



# 19<sup>th</sup> April 2020

**Easter 2, Year A**  
**9am Traditional worship**  
*(Guest Pastor: Ps. Richard Haar)*

*Note:*

*If you are facing trouble with seeing the service order and YouTube link at the same time for the hymns, please refer to your Hymn Book (should you have one at home) as one of the YouTube links does not have the words to the hymn in it.*

*It is the hymn just before the sermon:*

- LH 95 “He is risen”

**HYMN: LHS761 “Christ is Alive”**

<https://youtu.be/5SnNXwPYPtM>

**Christ is alive! Let Christians sing.  
His cross stands empty to the sky.  
Let streets and homes with praises ring.  
His love in death shall never die.**

**Christ is alive! No longer bound  
to distant years in Palestine,  
he comes to claim the here and now  
and conquer every place and time.**

**Not throned above, remotely high,  
untouched, unmoved by human pains,  
but daily, in the midst of life,  
our Saviour with the Father reigns.**

**In every insult, rift, and war,  
where colour, scorn, or wealth divide,  
he suffers still, yet loves the more,  
and lives, though ever crucified.**

**Christ is alive! His spirit burns  
through this and every future age,  
till all creation lives and learns  
his joy, his justice, love and praise.**

*Words: Brian A Wren 1936—  
Music: T Williams Psalmodia Evangelica 1789  
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**WELCOME**

**WE GREET ONE ANOTHER**

**IN THE NAME**

In the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

## **CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

Dear friends in Christ:

Let us draw near to God our Father with a true heart to confess our sins, and ask him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to forgive us.

Our help is in the name of the Lord.

**He made heaven and earth.**

I said, I will confess my sins to the Lord.

**Then he forgave the guilt of my sin.**

**Almighty God, merciful Father,  
I, a poor helpless sinner,  
confess to you all my sins,  
and repent of all the evil I have done.  
I have deeply displeased you  
and deserve your punishment  
in time and in eternity.**

**But I am sorry for my sins,  
and I ask you,  
for the sake of the holy innocent sufferings and death  
of your dear Son Jesus Christ,  
to be gracious and merciful to me. Amen.**

I ask each of you in the presence of God who searches the heart:  
Do you confess that you have sinned, and do you repent of your sins?

**I do.**

Do you believe that Jesus Christ has redeemed you from all your sins, and do you desire forgiveness in his name?

**I do.**

Do you intend with the help of the Holy Spirit to live as in God's presence, and to strive daily to lead a holy life, even as Christ has made you holy?

**I do.**

Christ gave to his church the authority to forgive the sins of those who repent and believe. Therefore, upon your confession, I, as a called and ordained servant of the word, announce the grace of God to all of you, and on behalf of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins, in the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.

Peace be with you.

**Amen.**

## **GLORY TO THE FATHER**

**Glory to the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.**

**As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forevermore. Amen**

## **LORD, HAVE MERCY**

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Christ, have mercy

**Christ, have mercy.**

Lord, have mercy

**Lord, have mercy.**

## **GLORY TO GOD IN THE HIGHEST**

Glory to God in the highest,

**and on earth peace, among those with whom he is pleased.**

**We praise you, we bless you,**

**we worship you, we glorify you,**

**we give thanks to you for your great glory,**

**O Lord God, heavenly king,**

**God, the Father almighty.**

**O Lord, the only begotten Son, Jesus Christ,**

**O Lord God, Lamb of God,**

**Son of the Father,**

**you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.**

**You take away the sin of the world; receive our prayer.**

**You are seated at the right hand of God the Father;**

**have mercy on us.**

**For you alone are holy,**

**you alone are Lord,**

**you alone, O Christ, with the Holy Spirit,**

**are most high in the glory of God the Father.**

**Amen.**

## LITURGY OF THE WORD

### GREETING

The Lord be with you.  
And also with you.

### PRAYER OF THE DAY (all)

Merciful God,  
your Son Jesus Christ  
is the resurrection and the life,  
who gives hope and joy  
to those who doubt.  
Give to us who do not see you  
faith and life and blessing,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
who lives and reigns  
with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and forever. Amen.

**THEME OF THE DAY:** “Believing Thomas”  
based on John 20:24 – 31

### BIBLE READINGS

**FIRST READING** Acts 2:14a, 22 – 32  
**SECOND READING** 1 Peter 1:3 – 9

*After the reading*

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

### The HALLELUJAH

**Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!**

### GOSPEL

The Holy Gospel is written in [John 20:19 – 31](#)  
**Glory be to you, O Lord**

(after the reading)

This is the Gospel of the Lord  
**Praise be to you, O Christ**

**CHILDRENS MESSAGE:**

**Kids' Talk with Colin (Episode 2)  
– “God is in Control”**

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jqrPAUW\\_iyw](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jqrPAUW_iyw)

**NICENE CREED**

**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,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary  
and became truly human.**

**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 and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified,  
who 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.**

**SONG: LH 95 “He is risen”**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SZ5ze13sM4I&feature=youtu.be>

**He is risen, He is risen!  
Tell it with a joyful voice;  
He has burst His three days' prison,  
Let the whole wide world rejoice.  
Death is conquered, man is free,  
Christ has won the victory.**

**Come with high and holy gladness,  
Chant our Lord's triumphant lay;  
Not one touch of twilight sadness  
Dims His resurrection day;  
Brightly dawns the radiant east,  
Brighter far our Easter feast.**

**He is risen, He is risen!  
He has opened heaven's gate;  
We are free from sin's dark prison,  
Risen to a holier state;  
Soon a brighter Easter beam  
On our longing eyes shall stream.**

*Words: Cecil Frances Alexander (1823-1895)*

*Music: J Neander 1650-1680*

**MESSAGE**

**“Believing Thomas”  
based on John 20:24 – 31  
Sermon available on [YouTube](https://youtu.be/QeFs8elcJ_k)  
[https://youtu.be/QeFs8elcJ\\_k](https://youtu.be/QeFs8elcJ_k)**

**HYMN: LH770 “Yours is the glory”**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RbBOOmKMLmI>

**Yours is the glory, risen, conquering Son,  
endless is the victory over death you won;  
angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away,  
kept the folded grave-clothes where your body lay:**

***Yours is the glory, risen, conquering Son,  
endless is the victory over death you won.***

**See, Jesus meets us, risen from the tomb;  
lovingly he greets us, scatters fear and gloom;  
let the Church with gladness hymns of triumph sing,  
for her Lord is living, death has lost its sting:**

**No more we doubt you, glorious Prince of life;  
life is nought without you: aid us in our strife.  
Make us more than conquerors through your deathless love;  
bring us safe through Jordan to your home above:**

*Words: Edmond Louis Budry 1854-1932  
Music: George Frederick Handel 1685-1759 (1746)*

## **OFFERTORY SONG**

**Create in me a clean heart, O God,  
and put a new and right spirit within me.  
Cast me not away from your presence,  
and take not your Holy Spirit from me.  
Restore to me the joy of your salvation,  
and uphold me with a willing spirit.**

## **PRAYER OF GOD'S PEOPLE** (*Prayer leader Lois Kupke*)

*Listen to the prayers on YouTube (<https://youtu.be/t4CCC8TSbwY>)*

Almighty God has given us the privilege of coming to Him in prayer, with Jesus as our go-between. So, let's come to God in the name of Jesus, to pray for all we need.

God and Lord, **fill us with your Spirit of life.**

Dear heavenly Father, in these times of physical distancing, our church family can't meet as usual, and yet, we can gather through the Holy Spirit - still one family, though in many places. We're comforted that *You* know where each person is, and *You* know each of our situations. We bring before *You* those Christian brothers and sisters who can *never* gather together for public worship, because of persecution in their countries. We pray *Your* strength for persecuted believers; keep them *firm* in their faith, and enable them to show *compassion* and *hope* in this current crisis.

Dear Father, in these *uncertain* times, we thank *You* that we can always rely on the *certainty* of *Your* character. *Your* word says that *You* are the same yesterday, today and forever. So, we know that *You* are still the powerful God who raised Jesus from death at Easter. *You* are still able to heal the sick. *You* keep *Your* promises. *You* are merciful, loving, gracious and forgiving. We *praise* *You* for all these qualities, and we humble ourselves before *You*. We thank *You* that we can put our lives safely into *Your* hands, for there is nothing that can separate us from *Your* love.

Dear heavenly Father, the rhythms of our daily lives have been changed, but may *our* hearts beat to the same rhythm as *Yours*. May we use the extra time available, to spend more of it with You, singing or listening to music that praises You, and getting to know You better through Your word. Teach us, by Your Spirit, to fill our lives with the most important matters. We are Easter people, so help us to live as people who have heard Jesus say, 'Peace be with you'. And dear Father, we know You want *all* people to be saved. So, we bring before You those who have not yet heard about Your love, and who don't know they can trust You with their lives. May they encounter a true Christian message, maybe online, or in a conversation with a Christian person.

Almighty God, have mercy on our whole world, enduring so much because of COVID-19. We pray You strengthen the elderly and vulnerable. We ask Your healing for those suffering the disease. We pray Your comfort for those whose loved ones have died. Protect and support all health workers. Thank you for researchers working on a vaccine; give them insight. We remember refugees in such unsafe situations, and those serving them. Sustain all workers and business owners who have lost their livelihood. Please guide the leaders of nations, to speak the truth, and act with wisdom and justice for their people. We pray for families; help parents and children to co-operate well at home, and to enjoy each other's company. And where there are tensions between couples, we pray that You help people to resolve their issues peacefully, to avoid violence.

Dear Father, help us to be good witnesses for You - obeying rightful authorities, and not finding fault with them; expressing hope and not fear; passing on Your love wherever we have opportunity.

God and Lord, **fill us with your Spirit of life.**

### *Concluding prayer*

God of life, show us the risen Lord through Your life-giving Spirit, so that we may be empowered to live as Your people.

Almighty God - Father, Son and Holy Spirit - You deserve all our praise, now and forever. **Amen.**

**LORD'S PRAYER. (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.**

**Lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours  
now and forever. Amen.**

**BLESSING**

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favour,† and give you peace.

**Amen. Amen. Amen.**

**HYMN: LH164 "Love Divine"**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jPsxqQsnzJA>

**Love divine, all loves excelling,  
Joy of heaven, to earth come down,  
Fix in us Thy humble dwelling,  
All Thy faithful mercies crown,  
Jesus, Thou art all compassion,  
Pure unbounded love Thou art;  
Visit us with Thy salvation,  
Enter every trembling heart.**

**Come, almighty to deliver,  
Let us all Thy grace receive;  
Suddenly return, and never,  
Never more Thy temples leave.  
Thee we would be always blessing,  
Serve Thee as Thy hosts above;  
Pray, and praise Thee, without ceasing,  
Glory in Thy perfect love.**

**Finish then Thy new creation,  
Pure and spotless let us be;  
Let us see Thy great salvation,  
Perfectly restored in Thee;  
Changed from glory into glory,  
Till in heaven we take our place,  
Till we cast our crowns before Thee,  
Lost in wonder, love and praise.**

*Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788)  
Music: R H Prichard 1811-1887 (1855)*