

Reflection for Easter Sunday

Happy Easter! Jesus Christ is risen! Alleluia!

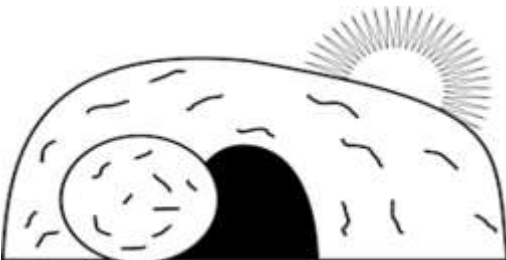
Joyful words, yet how do we begin to comprehend the mystery and majesty of these truths?

My attention falls on the words of St Peter in our reading today from the Acts of the Apostles: 'Jesus Christ – he is Lord of all'.

Jesus is Lord – the one who saves – and therefore God, worthy of our worship and praise. Jesus is Lord, seated at the right hand of God, with authority to judge the world and all within it. This statement also proclaims my faith that Jesus is Lord of my life, having authority over the choices I make and over my eternal destiny.

St Peter continues with the declaration that 'God raised Jesus on the third day'. To believe this is central to our faith: without it, Jesus is simply someone from history whose words are retold in stories today. Instead, in his talks this week, Revd David Gunn-Johnson has been reminding us that we are in Christ and that Christ lives in us through baptism and anointing by the Holy Spirit. So we go out as waymakers of Christ's grace in the world. Alleluia!

Revd Sarah



NEXT SUNDAY 16.04.2023 2nd Sunday of Easter

10.30am Sung Eucharist in Church

READINGS: OT Acts 2: 14a, 22-32
NT 1 Peter 1: 3-9
GOSPEL John 20: 19-31



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St Thomas, Exeter

9th April 2023

Easter Day

10.30am in Church

Today

10.30am Sung Eucharist

Hymn Numbers

267 Jesus Christ is risen today

45 At the Lamb's high feast we sing

503 Thine be the glory

Wednesday 12th April

10am Holy Communion (BCP)

Thursday 13th April

9.30-11am St Thomas Tots.

9.30-10.30am Community Larder

10.30am-12noon Knit & Natter

Friday 14th April

9.30am Morning Prayer

10am Staff Meeting



Collect

Lord of all life and power, who through the mighty resurrection of your Son overcame the old order of sin and death to make all things new in him: grant that we, being dead to sin and alive to you in Jesus Christ, may reign with him in glory; to whom with you and the Holy Spirit be praise and honour, glory and might, now and in all eternity. **Amen**

Acts 10: 34-43

Then Peter began to speak to them: 'I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.'

Colossians 3: 1-4

So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things

that are on earth, for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

Matthew 28: 1-10

After the sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. And suddenly there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. But the angel said to the women, 'Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples, "He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him." This is my message for you.' So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. Suddenly Jesus met them and said, 'Greetings!' And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshipped him. Then Jesus said to them, 'Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me.'

Post Communion

God of Life, who for our redemption gave your only-begotten Son to the death of the cross, and by his glorious resurrection have delivered us from the power of our enemy: grant us so to die daily to sin, that we may evermore live with him in the joy of his risen life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

NOTICES

Knit and Natter. On Thursdays from 10.30am-12noon at 19 Maple Road. Details from Jenny on 01392 498725.

Community Larder is receiving donations on Thursdays between 9.30 and 10.30am. Please note new day and time. On Sundays there will also be an opportunity to bring donations to the 10.30 service.

House Group 18th April thereafter fortnightly on Zoom. New people are always welcome; see Ian for details.

Food Fight (Food for Sundays) are looking for donations of warm clothing, such as hats, gloves, jackets and socks. They are also happy to receive individual-serving bottles/tetra packs of water or juices. **Volunteers are outside Nat West bank on Sunday mornings from 11am-1pm** so any donations can be dropped off there.

We need a volunteer urgently to be responsible for **Hall party and regular users bookings** from Easter onwards and someone to be responsible for a team opening and closing the Hall after parties. These roles can be combined or split. We mostly operate this system through emails. If you are interested please see Ian for details. It is important that these roles are filled **as the Hall is a significant source of income for the Church.**

Local elections take place on 4th May. Postal votes have to be submitted 12 working days before that date. A Voter Authority Certificate has to be applied for on-line. We are able to help people to obtain the Certificate. Please talk to a member of the clergy team.

