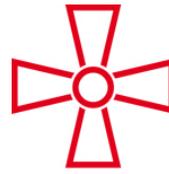


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St George's

ANGLICAN CHURCH
OPENING DOORS, MINDS, AND HEARTS

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The Third Sunday after Easter

April 18, 2021

10:15 am

Morning Prayer

The Book of Alternative Services

HYMN

Anniversary Hymn

1. We come, O Lord, into your awesome presence,
United in the mysteries of your Son.
United here by faith and firm conviction,
We seek your will and pray your will be done.
May we who come in joyful celebration,
Be ever faithful to your call to serve.
2. Today we sing our hymns of adoration
With grateful hearts for this your house of praise.
We thank you Lord for all your faithful servants,
Whose trust and toil have given us this place.
May we here now and those who come tomorrow,
Be ever faithful in our prayer and praise.
3. Your wondrous love breaks forth within our hearts
Each day we rise to serve your shattered world.
Equip us Lord to serve you more and more,
Loving your lost, your troubled and your poor.
Your love has guided all that we have done,
Help us make known your love to ev'ry one.
4. Your touch of grace heals all our human weakness,
If we will give our hearts and lives to you.
Your grace that stirred your faithful servant GEORGE,
Your grace that moved the founders of this church.
Your grace sufficient and beyond our merit,
We pray pour forth on all who gather here.
5. Dear Lord your Son, who died yet fled the grave,
Reveals to us your glorious kingdom come.
May we united here beneath this cross,

Open your kingdom's gate to ev'ry one.
Thru all our years your love and grace have led us,
Lead us, we pray, into your kingdom come.

(text used by permission of Richard Millar (1953 -), music: FINLANDIA, Jean Sibelius (1865-1957))

THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

Officiant Alleluia! Christ is risen.

People **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Officiant Praise the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

People **He gave us new life and hope by raising Jesus from the dead.**

Officiant Rejoice, then, even in your distress.

People **We shall be counted worthy when Christ appears.**

Officiant God has claimed us as his own.

People **He called us from our darkness into the light of his day.**

Officiant Alleluia! Christ is risen.

People **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

CONFESSION

Officiant Dear friends in Christ,
as we turn our hearts and minds
to worship almighty God,
let us confess our sins.

(Silence is kept.)

Officiant Most merciful God,
People **we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us,
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your name. Amen.**

Officiant Merciful God,
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,
who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

People **Amen.**

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Officiant Let us pray,
All O 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 his redeeming work,
who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. Amen.

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Reader A reading from the Book of Acts (3:12-19)

¹²When Peter saw it, he addressed the people, ‘You Israelites, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we had made him walk? ¹³The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our ancestors has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you handed over and rejected in the presence of Pilate, though he had decided to release him. ¹⁴But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, ¹⁵and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. ¹⁶And by faith in his name, his name itself has made this man strong, whom you see and know; and the faith that is through Jesus has given him this perfect health in the presence of all of you.

¹⁷‘And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. ¹⁸In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer. ¹⁹Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out.

People The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Reader Psalm 4

¹ Answer me when I call, O God, defender of my cause; *
you set me free when I am hard-pressed; have mercy on me and hear my prayer.

² “You mortals, how long will you dishonour my glory; *
how long will you worship dumb idols and run after false gods?”

³ Know that the Lord does wonders for the faithful; *
when I call upon the Lord, he will hear me.

⁴ Tremble, then, and do not sin; *
speak to your heart in silence upon your bed.

⁵ Offer the appointed sacrifices *
and put your trust in the Lord.

⁶ Many are saying, “Oh, that we might see better times!” *
Lift up the light of your countenance upon us, O Lord.

⁷ You have put gladness in my heart, *
more than when grain and wine and oil increase.

⁸ I lie down in peace; at once I fall asleep; *
for only you, Lord, make me dwell in safety.

Reader The Holy Gospel according to Luke (24:36b-48)

³⁶ Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, 'Peace be with you.' ³⁷ They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. ³⁸ He said to them, 'Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? ³⁹ Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.' ⁴⁰ And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. ⁴¹ While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, 'Have you anything here to eat?' ⁴² They gave him a piece of broiled fish, ⁴³ and he took it and ate in their presence.

⁴⁴ Then he said to them, 'These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.'

⁴⁵ Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, ⁴⁶ and he said to them, 'Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, ⁴⁷ and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸ You are witnesses of these things.

People The word of the Lord.
 Thanks be to God.

SERMON

HYMN **445** **God the Creator**

1. God the Creator, you in love made me
 who once was nothing but now have grown.
 I bring the best of all my life offers;
 for you I share whatever I own.
2. O Christ the Saviour, you in love called me
 who once was no one lost and alone.
 I pledge to go wherever you summon,
 making your will and purpose my own.
3. O God the Spirit, you in love move me
 who once was nowhere and felt unknown.
 I know my need of you for companion:
 all things can change when not on my own.
4. And with the people summoned together
 to be the church in which faith is sown,
 I make my promise to live for Jesus
 and let the world know all are his own.

THE NICENE CREED

Celebrant Let us confess our faith, as we say,
All **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:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.
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.
With the Father and the Son
he is worshipped and glorified.
He 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 (*sitting or standing*)

Let us pray with confidence to the Lord, saying, "Lord, hear our prayer."

O Lord, guard and direct your Church in the way of unity, service, and praise.

Lord, hear our prayer.

We pray for Todd our Bishop; Marinez, Bishop of our Companion Diocese of Amazonia; Michael and Susan, Bishops of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada; Mark, National Indigenous Archbishop; Anne our Metropolitan; Linda our Primate; the whole order of Bishops; and all the clergy, including Megan our Archdeacon; and Margaret our Priest.

Lord, hear our prayer.

O Lord, grant wisdom to the leaders of the nations. We pray for Queen Elizabeth our Sovereign Lady; Justin our Prime Minister; Doug our Premier; Dave and Les our Mayors; and all Members of Parliament

and the Legislatures.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Give to all nations an awareness of the unity of the human family. We pray especially for nations experiencing war, violence, and famine including Ethiopia, Yemen, Syria, Venezuela, Iraq, Mali, and Afghanistan.

Lord, hear our prayer.

We pray for the people of St. Vincent, dealing with a volcanic eruption. Lord protect life and property.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Strengthen all who give their energy or skill for the healing of those who are sick in body or mind. We pray in thanksgiving for all healthcare workers who treat those with COVID-19. Continue to bless and protect them and their efforts.

Lord, hear our prayer.

We pray, O Lord, for an end to this pandemic, for the development of more treatments, and a fair and equitable distribution of vaccines.

Lord, hear our prayer.

We pray for the people of Brazil, experiencing an upsurge in COVID-19 cases and deaths. We pray especially for our Companion Diocese of Amazonia in this difficult time.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Lord, we thank you for the changing of the seasons and the beauty of the natural world. Teach us to use your creation for your greater praise, that all may share in the goods you provide.

Lord, hear our prayer.

We lift up in prayer any who are sick in mind, body, or spirit. Grant them your healing presence. Let us remember, in the silence of our hearts, those in our parishes, families, and neighbourhoods in need of your healing presence (*pause*).

Lord, hear our prayer.

Grant a peaceful end and eternal rest to all who are dying, and your comfort to those who mourn.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Faithful defender, do not let our hearts be troubled, but fill us with such confidence and joy that we may sleep in peace and rise in your light; through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

HYMN 599 Awake! Awake! Fling Off the Night

1. Awake! Awake! Fling off the night,
for God has sent his glorious light,
and we who live in Christ's new day
must works of darkness put away.
2. Awake and sing, with praises strong,
in psalm and hymn and spirit song.
Let love our words and works renew
with all that's good and right and true.
3. Let in the light; all sin expose
to Christ, whose life no darkness knows.
Before the cross expectant kneel,
that Christ may judge, and judging, heal.

4. Then rise as children of the light.
Be neither proud, nor hide from sight.
Be careful how you live, and wise
to sift the truth from cunning lies.
5. Through Christ give thanks to God, and say
to other sleepers on the way:
“Awake, and rise up from the dead
that Christ may shine on you instead!”

OFFERTORY

All **Yours, Lord, is the greatness,
the power, the glory, the splendour,
and the majesty;
for everything in heaven and on earth is yours.
All things come from you,
and of your own do we give you. Amen.**

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Officiant Accept, O Lord, our thanks and praise for all you have done for us. We thank you for the splendour of the whole creation, for the beauty of this world, for the wonder of life, and for the mystery of love. We thank you for the blessing of family and friends, and for the loving care which surrounds us on every side. We thank you for setting us tasks which demand our best efforts, and for leading us to accomplishments which satisfy and delight us. We thank you also for those disappointments and failures that lead us to acknowledge our dependence on you alone. Above all, we thank you for your Son Jesus Christ; for the truth of his word and the example of his life; for his steadfast obedience, by which he overcame temptation; for his dying, through which he overcame death; for his rising to life again, in which we are raised to the life of your kingdom. Grant us the gift of your Spirit, that we may know Christ and make him known; and through him, at all times and in all places, may give thanks to you in all things. **Amen.**

Officiant Almighty God,
All **you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common
supplications to you, and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that
when two or three are gathered together you will hear their requests. Fulfil now our
desires and petitions, as may be best for us, granting us in this world knowledge of
your truth, and in the age to come eternal life; for you, Father, are good and loving,
and we glorify you through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, in the Holy Spirit, now and
for ever. Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Celebrant As our Saviour taught us, let us pray,
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.
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.

THE DOXOLOGY

Officiant Glory to God,
All whose power, working in us,
can do infinitely more
than we can ask or imagine.
Glory to God from generation to generation,
in the Church and in Christ Jesus,
for ever and ever. Amen.

DISMISSAL

Leader Go forth and bear witness to Christ, who is gloriously risen from the dead, Alleluia!
People Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Questions for Reflection

When Jesus appeared to the disciples, “he opened their minds to understand the scriptures” (Luke 24:45). What is it to “understand” God’s word? How does understanding feed your faith? In the coming week, take note of one new understanding that comes to you from something you hear or read or realize through another person.

Household Prayer: Morning

God of surprising revelations, I thank you for rest and renewal. I thank you that when you come to your people, you speak peace and invite faith in you. Make this new day a time when I will give more thanks for life than I did yesterday. Give me ears to hear your will for me, hands that are open to others, and eyes to see the beauty in your world; in Jesus’ name. Amen.

Household Prayer: Evening

For all that has happened this day, O God, I give you thanks. Even for the obstacles I faced, I thank you. Especially when I wobbled in doubt, I thank you because I did not fall. You came to hold me strong and help me take the next step. Now give me rest, secure in your never-failing arms. Let my dreams revolve around what is pleasing and good, bringing me to a new day with zeal for your gifts; in Jesus’ name. Amen.

Words to all hymns from Common Praise (1998) except as noted.