

BRENTOR CHURCH

11th April 2021
2nd Sunday of
Easter

Prayer and Praise

Led by Sally Pancheri



We warmly welcome everyone
joining our service

Welcome

We begin by remembering HRH the Duke of Edinburgh

God of our lives,
we give thanks for the life of Prince Philip,
for his love of our country,
and for his devotion to duty.
We entrust him now to your love and
mercy, through our Redeemer Jesus Christ.
Amen.



This week we explore how we come to believe.

Opening prayer

We come from a world confused about truth.
We come with our own uncertainties.
Let us bring the darkness of human understanding
into the presence of God, who is light.
Let us bring the story of our search for truth
and share in fellowship the things we have heard and seen and touched.
Amen.

A gathering prayer

God, whose light shines in the darkness,
shine on us today.

**God, made known to those who met Jesus,
touch us through the experiences of our lives.
God, who gave Thomas what he asked,
give us what we need – that we too may come to believe.
Amen.**

Song: Light of the World

We say sorry to God

Minister

Christ our Passover lamb has been sacrificed for us.
Let us therefore rejoice by putting away all malice and evil
and confessing our sins with a sincere and true heart.

cf 1 Corinthians 5.7,8

Jesus Christ, risen master and triumphant Lord,
we come to you in sorrow for our sins,
and confess to you our weakness and unbelief.
We have lived by our own strength,
and not by the power of your resurrection.
In your mercy, forgive us.

Lord, hear us and help us.

We have lived by the light of our own eyes,
as faithless and not believing.
In your mercy, forgive us.

Lord, hear us and help us.

We have lived for this world alone,
and doubted our home in heaven.
In your mercy, forgive us.

Lord, hear us and help us.

Amen.

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

Amen.

First Reading: Acts 4. 32-35

³²All the believers were united in heart and mind. And they felt that what they owned was not their own, so they shared everything they had. ³³The apostles testified powerfully to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and God's great blessing was upon them all. ³⁴There were no needy people among them, because those who owned land or houses would sell them ³⁵and bring the money to the apostles to give to those in need.

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Song: Make Me a Channel of Your Peace.

Psalm 133

¹How wonderful and pleasant it is
when brothers live together in harmony!

²**For harmony is as precious as the anointing oil
that was poured over Aaron's head,
that ran down his beard
and onto the border of his robe.**

³Harmony is as refreshing as the dew from Mount Hermon
that falls on the mountains of Zion.

And there the LORD has pronounced his blessing,
even life everlasting.

The Gospel

Gospel reading: John 20: 19-31

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

All Glory to you, O Lord

⁹That Sunday evening the disciples were meeting behind locked doors because they were afraid of the Jewish leaders. Suddenly, Jesus was standing there among them! "Peace be with you," he said. ²⁰As he spoke, he showed them the wounds in his hands and his side. They were filled with joy when they saw the Lord! ²¹Again he said, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I am sending you." ²²Then he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive anyone's sins, they are forgiven. If you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven."

²⁴ One of the twelve disciples, Thomas (nicknamed the Twin), was not with the others when Jesus came. ²⁵ They told him, “We have seen the Lord!”

But he replied, “I won’t believe it unless I see the nail wounds in his hands, put my fingers into them, and place my hand into the wound in his side.”

²⁶ Eight days later the disciples were together again, and this time Thomas was with them. The doors were locked; but suddenly, as before, Jesus was standing among them. “Peace be with you,” he said. ²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here, and look at my hands. Put your hand into the wound in my side. Don’t be faithless any longer. Believe!”

²⁸ “My Lord and my God!” Thomas exclaimed.

²⁹ Then Jesus told him, “You believe because you have seen me. Blessed are those who believe without seeing me.”

³⁰ The disciples saw Jesus do many other miraculous signs in addition to the ones recorded in this book. ³¹ But these are written so that you may continue to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing in him you will have life by the power of his name.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All Praise to you, O Christ

Song: God Be In My Head

Talk

Song: This I Believe: The Sung Creed



We pray together

Collect

Almighty Father,
you have given your only Son to die for our sins
and to rise again for our justification:
grant us so to put away the leaven
of malice and wickedness
that we may always serve you
in pureness of living and truth;
through the merits of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

The Lord’s Prayer

**All: Our Father which art in heaven,
Hallowed be thy name,
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done,
in earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive them that 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**

Song: For I’m building a people of power

A prayer to reflect on this week

Heavenly Father we thank you for the example of Thomas who had the courage to test the truth of what he’d been told, even if it meant he had to stand alone. We thank you for the example of the other disciples and Jesus, who did not reject Thomas but helped him find what he needed to believe.

Amen.

Blessing

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. Amen.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

In the name of Christ I go. Amen.



Please pray for all who are ill or anxious at home or in hospital, and those who have asked for our prayers: Chris Vigars, Nick & Julie, Dave & Wendy, Edward Walter, Lydia, Margaret, Lin Bristow, Tom, Kathleen Mounsey, Barbara Wilson, Keith Partridge and Sally.

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

Your prayers this week are asked for:

Mon- All the non-essential shops and businesses reopening.

Tues- The emergency services personnel being targeted by violence.

Wed- World governments working together against future issues

Thurs- All those around the world supporting and caring for others.

Fri- All those getting back to work over the next few weeks.

Sat- Christians able to build towards new beginnings within their communities.

This Evening:

6pm: at St Michael's Brentor- Evensong with Wendy Roderick

Next Week:

9:45: at Christ Church- Holy Communion with the Reverend Tony Vigars

6pm: at St Michael's Brentor- Evening Prayer with Christopher Pancheri

Please also continue enjoying our Services online and reflections see the brentorchurch.org.uk

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 contact either David or Helen Harris about the Parish Giving Scheme.

Online donations can be made at <https://www.give.net/20188530>