

**Sunday 19 April 2020**

**Worship for the Sunday after Easter with Holy Communion**

**HYMN 510:** Jesus calls us here to meet him

*Remember the children who used to come in waving palm branches.  
Remember those who welcomed Jesus to Jerusalem. Join their praises*

**Prayer of approach to God**

*If belief comes easily and naturally to you, give thanks to God.  
If you are less sure, you are not alone. Use this prayer from Mark 9:24:  
"Lord, I do have faith. Help me where faith falls short".*

**Bible Reading:** John 20: 19-31 Jesus and Thomas

*Read the whole story, more than once if you need to. Is there anything  
that stands out, surprises you, puzzles you or speaks to you today?*

**Invitation to Communion:**

Come, not because you are strong, but because you are weak.  
Come, not because any goodness of your own gives you a right to come,  
but because you need mercy and help.  
Come, because you love the Lord a little & would like to love him more.  
Come, because he loved you, and gave himself for you. Wm Barclay

**Sharing the Bread and Wine**

*We can't be together for communion, but we can break a piece of bread  
and eat it, drink some wine or fruit juice, and remember the one who  
lived and died and rose again so that we might have life in all its fullness.  
I will read the words of the communion service at the normal time, and  
like his disciples, we will know him 'in the breaking of the bread'.*

**HYMN 167:** Guide me, O thou great Jehovah

**Blessing**

On our heads and our houses, the blessing of God.  
In our coming and our going, the peace of God.  
In our living and believing, the love of God.  
At our end and new beginning, the arms of God  
to welcome us and bring us home. Amen

**Sunday 29 March 2020**

**Worship for the Fifth Sunday in Lent**

**HYMN 43:** Oh God, you are my God alone

*If you have a hymnbook, you can read the words of the hymn and make  
it your prayer. If you have internet access you may find it online.*

**Prayer of approach to God**

*Be still and open yourself to God's presence. He knows and he loves you.  
There is nothing you need to hide.*

**Bible Reading:** John 11: 1-45 The raising of Lazarus

*Read the whole story, more than once if you need to. Is there anything  
that stands out, surprises you, puzzles you or speaks to you today?*

**Reflection:**

vv. 33-35 'his heart was touched and he was deeply moved. Jesus wept'  
*It is OK to be sad/ angry/ fearful/ despairing or to be joyful/ accepting/  
calm. However you are today, he understands; he has been there.*  
v. 44 'unbind him and set him free!' *What is tying you down and hold-  
ing you back? Ask God to set you free.*

**Prayers for ourselves and others**

*Remember those who are ill or dying and those who look after them.  
Pray for the people you would normally see in church.*

**The Lord's Prayer**

**HYMN 342:** O for a thousand tongues to sing

*Go into the shower or open the window and give it lalady! Sing 'la' if you  
don't know the words. God is good!*

**Blessing**

The Lord bless you and keep you;  
the Lord make his face to shine upon you  
and be gracious unto you.  
The Lord lift up the light of his countenance upon you  
and give you peace. Amen

**Sunday 5 April 2020**  
**Worship for the Palm Sunday**

**HYMN 367:** Hosannah, loud hosannah  
*Remember the children who used to come in waving palm branches.  
Remember those who welcomed Jesus to Jerusalem. Join their praises*

**Prayer of approach to God**

*How does it feel to be alone when we would normally be together?  
Remember Jesus' promise to be with us always; we are one in him.*

**Bible Reading:** Matthew 21: 1-11 Jesus' entry into Jerusalem  
*Read the whole story, more than once if you need to. Is there anything  
that stands out, surprises you, puzzles you or speaks to you today?*

**Reflection:**

v 5 Look, your king is coming! He is humble, and rides a donkey'  
*As Jesus entered Jerusalem by one gate, Pilate came in by another, on a  
mighty warhorse with all the power of Rome. At a time when we all feel  
powerless, do we need a different sort of leader? When Paul was at his  
lowest ebb, God said to him, 'My strength is made perfect in weakness.  
My grace is all you need.'*

**Prayers for ourselves and others**

*Pray for our governments and world leaders  
Pray for all who feel powerless in the face of the current crisis  
that they may know God's strength*

**The Lord's Prayer**

**HYMN 364:** All glory, laud and honour

**Blessing**

Deep peace of the running wave to you;  
Deep peace of the flowing air to you;  
Deep peace of the quiet earth to you;  
Deep peace of the shining stars to you;  
Deep peace of the Son of Peace to you. Amen

**Sunday 12 April 2020**  
**Worship for Easter Day**

**HYMN 417:** Now the green blade riseth  
*We do not need to wait until the present crisis is over to celebrate  
Christ's resurrection. In the valley of death's shadow, we remember that  
death has been defeated by the power of life and love.*

**Prayer of approach to God**

*Imagine yourself with Mary in the garden; with John and Peter in the  
empty tomb; with the disciples in a locked upstairs room. Tell God about  
your confusion and fear; allow the reality of Christ's presence to dawn*

**Bible Reading:** John 20: 1-18 Jesus' entry into Jerusalem  
*Read the whole story, more than once if you need to. Is there anything  
that stands out, surprises you, puzzles you or speaks to you today?*

**Reflection:**

v. 15 'Why are you crying? Who is it that you are looking for?'  
*Imagine Jesus asking you these questions. What is your answer?*  
v. 16 "Jesus said to her. 'Mary!'  
*Imagine Jesus looking at you and saying your name. You are known.  
You are loved. You are not alone.*

**Prayers for ourselves and others**

*Remember those who have lost a loved one - not just from coronavirus  
Pray for those who are not able to have a proper funeral at this time.  
Ask God to bring light in the place of darkness; hope for our despair;  
to open our eyes to recognise the risen Jesus here with us now.*

**The Lord's Prayer**

**HYMN 419:** Thine be the glory

**Blessing**

May the God of peace, who brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus,  
that great Shepherd of the sheep, equip you with everything good for  
doing his will, and may he work in us what is pleasing in his sight, Amen