



19th April 2020

2nd Sunday Of Easter
Year A

LITURGY
FOR
THE TIME
IN LOCKDOWN

GATHERING WORDS:

The world is different now:

dawn has shaped a new day.
peace has been embodied in a human being.
the Spirit has pushed its way through.
Christ has been seen.

The world is different now:

hands once held by nails, now offer peace.
doubt has been given reason to believe.

The world is different now:

we can shout with conviction,
“My Lord and my God!”
We are resurrection people.

LIGHTING OF A CHRIST CANDLE (optional)

I light this flame to honour the past.
I light this flame to endorse the present.
I light this flame to symbolise the future.

A Christ Candle Is Lit

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Nothing can hold the risen Christ back.
Nothing can stand between the Holy Spirit
and those who hold a trembling faith.
Nothing can remove us from the reach of the love of God:
the One who is our Parent and Creator,
Saviour and Healer, all truth and all wisdom.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION:

Loving God, when you raised Jesus,
from death to new life,
you showed us that not even a tightly closed tomb
could separate us from you.
Help us to open our hearts to receive your good news for us.
Forgive us for the times
when our hearts have been shut tight to others.
Forgive us for the times
when our hearts have been shut tight to you.
Forgive us for the times
when we have hidden behind closed doors
because we were afraid, or ashamed,
or filled with hopelessness.
In the name of the risen Christ we pray. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

After everything that had happened,
and after he had been raised to new life,
Jesus met his friends and said to them,
“Peace be with you.”
The peace of Christ is true welcome and forgiveness.
Thanks be to God. Amen.

God's Word For Us Today



Your Word, O Lord, is a lamp to our feet:
a light to our path.



The Gospel: John 20:19-31

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.



Lord, may your word live in us:

And bear much fruit to your glory.



*A Contemporary Reflection
On The Word is on the Anglican Church
Mallorca Website*



NEW LIFE - A MEDITATION

Everything seemed lost.
Death had gripped us.
It was a barren and in-between place.
A wilderness time.
We believed all was lost
and the world had been wrapped in a coldness
from which we could never break free.

But as we wondered,
God was working and was drawing enough breath
to breathe new life into what was dead.
The greening was starting.

A voice called and it stirred the world into life.
It called and resurrection broke through.

Faith had torn through.
Questions were crushing.
We had little to cling to that would take us forward.
Yet just as we thought life was dying,
new life was starting to grow.
In the cold tomb of shadows,
light was breaking through,
in the barren wilderness shoots were uncurling.

The promise had been spoken
and yet seemed silenced.
But now the stones themselves cry out
and reveal a presence hidden to those who had lost hope and given up on the
future.
From desert,
To greening.
From dry barrenness,
To celebration.
From sealed tombs,
To dawn-soaked gardens.
The world was once dying,
But from inside the dying, God has planted growth.
This is God's promise,
And our reality.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE:

Dear God,
who stood in kindness among the early disciples,
as they looked and found the marks of pain and suffering
on your hands and in your side,
so we look at the woundedness of the world around us,
near and far, and bring it to you for healing.

Silent reflection

We know that your wounding
was a special, costly wounding.
We believe that you have gathered into your life
all who are in pain,

all who need salvation in body, mind, heart and soul,
all who long for justice,
all who silently suffer among us
especially when no-one sees
that they are bleeding and weeping.

Loving Jesus, help us to see you in all who long for love –
the little and the least,
the frightened and the lost.
Make us your true disciples,
the bringers of the good news into all the world. Amen.

LITANY OF DEDICATION

The Christ Candle is extinguished

On this side of resurrection,
the path is set to a new future;
and our trust is in our God,
for we are never abandoned to death.
We are on a path of life.

Here we meet Jesus with us,
walking the road beside us.
He sets the way before us,
on the path of life.

The pilgrimage continues,
the journey keeps on keeping on,
calling us into the world,
and beyond,
for we are on the path of life.

The Way of Peace.
The Roadway to the future.
A heritage of joy.
Amen