

Service for the Second Sunday of Easter



St Laurence Church, Downton

11 April 2021

Preparation

Call to Worship

This is the testimony:

God gave us eternal life,

This life is in his Son.

Whoever has the Son has life.

1 John 5:11-12

As we rejoice in the gift of this new day,
so may the light of your presence, O God,
set our hearts on fire with love for you;
now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Team Rector introduces the service

Hymn: Thine be the glory
(*St Martin's Voices*)

Thine be the glory, risen conquering Son;
endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won.
Angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away,
kept the folded grave clothes where thy body lay.
Thine be the glory, risen conquering Son:
Endless is the victory, thou o'er death hast won.

Lo! Jesus meets us, risen from the tomb;
lovingly he greets us, scatters fear and gloom.
Let the church with gladness, hymns of triumph sing;
for her Lord now liveth, death hath lost its sting.
Thine be the glory...

No more we doubt thee, glorious prince of life!
Life is nought without thee; aid us in our strife;
make us more than conquerors, through thy deathless love:
Bring us safe through Jordan to thy home above.
Thine be the glory...

Edmund L Budry (1854-1932), translated by Richard B Hoyle (1875-1939)

Gathering:

We gather as people on a journey.

**We believe and we have doubts,
we do good and we sin.**

**We are imperfect humans,
and still beloved by God.**

Love and grace. Hope and faith.

These are the essence of the one we call God.

**We seek forgiveness and grace from
the One and from those we've harmed.**

Assured of that grace,
we are ready to grow again.

**We yearn for a new way,
a new perspective,
and a clear path.**

Though we are full of trust
and full of doubt, we are here.

Speak to us, God!

Continue creating us!

Inspire our hearts.

Enlighten our minds.

Guide our actions. Amen.

Tim Grave

Praise:

**Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.**

**Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,**

**we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.**

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,

Lord God, Lamb of God,

you take away the sin of the world:

have mercy on us;

**you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.
For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

Jesus is the resurrection and the life.
Those who believe in him shall never die. Alleluia.

We praise you and we bless you,
our risen Lord Jesus, King of glory,
for you come to us even in our doubting.
Through the sovereign work of your Spirit,
and the loving hands of your people,
continue to reveal yourself where doubt is stronger than faith.
To you, Lord Jesus,
whose resurrection body bears the marks of the cross,
be honour and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Praise to you, Lord Jesus:
**Dying you destroyed our death,
rising you restored our life:
Lord Jesus, come in glory. Amen.**

The Liturgy of the Word

Readings:

Acts 4:32-35

John 20:19-31

After each reading:

This is the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Reflection by Bishop Nicholas

Music: This joyful Eastertide - arr. Charles Wood
(St Martin's Voices)

Prayers

We are led in a time of prayer

This response is used:

Lord in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

The Lord's Prayer is said:

Rejoicing in God's new creation,
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.**

Conclusion

The 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,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Blessing:

May you trust in God's promises to his people:
peace, security and blessing
even when they are difficult to believe.

May you know that God's news is good news,
nourishing, true
even when people tell you it is not.

And when you encounter doubt,
may he strengthen your belief
guiding you in his perfect wisdom and counsel.

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

Blessed are those who have not seen
and yet have come to believe. Alleluia!

Let us bless the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia.
Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.