

BRENTOR CHURCH

3rd May 2020

Fourth Sunday of Easter Holy Communion

Led by the Very Reverend Christopher Hardwick
and Mrs Liz Bastin



We warmly welcome everyone
joining our service

Introduction

In the name of the Father, and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you
And also with you.

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

Almighty God,
to whom all hearts are open,
all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hidden:
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your holy name;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Confession

Jesus Christ, risen Master and triumphant Lord,
we come to you in sorrow for our sins,
and confess to you our weakness and unbelief.

Like Mary at the empty tomb,
we sometimes fail to grasp the wonder of your presence.
Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Like the disciples behind locked doors,
we are sometimes afraid to be seen as your followers
Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Like Thomas in the upper room, we are sometimes slow to believe.
Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

May the God of love and power forgive you and free you from your sins,
heal and strengthen you by his Spirit,
and raise you to new life in Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Collect

Almighty God,
whose Son Jesus Christ is the resurrection and the life:
raise us, who trust in him,
from the death of sin to the life of righteousness,
that we may seek those things which are above,
where he reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

First Reading- Acts 2:42-end

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

Psalm 23

- 1 The Lord is my shepherd; •
therefore can I lack nothing.
- 2 He makes me lie down in green pastures •
and leads me beside still waters.
- 3 He shall refresh my soul •
and guide me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.
- 4 Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil; •
**for you are with me;
your rod and your staff, they comfort me.**
- 5 You spread a table before me
in the presence of those who trouble me; •
**you have anointed my head with oil
and my cup shall be full.**
- 6 Surely goodness and loving mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life, •
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

Second Reading- 1 Peter 2:19-end

For it is to your credit if, being aware of God, you endure pain while suffering unjustly. If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, where is the credit in that? But if you endure when you do right and suffer for it, you have God's approval. For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps.

'He committed no sin,
and no deceit was found in his mouth.'

When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten; but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly. He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

Gospel Reading- John 10:1-10

'Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.' Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them. So again Jesus said to them, 'Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.'

Sermon– Mrs Liz Bastin

Creed

Let us declare our faith
in the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures;
he was buried; he was raised to life on the third day
in accordance with the Scriptures;
afterwards he appeared to his followers, and to all the apostles:
this we have received, and this we believe. Amen.** (*1 Corinthians 15.3-7*)

Prayers of Intercession

Jesus, Lord of life, in your mercy: **Hear our prayer**

Merciful Father:
**accept these prayers
for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ.
Amen.**

The Peace

The risen Christ came and stood among his disciples
and said, 'Peace be with you.'
Then were they glad when they saw the Lord.

The peace of the Lord be always with you:
and also with you.

Preparation of the Table

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation.
In your loving care you spread before us the table of life
and give us the cup of salvation to drink.
Keep us always in the fold of our Saviour and our Shepherd,
your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.
Blessed be God for ever

The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord is here:
His Spirit is with us.

Lift up your hearts:
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God:
It is right to give thanks and praise.

It is indeed right,
our duty and our joy,
always and everywhere to give you thanks,
almighty and eternal Father,
and in these days of Easter
to celebrate with joyful hearts
the memory of your wonderful works.
For by the mystery of his passion
Jesus Christ, your risen Son,
has conquered the powers of death and hell
and restored in men and women
the image of your glory.
He has placed them, once more in paradise
and opened to them
the gate of life eternal.
And so, in the joy of this Passover,
earth and heaven resound with gladness,
while angels and archangels
and the powers of all creation
sing for ever, the hymn of your glory:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness;
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit,
and according to your holy will,
these gifts of bread and wine
may be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ;
who, in the same night that he was betrayed,
took bread and gave you thanks;
he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:

Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
Do this in remembrance of me.
In the same way, after supper
he took the cup and gave you thanks;
he gave it to them, saying:

Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant,
which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

**Lord, by your cross and resurrection you have set us free.
You are the Saviour of the world.**

And so, Father, calling to mind his death on the cross,
his perfect sacrifice made once for the sins of the whole world;
rejoicing in his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension,
and looking for his coming in glory,
we celebrate this memorial of our redemption.
we bring before you this bread and this cup
and we thank you for counting us worthy to stand in your presence
and serve you.

Send the Holy Spirit on your people
and gather into one in your kingdom
all who share this one bread and one cup,
so that we, in the company of all the saints,
may praise and glorify you for ever,
through Jesus Christ our Lord;
by whom, and with whom, and in whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory be yours,
almighty Father, for ever and ever.
Amen.

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done;
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever.
Amen.**

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.
**Though we are many,
we are one body,
because we all share in one bread.**

Jesus is the Lamb of God
who takes away the sin of the world.
Blessed are those who are called to his supper.
**Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,
but only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

Giving of Bread and Wine

Post Communion Prayers

Risen Christ,
faithful shepherd of your Father's sheep:
teach us to hear your voice
and to follow your command,
that all your people may be gathered into one flock,
to the glory of God the Father.
Amen.

**Father of all,
we give you thanks and praise,
that when we were still far off
you met us in your Son and brought us home.
Dying and living, he declared your love,
gave us grace, and opened the gate of glory.
May we who share Christ's body live his risen life;
we who drink his cup bring life to others;
we whom the Spirit lights give light to the world.
Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us,
so we and all your children shall be free,
and the whole earth live to praise your name;
through Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

Blessing

God the Father,
by whose love Christ was raised from the dead,
open to you who believe the gates of everlasting life.
Amen.

God the Son,
who in bursting from the grave has won a glorious victory,
give you joy as you share the Easter faith.
Amen.

God the Holy Spirit,
who filled the disciples with the life of the risen Lord,
empower you and fill you with Christ's peace.
Amen.

And the blessing of God Almighty,
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit
be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Go in the peace of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.
Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

Donations to support the upkeep of the building and the work of the church are welcome. If you would like to make a regular donation, please see either David or Helen about the parish giving scheme



Please pray for all who are ill or anxious at home or in hospital, and those who have asked for our prayers: Mick, Dorothy, Frankie and Sally, Chris Vigers, Nick & Julie, Dave & Wendy, Heather & John, Sally and Jimmy Hubbard, and Mark and Kelly and family.

Please pray for the souls of the recently departed, their family and friends.

Your prayers this week are asked for:

- Mon** Our thoughts for those who are away from family and friends.
- Tues** Continuing prayers for the NHS workers and key workers especially those who have lost their lives on the frontline and their families.
- Wed** Those who need more support: where they are struggling with being alone.
- Thurs** Thanks for all those showing their respect for the key workers every Thursday evening.
- Fri** Hopes for the future as some countries begin to emerge from lockdown.
- Sat** Prayers for those whom you call to serve our Church.

Next week- 9:45am Prayer and Praise with Mrs Wendy Roderick.