

# **“Within these walls let no-one be a stranger”**

Third Sunday of Easter, April 26<sup>th</sup> 2020

**Call to Worship and Approach to God.** *You are invited to light a candle.*

O sing to the LORD a new song,  
for he has done marvellous things.

**His right hand and his holy arm  
have gotten him victory.**

The LORD has made known his victory;  
**he has revealed his vindication in the sight of the nations.**

*Psalm 98: v.1-2)*

## ❖ Hymn

1. Come, you faithful, raise the strain  
of triumphant gladness!  
God has brought his Israel  
into joy from sadness;  
loosed from Pharaoh's bitter yoke  
Jacob's sons and daughters;  
led them with unmoistened foot  
through the Red Sea waters.
2. 'Tis the spring of souls today;  
Christ has burst his prison,  
and from three days' sleep in death  
as a sun has risen.  
All the winter of our sins,  
long and dark, is flying  
from the Light, to whom we give  
love and praise undying.
3. Now the queen of seasons, bright  
with the day of splendour,  
with the royal feast of feasts  
comes its joy to render;  
comes to gladden Christian hearts,  
which, with true affection,  
welcome in unwearied strains  
Jesus' resurrection.
4. Neither could the gates of death,  
nor the grave's dark portal,  
nor the watchers, nor the seal,  
hold you as a mortal.  
Here today, amid your own,  
now you stand, bestowing  
your own peace, which evermore  
passes human knowing.

## ❖ Prayer of approach ending with the Lord's Prayer:

*(say this in whichever language or version you prefer.)*

Our Father, which 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the Kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

## The Word of God

### ❖ Children's address

### ❖ Holy Scripture: John 21:1-19

<sup>1</sup> Afterward Jesus appeared again to his disciples, by the Sea of Galilee. It happened this way:

<sup>2</sup> Simon Peter, Thomas (also known as Didymus), Nathanael from Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two other disciples were together. <sup>3</sup> "I'm going out to fish," Simon Peter told them, and they said, "We'll go with you." So they went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing.

<sup>4</sup> Early in the morning, Jesus stood on the shore, but the disciples did not realize that it was Jesus.

<sup>5</sup> He called out to them, "Friends, haven't you any fish?"

"No," they answered.

<sup>6</sup> He said, "Throw your net on the right side of the boat and you will find some." When they did, they were unable to haul the net in because of the large number of fish.

<sup>7</sup> Then the disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" As soon as Simon Peter heard him say, "It is the Lord," he wrapped his outer garment around him (for he had taken it off) and jumped into the water. <sup>8</sup> The other disciples followed in the boat, towing the net full of fish, for they were not far from shore, about a hundred yards. <sup>9</sup> When they landed, they saw a fire of burning coals there with fish on it, and some bread.

<sup>10</sup> Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish you have just caught." <sup>11</sup> So Simon Peter climbed back into the boat and dragged the net ashore. It was full of large fish, 153, but even with so many the net was not torn. <sup>12</sup> Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast." None of the disciples dared ask him, "Who are you?" They knew it was the Lord. <sup>13</sup> Jesus came, took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish. <sup>14</sup> This was now the third time Jesus appeared to his disciples after he was raised from the dead.

<sup>15</sup> When they had finished eating, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?"

"Yes, Lord," he said, "you know that I love you."

Jesus said, "Feed my lambs."

<sup>16</sup> Again Jesus said, "Simon son of John, do you love me?"

He answered, "Yes, Lord, you know that I love you."

Jesus said, "Take care of my sheep."

<sup>17</sup> The third time he said to him, "Simon son of John, do you love me?"

Peter was hurt because Jesus asked him the third time, "Do you love me?" He said, "Lord, you know all things; you know that I love you."

Jesus said, "Feed my sheep. <sup>18</sup> Very truly I tell you, when you were younger you dressed yourself and went where you wanted; but when you are old you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will dress you and lead you where you do not want to go." <sup>19</sup> Jesus said this to indicate the kind of death by which Peter would glorify God. Then he said to him, "Follow me!"

❖ **Music in worship:** *Canticle of Thanksgiving* - Dale Wood

❖ **Sermon:** what lies beneath *followed by pause for reflection*

## Response to God's Word

### Hymn

1 Blest be the everlasting God  
the Father of our Lord!  
Be his abounding mercy praised,  
his majesty adored!

2 When from the dead he raised his Son,  
and called him to the sky,  
he gave our souls a lively hope  
that they should never die.

3 To an inheritance divine  
he taught our hearts to rise;  
'tis uncorrupted, undefiled,  
unfading in the skies.

4 Saints by the power of God are kept,  
till the salvation come:  
we walk by faith as strangers here,  
but Christ shall call us home.

❖ **Prayers of Intercession**

❖ **Offering and dedication**

*Please note that in the absence of an offering of money in this service you are invited to use the PayPal donation opportunity on the church's webpage.*

**Gracious God,  
make us faithful in our love,  
generous in our self-giving,  
and joyful in our service  
to the glory of your name. Amen.**

❖ **Hymn**

1. Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Hearts to heav'n and voices raise;  
sing to God a hymn of gladness,  
sing to God a hymn of praise:  
he who on the cross a victim  
for the world's salvation bled,  
Jesus Christ, the King of Glory,  
now is risen from the dead.

2. Christ is risen, Christ the first-fruits  
of the holy harvest field,  
which will all its full abundance  
at his second coming yield:  
then the golden ears of harvest  
will their heads before him wave,  
ripened by his glorious sunshine  
from the furrows of the grave.

3. Christ is risen, we are risen;  
shed upon us heavenly grace,  
rain, and dew, and gleams of glory  
from the brightness of thy face;  
so that we, with hearts in heaven,  
here on earth may fruitful be,  
and by angel hands be gathered,  
and be ever, Lord, with thee.

4. Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Glory be to God on high;  
alleluia to the Savior,  
who has gained the victory;  
alleluia to the Spirit,  
fount of love and sanctity.  
Alleluia! Alleluia  
to the blessed Trinity.

**Blessing:** Go in peace to love and to serve God;  
**and the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
and the love of God,  
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,  
be with us and unite us, now and always. Amen.**