

11.15 Praise Service – Sunday 9 August 2020



the RESURRECTION and the LIFE

Call to Worship

We enter a virtual gathering space once again
**We worship together in spirit and in truth,
though not in person.**

We pray, sing, and listen to God's Word
despite the fear that pervades our community.

**We trust Christ's peace,
a peace given freely, despite our doubts and fears.**

We know the Holy Spirit is among us,
blowing with a hopeful wind of change.

**We feel the presence of Christ,
the one who died and rose again and brings us eternal life.**

We submit to God's leading in this time of transformation.

**We experience the joy of Easter morning
when we celebrate all God has in store for us.**

Opening songs

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LqBpifDpNKc> - O praise the name

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Oibli1rz7mw> - Our hope in Christ

Introduction to theme – Jesus said 'I am the resurrection and the life'

Gospel reading from John 11

When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home.

Martha 'Lord, if you had been here, my brother Lazarus would not have died. But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him.'

Jesus 'Your brother will rise again.'

Martha 'I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.'

Jesus 'I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?'

Martha 'Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world.'

Reflection – Lazarus

He called me out of the tomb
his words somehow reaching into the darkness
and restoring life.
One moment, oblivion- and the next I was up on my feet,
shuffling out of the tomb.
One moment, trussed up like a chicken,
mummified before my time,
and the next scratching my head in bewilderment,
baffled by the look on their faces.
They thought me a ghost,
gazing in astonishment and reaching out in disbelief.
I'd been dead,
and was alive again,
really alive –
not just existing as I'd done previously,
but enthused with a joy such as I'd never known before,
set free not just from my graveclothes
but from everything that had held me captive,
denying and destroying life.
I'll die, eventually, of course,
just like anyone else,
but he summoned me from the grave,
defeating the power of death,
and I know now that, in the fullness of time,
he's able to do the same again and more besides,
not just for me
but for all.

©Nick Fawcett – A Man like no other 2

Led Meditation

Song <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=16KYvflc2bE> - In Christ alone

Creative Prayer

Prayer of Confession

Father, to look at Christ is to realise our many failings

Lord, teach us to be patient

Christ was at home everywhere, with everyone – including the lepers of society

Christ, help us to be open to all

Christ was not misled by labels or slogans

Lord, help us to meet the person behind the mask

Christ was the incarnation of love – he gave himself

Lord, help us to live for others

Christ preached what he lived

Lord, may our deeds speak

Christ carried no grudges – forgives us all

Lord, forgive us and teach us to forgive

Christ suffered and died for the world

Lord, give us the courage to commit ourselves to live for humankind

Jesus promises to all who place their trust in God's forgiveness, courage in the struggle for justice and peace, God's presence in times of trial and rejoicing, and life in God's kingdom which has no end.

We greet God's forgiveness and accept it gladly

Let us also extend forgiveness and acceptance to each other

The Peace

The Agape

Agape is the NT word for self-giving love. It is also the name for a 'love feast'. An Agape is not a sacrament rather it reminds us of all the meals Jesus shared with his disciples and those common meals experienced in the earliest churches. When we share an Agape meal it is also a celebration of the community, albeit virtual that we share.

We set the table with symbols which speak to us of our faith, the gifts Christ gives us, and our calling to live as his disciples:

Jesus said, 'I am the light of the world, whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.'

Jesus said, 'I am the living bread which came down from heaven; whoever eats of this bread will live forever; and the bread which I give for the life of the world is my body.'

Jesus said, 'A new commandment I give you, that you love one another; even as I have loved you, that you also may love one another. By this all will know that you are my disciples, if you have love one for another.'

Here where two or three or more are joined in breaking bread, Jesus is again made known – as the prisoner, the wounded one, the sick, the homeless, the lonely, the frightened, the aged, the child who asks for our help and friendship.

As the scattered grain was made one in the loaf, so you, Lord, have made us all one in yourself.

As you broke bread to feed people, so break us that others may be fed.

As we share your work, may we share your power.

As we share your life, may we share your peace.

Dismissal

Come out! Jesus commands,
**And calls us from the tombs of our existence
into the brightness of a new day.**
Come out! Jesus cries,
And unbinds us from the chains of our past.
Come out! Jesus calls,
And entices us into a world filled with grace and possibility.
So:
Go out!
Into a world that needs our life, our breath, our spirit!
Go out!
**Into a world that needs the Spirit of God,
carried on our lips and in our loving arms.**
Go out!
Into the world to live as God's resurrected people!
Go out: and go on the breath of God's holy wind!

Song The Blessing

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=share&v=PUtI3mNj5U&app=desktop>

The feast is ended – the world is waiting

Let us go in peace, to love and serve in the Spirit of Christ.

You are invited to remain for virtual coffee and chat

Do join us on Zoom on Sunday 23 August at 11.15
'I am the Way, the Truth and the Life'

Harvest

We join together in the Minster or on
Wimborne Minster Official Youtube Channel
at **9.30am**
on
Sunday 13 September

Acknowledgements:

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The Dismissal - ~ from *Come Out! On the Breath of God, Service Prayers for the fifth Sunday of Lent*, written by the Rev. Elizabeth Dilley.