).

With the high incidence of Covid and influenza in the community we ask you to:

- *Maintain physical distancing of 1.5m as you move forward*
- *Use hand sanitiser before receiving the bread and wine*
- *NOT intinct (dip the bread in the wine)*
- *Take wine only if you are free from symptoms and free of anxiety about drinking from the common cup. Be assured that Christ is present in you and for you as you receive the bread alone.*

Eternal God, giver of life,
in the breaking of the bread we know the risen Lord.
May we who celebrate this holy feast
walk in his risen light and bring new life to all creation.

**Most loving God,
you send us into the world you love.
Give us grace to go thankfully and with courage
in the power of your Spirit.**

Announcements

Please stand as you are able for the blessing:

Blessing

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord:
In the name of Christ. Amen

HYMN: TiS 390 Alleluia Alleluia Give Thanks To The Risen Lord

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