

Anglican Church of
St Thomas à Becket

Sunday 4th April 2021
Easter Day

- **Service Details Sunday 4th April**
The Easter Liturgy for Easter Day, 10.30
Click here to join the congregation, from 10.15 onwards. Please join in good time.
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85272524481?pwd=S305cmhaZTZyVkJPNUlrZFVaSHphZz09>
- **Notices and News**
- **The Week ahead**

Good morning all on this day of our Lord's resurrection:

The Lord is risen, he is risen indeed!

And welcome to our Easter Sunday morning service which incorporates all the elements of the Easter Liturgy, this year rolled into one. We start with the Service of Light and the marking and lighting of the Paschal Candle. This first section concludes with the Fanfare: lots of noise, yes really – so please be ready with a pan, gong, bells, football rattle, whatever you have, so that we create a joyous and unrestrained outpouring of sound, in celebration of the resurrection and the return of the light of Christ, after the dark void of Easter Saturday and the tomb. Section two sees us renew our Baptismal vows: traditionally everyone was baptised at Easter, so we take the opportunity to re-commit ourselves once again too, as members of the Church of God. The concluding section of our worship is the Eucharist of Easter Day. Our first Sunday celebration of the Lord's Supper together as the people of St Thomas à Becket, and what more fitting day could there be! Revd Jules A. Barnes

Easter Liturgy for Easter Day

Old Testament reading: Isaiah 25:6-9

On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of

well-matured wines, of rich food filled with marrow, of well-matured wines strained clear⁷ And he will destroy on this mountain the shroud that is cast over all peoples, the sheet that is spread over all nations;⁸ he will swallow up death for ever. Then the Lord GOD will wipe away the tears from all faces, and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the LORD has spoken.⁹ It will be said on that day, Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us.

New Testament reading: Acts 10:34-42

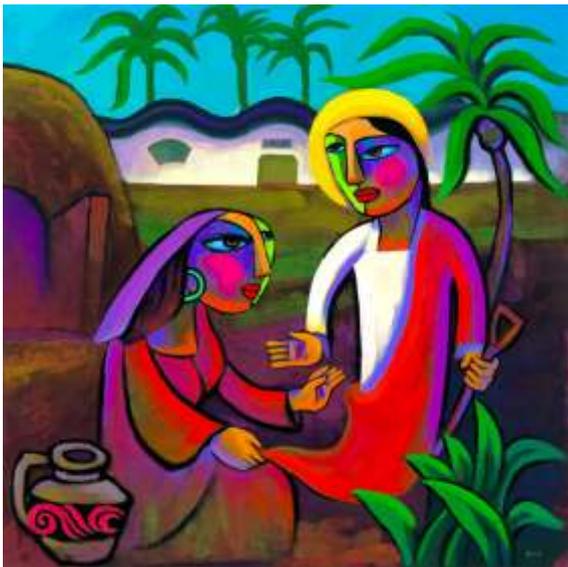
Then Peter began to speak to them: 'I truly understand that God shows no partiality,³⁵ but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him.³⁶ You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ- he is Lord of all.³⁷ That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced:³⁸ how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him.³⁹ We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree;⁴⁰ but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear,⁴¹ not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead.⁴² He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead.

Gospel reading: John 20:1-18

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb.² So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, 'They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him.'³ Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went towards the tomb.⁴ The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first.⁵ He bent down to look in and saw the

linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. ⁶Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, ⁷and the cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. ⁸Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; ⁹for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. ¹⁰Then the disciples returned to their homes.

¹¹ But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; ¹²and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. ¹³They said to her, 'Woman, why are you weeping?' She said to them, 'They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him.' ¹⁴When she had said this, she turned round and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. ¹⁵Jesus said to her, 'Woman, why are you weeping? For whom are you looking?' Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, 'Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away.' ¹⁶Jesus said to her, 'Mary!' She turned and said to him in Hebrew, 'Rabbouni!' (which means Teacher).



¹⁷Jesus said to her, 'Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, "I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my

God and your God.'" ¹⁸Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, 'I have seen the Lord'; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

The Collect for Easter Sunday

Lord of all life and power, through the mighty resurrection of your Son you overcame the old order of sin and death to make all things new in him: grant that we, being dead to sin and alive to you in Jesus Christ, may reign with him in glory; to whom with you and the Holy Spirit be praise and honour, glory and might, now and in all eternity. Amen.

Notices and News

Well, forgive me for taking the top spot here, but it's big news: I am, at last, with you in Hamburg! Praise the Lord. After a 'homeless' month in the UK, and following my first failed attempt to travel here at the end of February, I finally made it into Germany on Monday 29th March. Fulsome thanks to the many people who helped bring this about, and to Norbert for collecting me from the airport and bringing me home. I am currently in the midst of my 14 days quarantine. Loving living under the wings of the Michel (with the bells and my very own trumpeter), and so hugely relieved not to have been turned away again!

Holy Week Services were celebrated on Maundy Thursday and Good Friday. Thank you to all who joined the congregation and took part in the worship, in whatever way. Your alacrity in jumping in to contribute has been very encouraging (and a sign of your living faith.) The Liturgy of the Cross on Friday morning was especially prayerful, moving and reverent, as we remembered our Lord's last hours on the Cross.

Especial gratitude to Yotin, Doro and Arwen who have been working closely with me over the last weeks, to provide and develop the technical, musical and liturgical necessities that we need to function. Stars all three!

Wednesday Morning Prayer starts this week at 08.30 on Zoom. This is a short service of the daily readings and psalm, placed within the regular format of Common Worship Morning Prayer. (If your mornings are time critical, it will always be finished by 08.55.)

I say MP every day (it is one of the 'offices' of the Anglican Church) and from now on, you are invited to join me each Wednesday if you wish. It's a great way to start the day, with something familiar: grounded in God and his Word and knowing that Anglican churches around the globe are doing just the same thing, and using just the same texts. If you are interested, the Zoom link is in the 'Week Ahead' section, and I have listed the readings for this Wed., should you wish to look at them in advance. If you do decide to come along, and would also like to read, please email me, and I will let you have the text in advance.

We now also have a date for my official Licensing, which is Sunday 25th April at 10.30. This service will take place in the church building, and more details will follow as I have them.

For those of you who are interested, thus far I have been operating as your Chaplain under the Bishop's 'PTO' (Permission to Officiate.) This is a legal means of allowing Priests who come into post before they can be licensed to function. It is also typically the permission given to retired clergy, when they no longer have the authorisation of a licence related to a specific place or tenure. *(Any Canon Law enthusiasts/nerds out there – I love it!)*

Good to meet Junior Church leaders this last week on Tuesday. Thanks for the chat and lots of good banter: great to see you and to learn about what you've been doing! And, if your family are interested, there are now tentative plans afoot for an occasional Saturday morning 'Junior Church' on Zoom. Nothing fixed yet, but watch this space!

The week ahead

The Zoom waiting room for all services will open 15 minutes before the start time. Please log on to join the congregation well in advance, so that you don't miss the beginning - and also to enable the host to have time to let you all in. If need be, you can always log on early, switch off your video/ audio for a while, and then come back and sit down a couple of minutes before we start our worship.

Wednesday 7th April

Morning Prayer, starting at 08.30

Lectionary Readings for MP: Ps 113; Song of Solomon 3; Matt 28: 16 – end

You can join Morning Prayer here:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82623076177?pwd=ZTZocUcwY25KNnZTajYvQjJlSmJJQT09>

Saturday 10th April

Evening Prayer at 18.00

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89286260101?pwd=WHg2dmJtTit4bWhiVlJHdCtQQnhydzo9>

Sunday 11th April, Second Sunday of Easter Eucharist, 10.30

Readings: Ps 133; Acts 4:32-35; John 20:19 - end
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85272524481?pwd=S305cmhaZTZyVkJPNUlrZlVvaShphZzo9>

St Thomas à Becket Anglican Church

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STB church is funded 100% by donations, so if you can make a gift, please do. Thank you!

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