



The THIRD SUNDAY of EASTER

18th April 2021

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

Welcome to St Mary's on the Third Sunday of Easter. Our president and preacher today is Fr Andrew, and our organist is Andrew Beazley.

If you are attending the service in person, please sign in on arrival and observe Covid-precautions. Please also wait for directions to go up for communion, which we will be receiving in one kind only.

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 3, verses 12–19)

Reader: Becky Donoher

Peter 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? The 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. But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. And 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.

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

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

PSALM 4

Refrain:

In peace I will lie down and sleep.

Answer me when I call, O God of my righteousness;
you set me at liberty when I was in trouble;
have mercy on me and hear my prayer.

How long will you nobles dishonour my glory;
how long will you love vain things and seek after falsehood?

But know that the Lord has shown me his marvellous kindness;
when I call upon the Lord, he will hear me.

Stand in awe, and sin not;
commune with your own heart upon your bed, and be still.

In peace I will lie down and sleep.

Offer the sacrifices of righteousness
and put your trust in the Lord.

There are many that say, 'Who will show us any good?'
Lord, lift up the light of your countenance upon us.

You have put gladness in my heart,
more than when their corn and wine and oil increase.

In peace I will lie down and sleep,
for it is you Lord, only, who make me dwell in safety.

In peace I will lie down and sleep.

THE EPISTLE (1 John 3.1 –7)

Reader: Diz Sutherland

See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him. Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

This is the word of The Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE GOSPEL (Luke 24, verses 36b–48)

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

While the eleven and their companions were talking about what they had heard, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, ‘Peace be with you.’ They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. He said to them, ‘Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? 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.’ And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, ‘Have you anything here to eat?’ They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took it and ate in their presence.

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.’ Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, 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, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things.’

This is the Gospel of The Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

The **HOMILY**, by **Fr Andrew Woodward**

The **INTERCESSIONS**, led by **Michael Folkard**

The **LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT**

THIS WEEK'S SERVICES AND EVENTS

MONDAY, 8 am – 1 pm: Big Issue sales; visitors welcome from 9.30 am.

MONDAY, 9.30 am: Morning Prayer (BCP).

MONDAY, 2 pm: AA Meeting (Hall).

TUESDAY, 6.30 pm: Evening Prayer.

WEDNESDAY, 9.30 am – 1 pm: Big Issue sales and visitors welcome.

WEDNESDAY, 9.30 am: Morning Prayer.

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 – 1 pm: Big Issue sales and visitors welcome.

FRIDAY, 9.30 am: Morning Prayer.

SATURDAY, 10 am – 12 noon: Church open for individual prayer.

SATURDAY, 10.45 am: AA Newcomers (Hall).

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

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

KEITH LOWDEN (1950–2021)

The funeral for our late friend, Keith Lowden, a lively contributor to the Art and Inspiration Group and valued member of the St Mary's finance team, will be held at Eastbourne Crematorium on Thursday, 29 April at 1pm. Numbers attending are of course limited, but the service will be live-streamed to allow friends to attend virtually.

Keith's family have kindly suggested that donations in his memory be made to St Mary's, in recognition of the happiness he found in our community. If you would like to donate, there is a Just Giving page here: <http://bit.ly/RememberingKeith> or a cheque made out to 'St Mary's Church, Kemp Town' can be sent c/o Philip Evans Funeral services, 172 Old Shoreham Rd, Southwick, Brighton BN42 4HU.

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 big improvement on the dingy old facility and we're very 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.

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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