

## Reflection for Easter 3 Luke 24. 13–35

The story of the disciples meeting Jesus on the Emmaus Road and recognising him in the breaking of bread puts me in mind of this 'purple passage' from Dom Gregory Dix in *The Shape of the Liturgy* (1945)

At the heart of it all is the eucharistic action, a thing of absolute simplicity - the taking, blessing, breaking and giving of bread and the taking, blessing and giving of a cup of wine and water, as these were first done with their new meaning by a young Jew before and after supper with his friends on the night before he died. Soon it was simplified still further, by leaving out the supper and combining the double grouping before and after it into a single rite. So the four-action Shape of the Liturgy was found by the end of the first century. He had told his friends to do this henceforward with new meaning 'for the *anamnesis* of him', and they have done it always since.

Was ever another command so obeyed? For century after century, spreading slowly to every continent and country and among every race on earth, this action has been done, in every conceivable human circumstance, for every conceivable human need, from infancy and before it, to extreme old age and after it, from the pinnacles of earthly greatness, to the refuge of fugitives in the caves and dens of the earth....

*Fr David*



**NEXT SUNDAY 30.04.2023** 4th Sunday of Easter

10.30am Sung Eucharist in Church

**READINGS:** OT Acts 2: 42-47  
NT 1 Peter 2: 19-25  
GOSPEL John 10: 1-10



### CONTACT US

**Fr David Nixon** 01392 667192. Day off: Mondays  
rev.dave@virgin.net

**Revd Sarah Cumming** Curate 07543604115  
rev.sarahcumming@gmail.com

**Revd Alison Whiting** Associate Priest  
rev.alisonwhiting@gmail.com

**Revd Mike Clark** Associate Priest  
mike.clark@exeter.anglican.org

**Phil Baker**, Reader 07970 216740  
lionelbaker@outlook.com

**Revd Terry Litherland** 07594633195  
tlitherland36@gmail.com

**Ian Totterdell** Church Warden 01392 848674  
07536459096 ian.totterdell@cantab.net

**Judith Southam** Church Warden  
judithsoutham5@gmail.com

**Email:** parishoffice@stthomaschurhexeter.co.uk

**Facebook:** www.facebook.com/sttexeter

**Website:** www.stthomaschurhexeter.co.uk

**Twitter:** @sttexeter

**Office Tel:** 01392 437486 Messages at any time.



# St Thomas, Exeter

23rd April 2023

**Third Sunday of Easter**

10.30am in Church

### Today

**10.30am** Sung Eucharist

*Hymn Numbers*

432 Rejoice, the Lord is King

228 I danced in the morning when the world was begun

532 We have a gospel to proclaim

Followed by a PCC meeting to approve the Annual Accounts

### Wednesday 26th April

**10am** Holy Communion (BCP)

**2-4pm** Young at Hearts

### Thursday 27th April

**9.30-11am** St Thomas Tots.

**9.30-10.30am** Community Larder

**10.30am-12noon** Knit & Natter

### Friday 28th April

**9.30am** Morning Prayer

**10am** Staff Meeting



## Collect

Almighty Father, who in your great mercy gladdened the disciples with the sight of the risen Lord: give us such knowledge of his presence with us, that we may be strengthened and sustained by his risen life and serve you continually in righteousness and truth; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

## Acts 2: 14a, 36-41

But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them: 'Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. Therefore let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified.' Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, 'Brothers, what should we do?' Peter said to them, 'Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him.' And he testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, 'Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.' So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added.

## 1 Peter 1: 17-23

If you invoke as Father the one who judges all people impartially according to their deeds, live in reverent fear during the time of your exile. You know that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold, but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish. He was destined before the foundation of the world, but was revealed at the end of the ages for your sake. Through him you have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are set on God. Now that you have purified your souls by your obedience to the truth so that you have genuine mutual love, love one another deeply from the heart. You have been born anew, not of perishable but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God.

## Luke 24: 13-35

Now on that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. And he said to them, 'What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?' They stood still, looking sad. Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, 'Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?' He asked them, 'What things?' They replied, 'The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, and when they did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but they did not see him.' Then he said to them, 'Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?' Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures. As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. But they urged him strongly, saying, 'Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over.' So he went in to stay with them. When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. They said to each other, 'Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?' That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. They were saying, 'The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!' Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

## Post Communion

Living God, your Son made himself known to his disciples in the breaking of bread: open the eyes of our faith, that we may see him in all his redeeming work; who is alive and reigns, now and for ever. **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.

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.**

We are in the process of updating the **church electoral roll** ahead of our **APCM on 14 May**. If you are not already on the electoral roll and would like to be added, or if you no longer wish to remain on the electoral roll, please speak to Carolyn Bryant or one of the Churchwardens. No further action is required if you are already listed and are happy to remain on the electoral roll. If you have any further questions, please see Carolyn Bryant

**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.

**A reminder** that everyone with a Smart phone will receive a Government alert this **Sunday 23rd April at 3pm.**