

## MORNING PRAYER 2 – 19 APRIL 2020

### *The Second Sunday of Easter*

## SERVICE OF MORNING PRAYER

### The Gathering of God's People

#### SENTENCE OF SCRIPTURE

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.

*1 Peter 1: 3*

**Opening Hymn: CH338** *“Jesus, stand among us”*

*Listen to and sing along with this hymn at:*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UUUXjFUdtU>

Jesus, stand among us  
in your risen power;  
let this time of worship  
be a hallowed hour.

Breathe the Holy Spirit  
into every heart;  
bid the fears and sorrows  
from each soul depart.

Thus with quickened footsteps  
We will pursue our way,  
watching for the dawning  
of eternal day.

*William Pennefather (1816-73) altd.  
based on John 20: 19-23*

#### INTRODUCTION

We come to offer to Almighty God  
our worship and praise and thanksgiving,  
to confess our sins and to receive God's forgiveness,  
to hear his holy word proclaimed,  
to bring before him our needs and the needs of the world,  
and to pray that in the power of his Spirit  
we may serve him and know the greatness of his love.  
Let us confess our sins to God our Father.

*Silence is kept.*

## CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

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;  
by what we have done  
and by what we have failed to do.  
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.

Merciful Lord,  
grant to your faithful people pardon and peace,  
that we may be cleansed from all our sins,  
and serve you with a quiet mind;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## *Proclaiming and Receiving the Word*

*Stand*

O Lord, open our lips  
and our mouth will proclaim your praise.

O God, make speed to save us.  
O Lord, make haste to help us.

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.

Praise the Lord.  
The Lord's name be praised.

## FIRST CANTICLE

**The Canticle: VENITE *Psalm 95: 1-11***

*Listen to and sing along with this canticle at:*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Hok3yG9pvNo>

- 1 O come, let us sing unto the Lord:  
let us heartily rejoice in the strength of our salvation.
- 2 Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving  
and shew ourselves glad in him with psalms.
- 3 For the Lord is a great God  
and a great King above all gods.
- 4 In his hand are all the corners of the earth  
and the strength of the hills is his also.
- 5 The sea is his, and he made it,  
and his hands prepared the dry land.

6 O come, let us worship and fall down  
and kneel before the Lord our Maker.  
7 For he is the Lord our God;  
and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand.  
8 To-day if ye will hear his voice:  
harden not your hearts, as in the provocation  
and as in the day of temptation in the wilderness;  
9 When your fathers tempted me,  
provèd me, and saw my works.  
10 Forty years long was I grieved with this generation, and said,  
It is a people that do err in their hearts,  
for they have not known my ways;  
11 Unto whom I swear in my wrath,  
that they should not enter into my rest.

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.

***The First Reading: Acts 2: 14a, 22-32***

*The reading below may be read, or an audio version listened to at:*

<https://www.biblica.com/bible/niv/acts/2/>

Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd: “Fellow Israelites, listen to this: Jesus of Nazareth was a man accredited by God to you by miracles, wonders and signs, which God did among you through him, as you yourselves know. This man was handed over to you by God’s deliberate plan and foreknowledge; and you, with the help of wicked men, put him to death by nailing him to the cross. But God raised him from the dead, freeing him from the agony of death, because it was impossible for death to keep its hold on him. David said about him:

“I saw the Lord always before me.

Because he is at my right hand,  
I will not be shaken.

Therefore my heart is glad and my tongue rejoices;  
my body also will rest in hope,  
because you will not abandon me to the realm of the dead,  
you will not let your holy one see decay.  
You have made known to me the paths of life;  
you will fill me with joy in your presence.’

“Fellow Israelites, I can tell you confidently that the patriarch David died and was buried, and his tomb is here to this day. But he was a prophet and knew that God had promised him on oath that he would place one of his descendants on his throne. Seeing what was to come, he spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, that he was not abandoned to the realm of the dead, nor did his body see decay. God has raised this Jesus to life, and we are all witnesses of it.

**The Psalm: Psalm 16**                      *Conserva me, Domine.*

*Listen to and sing along with this Psalm at:*

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ahvnKwSt\\_eE](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ahvnKwSt_eE)

- 1        Preserve me, O God : for in thee have I put my trust.
- 2        O my soul, thou hast said unto the Lord : Thou art my God, I have no good like unto thee.
- 3        All my delight is upon the saints, that are in the earth : and upon such as excel in virtue.
- 4        But they that run after another god : shall have great trouble.
- 5        Their drink-offerings of blood will I not offer : neither make mention of their names within my lips.
- 6        The Lord himself is the portion of mine inheritance, and of my cup : thou shalt maintain my lot.
- 7        The lot is fallen unto me in a fair ground : yes, I have a goodly heritage.
- 8        I will thank the Lord for giving me warning : my reins also chasten me in the night-season.
- 9        I have set God always before me : for he is on my right hand, therefore I shall not fall.
- 10      Wherefore my heart is glad, and my glory rejoiceth : my flesh also shall rest in hope.
- 11      For why? thou shalt not leave my soul in hell : neither shalt thou suffer thy holy one to see corruption.
- 12      Thou shalt shew me the path of life; in thy presence is the fullness of joy : and at thy right hand there is pleasure for evermore.

Glory be to the Father,  
and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;  
As it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

**The Second Reading: 1 Peter 1: 3-9**

*The reading below may be read, or an audio version listened to at:*

<https://www.biblica.com/bible/niv/1-peter/1/>

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade. This inheritance is kept in heaven for you, who through faith are shielded by God's power until the coming of the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time. In all this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials. These have come so that the proven genuineness of your faith—of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire—may result in praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. Though you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy, for you are receiving the end result of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

**Gradual Hymn: 675** *"Peace, perfect peace"* (vs 1, 2, 4, 5, 7)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ibqgZxWa6bM>

Peace, perfect peace, in this dark world of sin?

The blood of Jesus whispers peace within.

Peace, perfect peace, by thronging duties pressed?

To do the will of Jesus—this is rest.

Peace, perfect peace, with loved ones far away?

In Jesus' keeping we are safe, and they.

Peace, perfect peace, our future all unknown?  
Jesus we know, and He is on the throne.

It is enough: earth's struggles soon shall cease  
and Jesus calls us to heaven's perfect peace.

*Edward H. Bickersteth (1825-1906) altd.*

***The Gospel: John 20: 19-31***

*The reading below may be read, or an audio version listened to at:*

<https://www.biblica.com/bible/niv/john/20/>

On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jewish leaders, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!" After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord.

Again Jesus said, "Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you." And with that he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive anyone's sins, their sins are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven."

Now Thomas (also known as Didymus), one of the Twelve, was not with the disciples when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord!"

But he said to them, "Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe."

A week later his disciples were in the house again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!" Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe."

Thomas said to him, "My Lord and my God!"

Then Jesus told him, "Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."

Jesus performed many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

## GOSPEL CANTICLE

### **BENEDICTUS** *The Song of Zechariah Luke 1: 68-79*

*The Canticle may be said, or an audio version listened to and sung along with at:*

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7rYw41Tkk\\_c](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7rYw41Tkk_c)

- 1 Blessed be the Lord the God of Israel,  
who has come to his people and set them free.
- 2 The Lord has raised up for us a mighty saviour,  
born of the house of his servant David.
- 3 Through the holy prophets God promised of old  
to save us from our enemies,  
from the hands of those who hate us,
- 4 to show mercy to our forebears,  
and to remember his holy covenant.
- 5 This was the oath God swore to our father Abraham:  
to set us free from the hand of our enemies.
- 6 Free to worship him without fear,  
holy and righteous before him all the days of our life.
- 7 And you, child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High,  
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,
- 8 To give his people knowledge of salvation  
by the forgiveness of all their sins.
- 9 In the tender compassion of our God,  
the dawn from on high shall break upon us.
- 10 To shine on those who dwell in darkness  
and the shadow of death,  
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

### **THE APOSTLES' CREED**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.  
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 again 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.**

## **The Prayers of the People**

The Lord be with you  
**and also with you.**

### *Kneel*

Let us pray.

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

**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.**

Show us your mercy, O Lord,  
**and grant us your salvation.**

O Lord, guide and defend our rulers  
**and grant our government wisdom.**

Let your ministers be clothed with righteousness  
**and let your servants shout for joy.**

O Lord, save your people  
**and bless those whom you have chosen.**

Give peace in our time, O Lord,  
**and let your glory be over all the earth.**

O God, make clean our hearts within us  
**and renew us by your Holy Spirit.**

## **THE COLLECTS**

### **THE COLLECT OF THE DAY**

Almighty Father,  
you have given your only Son to die for our sins  
and to rise again for our justification:  
Grant us so to put away the leaven  
of malice and wickedness  
that we may always serve you in pureness of living and truth;  
through the merits of your Son  
Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### **COLLECTS AT MORNING PRAYER**

O God, the author of peace and lover of concord,  
to know you is eternal life, and to serve you is perfect freedom:

Defend us in all assaults of our enemies,  
that we, surely trusting in your protection,  
may not fear the power of any adversaries;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Go before us, Lord, in all our doings, with your most gracious favour,  
and further us with your continual help;  
that in all our works begun, continued and ended in you,  
we may glorify your holy name,  
and finally by your mercy attain everlasting life;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### **A PRAYER FOR THE PANDEMIC**

May we who are merely inconvenienced  
remember those whose lives are at stake.

May we who have no risk factors  
remember those most vulnerable.

May we who have the luxury of working from home  
remember those who must choose between preserving their health or making their rent.

May we who have the flexibility to care for our children when their schools close  
remember those who have no options.

May we who have to cancel our trips  
remember those that have no safe place to go.

May we who are losing our margin money in the tumult of the economic market  
remember those who have no margin at all.

May we who settle in for a quarantine at home  
remember those who have no home.

As fear grips our country,  
let us choose love.

During this time when we cannot physically wrap our arms around each other,  
let us yet find ways to be the loving embrace of God to our neighbours. **Amen.**

### **PRAYERS:**

Lord, in your mercy

**Hear our prayer**

**Closing Hymn: 263** *“Crown him with many crowns”* (vs 1, 4-6)

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s7OCs0d\\_4vM](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s7OCs0d_4vM)

Crown him with many crowns,  
the Lamb upon his throne,  
hark! how the heavenly anthem drowns  
all music but its own:  
awake, my soul, and sing  
of him who died for thee,  
and hail him as thy matchless King  
through all eternity.



Crown him the Lord of life,  
who triumphed o'er the grave,  
and rose victorious in the strife,  
for those he came to save:  
his glories now we sing,  
who died and rose on high,  
who died eternal life to bring,  
and lives that death may die.

Crown him the Lord of peace,  
whose power a sceptre sways  
from pole to pole, that wars may cease,  
and all be love and praise:  
his reign shall know no end;  
and round his piercèd feet  
the thousand tones of earth shall blend  
in concord ever sweet.

Crown him the Lord of years,  
the Potentate of time,  
creator of the rolling spheres,  
ineffably sublime:  
All hail, Redeemer, hail!  
for thou hast died for me;  
thy praise shall never, never fail  
throughout eternity.

## **Going Out as God's People**

Let us bless the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

To God, who by the power at work within us,  
is able to do far more abundantly  
than all we ask or think,  
to him be glory in the Church and in Christ Jesus  
to all generations for ever and ever. **Amen.**      Ephesians 3: 20