

Morning Prayer for the Fourth Sunday of Easter

Sunday 8th May 2022 at 9.30 (call in from 9.15)

The Greeting

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

All **He is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

In your resurrection, O Christ,

All **Let heaven and earth rejoice.**

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Let us come before the God of our salvation,
offering him all praise and glory.

Let us join the angels standing around the throne,
as we offer ourselves in worship to God, saying:

**Amen! Praise and glory
and wisdom and thanks
and honour and power and strength
be to our God for ever and ever.**

Amen.

Easter Anthems

¹ Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us:

All **so let us celebrate the feast,**

² not with the old leaven of corruption and wickedness:

All **but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.**

1 Corinthians 5.7b, 8

³ Christ once raised from the dead dies no more:

All **death has no more dominion over him.**

⁴ In dying he died to sin once for all:

All **in living he lives to God.**

⁵ See yourselves therefore as dead to sin:

All **and alive to God in Jesus Christ our Lord.**

Romans 6.9–11

⁶ Christ has been raised from the dead:

All **the first fruits of those who sleep.**

⁷ For as by man came death:

All **by man has come also the resurrection of the dead;**

⁸ for as in Adam all die:

All **even so in Christ shall all be made alive.**

1 Corinthians 15.20–22

Glory to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;

All **as it was in the beginning, is now
and shall be for ever. Amen.**

Prayer

The night has passed,
and the day lies open before us.
Let us pray with one heart and mind.

Risen Christ,
you filled your disciples
with boldness and fresh hope:
strengthen us to proclaim your risen life
and fill us with your peace,
to the glory of God the Father.

All **Amen.**

The Word of God
Revelation 7: 9-17

⁹ After this I looked, and there before me was a great multitude
that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and
language, standing before the throne and before the Lamb.

They were wearing white robes and were holding palm branches in their hands. ¹⁰ And they cried out in a loud voice:

“Salvation belongs to our God,
who sits on the throne,
and to the Lamb.”

¹¹ All the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures. They fell down on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, ¹² saying:

“Amen!
Praise and glory
and wisdom and thanks and honour
and power and strength
be to our God for ever and ever.
Amen!”

¹³ Then one of the elders asked me, “These in white robes—who are they, and where did they come from?”

¹⁴ I answered, “Sir, you know.”

And he said, “These are they who have come out of the great tribulation; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. ¹⁵ Therefore,

“they are before the throne of God
and serve him day and night in his temple;
and he who sits on the throne
will shelter them with his presence.

¹⁶ ‘Never again will they hunger;
never again will they thirst.

The sun will not beat down on them,
nor any scorching heat.

¹⁷ For the Lamb at the centre of the throne
will be their shepherd;

‘he will lead them to springs of living water.’

‘And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.’”

This is the word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 23

All **I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.**

1 The Lord is my shepherd;
therefore can I lack nothing.

2 He makes me lie down in green pastures
and leads me beside still waters.

All **I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.**

3 He shall refresh my soul
and guide me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

4 Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil;
for you are with me;
your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

All **I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.**

5 You spread a table before me
in the presence of those who trouble me;
you have anointed my head with oil
and my cup shall be full.

6 Surely goodness and loving mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

All **I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.**

O God, our sovereign and shepherd,
who brought again your Son Jesus Christ
from the valley of death,
comfort us with your protecting presence
and your angels of goodness and love,
that we also may come home
and dwell with him in your house for ever.

All **Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning,
is now and ever more shall be,
world without end. Amen.**

John 10: 22-30

²² Then came the Festival of Dedication at Jerusalem. It was winter, ²³ and Jesus was in the temple courts walking in Solomon's Colonnade. ²⁴ The Jews who were there gathered around him, saying, "How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly."

²⁵ Jesus answered, "I did tell you, but you do not believe. The works I do in my Father's name testify about me, ²⁶ but you do not believe because you are not my sheep. ²⁷ My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me. ²⁸ I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one will snatch them out of my hand. ²⁹ My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all; no one can snatch them out of my Father's hand. ³⁰ I and the Father are one."

This is the word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Reflection

Prayers of Intercession

Gracious God, it is our privilege to pray for your world and your people. We pray for those who are in the news today, whether willingly or not.

Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

We pray for our church community, our life together in Christ, and our witness to the world.

Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

We pray for those who we've met or talked to who have some important issue to face. Especially we pray for dilemmas faced by our own family and friends.

Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

We pray for those coping with stress at work, at home, or in life generally – feeling that the world is a dark place. Especially we pray for those who are unwell... and those who have recently been bereaved.

Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

We pray for those who are waiting for something important – a birth, a job, a visit, a hospital appointment, a word of forgiveness. Especially we pray for those we know who are longing for love and friendship, and a way out of loneliness.

Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

Father, Good Shepherd to us all, every person we have mentioned in our hearts is known and loved by you. We entrust them to you in confidence and hope, knowing that you will use our prayers for their healing and well-being, for we ask these things in the name of Jesus Christ, who is alive forever with you and the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

The Collect

Almighty God,
Whose Son Jesus Christ is the resurrection and the life:
raise us, who trust in him,
from the death of sin to the life of righteousness,
that we may seek those things which are above,
where he reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

All **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

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.**

The Blessing

God the Father,
by whose love Christ was raised from the dead,
open to us who believe the gates of everlasting life.

All **Amen.**

God the Son,
who in bursting the grave has won a glorious victory,
give you joy as you share the Easter faith.

All **Amen.**

God the Holy Spirit,
whom the risen Lord breathed into his disciples,
empower us and fill us with Christ's peace.

All **Amen.**

And the blessing of God Almighty,
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,
be amongst us and remain
with us this day and always.

All **Amen.**

Sending out

All **God of all our coming in and our going out,
of our past, present and our future.
Help us to trust in your promises,
to find springs of the water of life,
and to share that with others,
that tears may be wiped from every eye.
Blessing and glory and wisdom
and thanksgiving and honour
and power and might
be to our God for ever and ever!
Amen.**

What's On This Week

Wed 11 May at 10.30: Coffee Morning

We hope that you are able to join us for coffee this week on zoom.

Giving

To give to the Exe Valley Mission Community by BACS, please use account number 54731690 and sort code 60-21-27. Please use the reference *EVMC services*.

To give to St Peter's Church, please go to www.stpeterstiverton.org.uk and follow the donations link on the front page of the website.

Thank you for your support. It is much appreciated.