



The SECOND SUNDAY of EASTER

11th April 2021

Alleluia! Christ is risen. He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Welcome to St Mary's on the Second Sunday of Easter. Our president and preacher today is Fr Mike, and our organist is John March.

For safety reasons, this service is live-streamed only, without a congregation in the church. To join us online, please go to: <https://bit.ly/StMarysKT>.

You can also join the service by phone on **020 8080 6591**. When prompted, key in the **Meeting ID: 981 5467 9178** and **Password: 254560**.

THE FIRST READING (Acts 4, verses 32–35)

Reader: Luci Sale

The whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

This is the word of The Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 133

Refrain:

**Mercy and truth are met together,
Righteousness and peace have kissed each other.**

Behold how good and pleasant it is
to dwell together in unity.

It is like the precious oil upon the head,
running down upon the beard,

Even on Aaron's beard,
running down upon the collar of his clothing.

It is like the dew of Hermon
running down upon the hills of Zion.

For there the Lord has promised his blessing:
even life for evermore.

**Mercy and truth are met together,
Righteousness and peace have kissed each other.**

THE EPISTLE (1 John 1.1 –2.1)

Reader: Becky Donoher

We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life—this life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it, and declare to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was revealed to us—we declare to you what we have seen and heard so that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. We are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.

This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

This is the word of The Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE GOSPEL (John 20, verses 19–31)

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

It was evening on the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.' When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.'

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, 'We have seen the Lord.' But he said to them, 'Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.'

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' Then he said to Thomas, 'Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.' Thomas answered him, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him, 'Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.'

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

This is the Gospel of The Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

The **HOMILY**, by Fr Mike Fudger

The **INTERCESSIONS**, led by Margaret Green

The **LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT**

THIS WEEK'S SERVICES AND EVENTS

We are happy and thankful to announce that the Big Issue sales for our homeless vendors recommence tomorrow, Monday, 12th April, and that we will be returning to public worship from next Sunday, 18th April. Our weekday services continue as normal.

We continue to hold in our hearts the sick, the dead and the bereaved and all who have cared for them and us during this hardest of years. We look forward with hope to a renewal of our shared life as a community bound together by love, grief and gratitude.

MONDAY, 8 am – 1pm: Big Issue sales; visitors welcome from 10 am.

MONDAY, 9.30 am: Morning Prayer (BCP).

MONDAY, 10 am – 1 pm: Church open for individual prayer.

MONDAY, 2 pm: AA Meeting (Hall).

TUESDAY, 6.30 pm: Evening Prayer.

WEDNESDAY, 8.30 am: Morning Prayer.

WEDNESDAY, 10 am – 1 pm: Big Issue sales; visitors welcome from 10am.

WEDNESDAY, 12.30 pm: Midweek Eucharist with Fr Andrew.

WEDNESDAY, 2.30 pm: Brighton Women's Centre Foodbank (Hall).

THURSDAY, 2 pm: AA Meeting (Hall).

FRIDAY, 9.30 am: Morning Prayer.

FRIDAY, 10 am – 1pm: Big Issue sales; visitors welcome from 10 am.

SATURDAY, 10.45 am: AA Newcomers (Hall).

SUNDAY, 10 am: Said Eucharist for the THIRD SUNDAY of EASTER.

SUNDAY, 11.30 am – 12.30 pm: Church open for individual prayer.

NEW ACCESSIBLE TOILET

We're pleased to announce that we have completed the build of our new accessible toilet in the church hall, which now includes a shower, sensor-operated taps, and lovely bright walls and floor. It's a very big improvement on the dingy old facility and we're most grateful to the grant funders who have made it possible: The Postcode Neighbourhood Trust, Sussex Crisis Fund, Bernard Sunley Foundation and Argus Appeal. Thank you, too, to Phil for overseeing the build.

ART & INSPIRATION – Monday, 10 May, 2.15pm

A date for your diary: Art & Inspiration will be returning on Monday, 10 May. We'll post details of the sessions closer to the time. We'll still be meeting online via Zoom for a while yet; to join us please go to: bit.ly/StMarysKTArtInspiration

Enquiries about life ceremonies, confessions and counselling may be made to the Vicar, **Fr Andrew Woodward**, by phone: 01273 698601 or email: ruraldeanbrighton@gmail.com.

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