

Saint John's Anglican Church, Ancaster

Order of Service

Sunday Reflections and Prayers of the People

Sunday, April 11, 2021
Second Sunday of Easter

Our altar flowers are given to the glory of God and in thanksgiving for the generosity, prayers and faithfulness of St. John's members, friends and supporters this past year.

The Gathering of the Community

Celebrant The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
 and the love of God,
 and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
 be with you all.

People **And also with you.**

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant Let us pray. *Silence is kept.*

Celebrant Almighty and eternal God,
All **the strength of those who believe and the hope of those
who doubt, may we, who have not seen, have faith and
receive the fullness of Christ's blessing, who is alive and
reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and
for ever. Amen.**

Gospeller The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to John.
People **Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Gospeller When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and
the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked
for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said,
'Peace be with you.' After he said this, he showed them his
hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw
the Lord. Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the

Father has sent me, so I send you.’ When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, ‘Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.’

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, ‘We have seen the Lord.’ But he said to them, ‘Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.’

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, ‘Peace be with you.’ Then he said to Thomas, ‘Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.’ Thomas answered him, ‘My Lord and my God!’ Jesus said to him, ‘Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.’

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

John 20: 19-31

Gospeller
People

The Gospel of Christ.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

Homily/
Reflection

The Reverend Canon Joseph Asselin

Hymn # 231

That Eastertide with Joy Was Bright

Tune: Lasst Uns Erfreuen

Prayers of the People

Celebrant

Let us pray. *Silence is kept.*

Our faith in the risen Christ is bound to affect the way we live.

Celebrant

Knowing that the risen Christ is here among us, let us pray in

his name for the Church and for the world.

Celebrant Father, we pray for your blessing on every group of Christians worshipping today all over the world; and we pray for all who doubt your truth. We pray that our hearts may be set ablaze with love, and that we may walk as children of light.

Celebrant My Lord and my God!
All **My Lord and my God!**

Celebrant Father, we pray for all the areas of your world which are torn apart by hatred and violence, famine, disease, or religious differences; we pray for an end to war and a deeper commitment to peace.

Celebrant My Lord and my God!
All **My Lord and my God!**

Celebrant Father, we pray for those who face family rejection if they become Christians, and for all families divided by beliefs or persecuted for their faith. We pray for the children of our church that they may grow up strong in the faith with good role models to guide them.

Celebrant My Lord and my God!
All **My Lord and my God!**

Celebrant Father, we pray for those who wake up to the prospect of another day filled with pain; for those who long for someone to spend time with them, enjoying their company; and we pray for sight that notices needs.

Celebrant My Lord and my God!
All **My Lord and my God!**

Celebrant Father, we pray for those who mourn, and we pray for those they love and miss, commending all who have died to the everlasting arms of the God of love, in whom there is life in all its fullness.

Celebrant My Lord and my God!
All **My Lord and my God!**

Celebrant Father, with joy in our hearts we thank you for the new life opened up to us through Jesus, our Redeemer.

Celebrant Merciful Father,
All **accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Celebrant And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

All **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.**

Easter Blessing

Celebrant The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always.
All **Amen.**

Dismissal

Leader Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia!
People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**