



SERVICE ORDER
Sunday, 7 April 2024
Second Sunday of Easter



WELCOME TO WORSHIP

**Almighty God,
we have celebrated the festival
of our Lord's resurrection.
Lead us, by your goodness,
to bear its fruits in our lives.
We ask this through your Son,
Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns
with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever.
Amen.**

OPENING SENTENCES

*If we are disciples in hiding, locked in a room of fear,
Lord Jesus, appear to us.
If we are like Thomas, full of doubt,
Lord Jesus, turn to us.
If we bear trials and suffering,
God, come to us in power.
As we rejoice in the resurrection of Jesus,
God, make our joy complete in your presence.*

INVOCATION

(Sung)

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

Amen.

CROWN HIM WITH MANY CROWNS

**Crown Him with many crowns, the lamb upon the throne:
Hark how the heavenly anthem drowns
all music but its own: awake my soul and sing
of Him who died for me, and hail Him as thy matchless king
through all eternity.**

**Crown Him the Lord of life, who triumphed o'er the grave,
and rose victorious in the strife for those He came to save:
His glories now we sing who died and rose on high,
who died eternal life to bring, and lives that death may die.**

**Crown him the Lord of peace, behold His hands and side:
those wounds yet visible above in beauty glorified.
No angel in the sky can fully bear that sight,
but downward went His burning eye at mysteries so bright.**

**Crown Him the Lord of peace whose power a sceptre sways;
from pole to pole that wars may cease and all be prayer and praise.
His reign shall know no end, and round His pierced feet
fair flowers of paradise extend, their fragrance ever sweet.**

**Crown Him the Lord of years, the potentate of time,
Creator of the rolling sphere ineffably sublime.
All hail Redeemer, hail, for Thou has died for me;
Thy praise shall never, never fail throughout eternity.**

**Godfrey Thring / George Elvey / Matthew Bridges
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CONFESSION OF SINS

*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.*

**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.**

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy on us, and has given His only Son to die for us, and for His sake forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in His name He has given the right to become children of God, and has given them His Holy Spirit. Whoever believes and is baptised will be saved. Grant this, Lord, to us all. Amen.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

LORD HAVE MERCY

(Sung)

*Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.*

SONG OF ADORATION – Pg6

***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.***

(sung)

*The Lord be with you.
And also with you.*

Let us pray.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

**Gracious God, your Son Jesus Christ is the resurrection and the life.
Help us to live in him and he in us, becoming agents of peace
and forgiveness in our homes and community.
Replace our doubts with faith, and our fears with joy.
Amen.**

PSALM 133

*¹ How good and pleasant it is
when God's people live together in unity!*
*² It is like precious oil poured on the head,
running down on the beard,
running down on Aaron's beard,
down on the collar of his robe.*
*³ It is as if the dew of Hermon
were falling on Mount Zion.*
*For there the LORD bestows his blessing,
even life for evermore.*

**Glory to the Father and the Son
and the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning, is now,
and will be forever.
Amen.**

BIBLE READING

FIRST READING: Acts 4:32-35 The believers share their possessions

³²All the believers were one in heart and mind. No one claimed that any of their possessions was their own, but they shared everything they had. ³³With great power the apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus. And God's grace was so powerfully at work in them all ³⁴that there was no needy person among them. For from time to time those who owned land or houses sold them, brought the money

from the sales ³⁵ and put it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to anyone who had need.

After the reading
This is the Word of the LORD.
Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING: 1 John 1:1 - 2:2 We have life and light through Jesus

1 That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked at and our hands have touched – this we proclaim concerning the Word of life. **2** The life appeared; we have seen it and testify to it, and we proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and has appeared to us. **3** We proclaim to you what we have seen and heard, so that you also may have fellowship with us. And our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son, Jesus Christ. **4** We write this to make our joy complete. **5** This is the message we have heard from him and declare to you: God is light; in him there is no darkness at all. **6** If we claim to have fellowship with him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live out the truth. **7** But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin. **8** If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. **9** If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. **10** If we claim we have not sinned, we make him out to be a liar and his word is not in us. **2** My dear children, I write this to you so that you will not sin. But if anybody does sin, we have an advocate with the Father – Jesus Christ, the Righteous One. **2** He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world.

After the reading
This is the Word of the LORD.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL: John 20:19-31 Thomas sees the risen Christ and believes

Before the reading
Glory be to You, O LORD.

19 On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jewish leaders, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you!' **20** After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord. **21** Again Jesus said, 'Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you.' **22** And with that he breathed on

them and said, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³ If you forgive anyone's sins, their sins are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven.' ²⁴ Now Thomas (also known as Didymus), one of the Twelve, was not with the disciples when Jesus came. ²⁵ So the other disciples told him, 'We have seen the Lord!' But he said to them, 'Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe.'²⁶ A week later his disciples were in the house again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you!' ²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, 'Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe.'²⁸ Thomas said to him, 'My Lord and my God!' ²⁹ Then Jesus told him, 'Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.'³⁰ Jesus performed many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. ³¹ But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

After the reading
This is the gospel of the LORD.
Praise be to You, O Christ.

YOURS IS THE GLORY

**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:**

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

**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:**

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

Edmond Louis Budry 1854-1932 Tr. Richard Birch Hoyle 1875-1939, alt.
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MESSAGE

At this point you may wish to watch the Sermon.
For Church YouTube Channel ([click here](#))
For LCA Worship Resources ([click here](#))

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 christian 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.**

IN YOUR HAND, MY SAVIOUR

In your hand, my Saviour there's a home for me.
It's the safest place on earth to be. There you make me welcome,
give me a new start, for your peace has healed my wounded heart

When I'm near my Saviour, he gives joy to me.
God alone, he is my sword and shield When I'm near my Saviour,
he gives peace to me. God shines on each flower in his field.

In your hand, my Saviour, joyful I can be,
for you offer precious gifts to me: mercy and forgiveness,
even though I stray, Life is now worth living, come what may.

In your hand, my Saviour I can freely cry,
speak my fears, and ask my questions why.
Viciousness and evil, nailed me to a tree.
'Pardon' cries your cross, and sets me free.

In your hand, my Saviour, finally I rest,
where my life has been so richly blessed.
By your hand you bring me, to a future bright,
filled with endless peace and joy and light.

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OFFERING PRAYER

Lord Jesus, thank you for embracing your own death so that we may have new, resurrection life. Help us to live out the new life that is ours each day, giving and serving in response to your great kindness to us. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

The Lord calls us to draw close and examine the wounded hands and feet of the Risen One and to know the depth of his love for us. Let us therefore approach the throne of God in confidence as we pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

Lord our Father, as Jesus entered the locked room to show his disciples the beginning of a new world, so enter our hearts and move us to faith in Jesus as the Risen One. Convince us of the reality and significance of the resurrection, and free us from all manner of fears and phobias. Give us courage in the face of death, knowing that this is the gateway to new resurrected life for those who trust in Christ.

*Lord, in your mercy... **hear our prayer.***

Be with your church throughout the world so that its preaching and works of love may continue to testify to our Lord's resurrection. Wherever your church is faithless and lacking in courage to do the work that Jesus has given, visit it and build it up with your Spirit. Be with all our pastors so that they may listen well and then speak with Christ's authority.

*Lord, in your mercy... **hear our prayer.***

Bring peace to all parts of the earth. Wherever nations are at war and people are divided, visit and bring true reconciliation. Especially protect all Christian people in these nations, and help them to influence their country for the good of all.

*Lord, in your mercy... **hear our prayer.***

Wherever homes are disrupted by anger and bitterness, and wherever relationships are distorted and dulled, visit and bring peace and harmony. Wherever young people are gathered in your name, visit and guide them with your holy word and wisdom.

*Lord, in your mercy... **hear our prayer.***

Visit and comfort the sick and suffering too, dear Lord. Heal and strengthen weak bodies, calm and comfort troubled minds. We pray for those we know with particular needs including (*insert names*). Support them all with your great love and mercy, and be with those others known to us and whom we now name in our hearts...

*Lord, in your mercy... **hear our prayer.***

Heavenly Father, we present these prayers through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is risen from the dead, and who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

(sung)

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.

HE WILL HOLD ME FAST

When I fear my faith will fail Christ will hold me fast
When the tempter would prevail He will hold me fast
I could never keep my hold Through life's fearful path
For my love is often cold He must hold me fast

He will hold me fast He will hold me fast
For my Savior loves me so He will hold me fast

Those He saves are His delight Christ will hold me fast
Precious in His holy sight He will hold me fast
He'll not let my soul be lost His Promises shall last
Bought by Him at such a cost He will hold me fast

He will hold me fast He will hold me fast
For my Savior loves me so He will hold me fast

For my life He bled and died Christ will hold me fast
Justice has been satisfied He will hold me fast
Raised with Him to endless life He will hold me fast
Till our faith is turned to sight When He comes at last

**He will hold me fast He will hold me fast
For my Savior loves me so He will hold me fast**

Ada Ruth Habershon, Matthew Merker
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HYMNS & SONGS

First reading: Acts 4 : 32-35

LHS

502 This is the day the Lord hath made
519 While yet the morn is breaking
761 Christ is alive! Let Christians sing

AT

479 For living, for dying

TIS

104 While morning still is breaking
368 This the day the Lord has made
387 Christ is alive

773 Filled with the Spirit's power
842 Praise the Lord, rise up rejoicing
844 Sent out by God's blessing

Second reading: 1 John 1:1 - 2:2

LHS

103 I know that my Redeemer lives
168 O blessed Sun, whose splendour
291 Thy table I approach
358 Renew me, O eternal Light
378 Fill Thou my life, O Lord my God

AT

126 The light of Christ
217 Lord, the light of your love is
shining
244 We have seen the Word of Life

TIS

212 Christ, whose glory fills the skies
305 Let earth and heaven combine
376 I know that my Redeemer lives
408 O breath of God, breathe on us
now
548 Eternal light, shine in my heart

396 Lead Thou me on, Thou kindly,
heavenly Light
505 Father, who the light this day
528 Christ, whose glory fills the skies
760 All shall be well!

275 In our darkness
307 Walking in the light
490 When human voices cannot sing

596 Fill my whole life, O Lord my God
624 Christ, be my leader by night as by
day
643 I want to walk as a child of the light
675 Lord, the light of your love is
shining

Gospel: John 20: 19-31

LHS

76 Gathered here, O gracious Lord and
Saviour
99 Welcome, Thou Victor in the strife
113 Crown Him with many crowns
128 O Spirit of life, O Spirit of God
131 Holy Ghost, with light divine

AT

148 Born for resurrection
150 Sing a new song
235 In your hand, my Saviour
240 My peace I give

TIS

210 O for a thousand tongues to sing
212 Christ, whose glory fills the skies
228 Crown him with many crowns
360 Part 2. That Eastertide with joy was
bright
363 My daughters and my sons, hear
tell (vv 1,6-8)
380 Yours be the glory
388 Easter glory fills the skies (vv
1,6,7,8)

513 Peace to soothe all grief and woe
528 Christ, whose glory fills the skies
765 O sons and daughters, let us sing
770 Yours is the glory
803 Peace with the Father

305 Thuma mina
343 Jesus, come and stand among us
406 Peace

401 O Spirit of life, O Spirit of God
466 Peace with the Father
605 I am alone, yet not alone
623 Lord Christ, true peace of all above
635 'Forgive our sins as we forgive'
649 These things did Thomas count as
real
749 Thuma mina