



Sunday Service

Sunday 19th April 2020

Opening Prayer

Risen Christ, for whom no door is locked, no entrance barred:
open the doors of our hearts,
that we may seek the good of others and walk the joyful road of sacrifice and peace,
to the praise of God the Father. Amen.

Easter Greeting

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

Bible reading

Now Thomas (called Didymus), one of the Twelve, was not with the disciples when Jesus came. 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 it." 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!" 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." Thomas said to him, "My Lord and my God!" Then Jesus told him, "Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed." Jesus did many other miraculous signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

John 20 : 24 - 31

Reflection

- Do we always trust what our friends say? Thomas didn't.
- Can we admit when we are wrong? Thomas did.
- We can trust Jesus because of who He is and what He has done. Therefore, we should have confidence to believe His promises even if we feel unsure.
- Why did John record this account of Thomas' doubt in his Gospel?
- There are consequences of trusting Jesus which last for ever.

A prayer for all those affected by coronavirus

Keep us good Lord, under the shadow of your mercy.
Sustain and support the anxious, be with all those who care for the sick,
and lift up all who are brought low;
that we may find comfort knowing nothing can separate us from your love in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

Final prayer

God of life, who for us gave your only Son to die on the Cross,
and by his glorious resurrection has delivered us from the power of death:
grant us so to die daily to sin, that we may evermore live in the joy of his risen life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Blessing

And now, may God, who through the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ has given us the victory,
give us joy and peace this Easter time.
And the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit be with us now and evermore. Amen.

Final words

Live in the peace of Christ our risen Lord. Alleluia, Alleluia.
Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.