



## *Easter Sunday 2020*

*A Recorded Service* [www.stmatthewschurch.org.au](http://www.stmatthewschurch.org.au)

*St Matthew's Anglican Church*

*Guildford Recorded April 2020*

## ***Welcome to St Matthew's Anglican Church, Guildford***

**Welcome**

**Priest:** Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**All Respond:** **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

**Priest:** The Lord be with you!

**All:** **and also with you!**

**Minister:** This is the day that the Lord has made;  
**Let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

### **SENTENCE OF SCRIPTURE**

Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God.

### **THE PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**Brightness of God's glory,  
Whom death could not conquer nor the tomb imprison:  
as you have shared our frailty in human flesh,  
help us to share your immortality in the Spirit;  
let no shadow of the grave terrify us,  
and no fear of darkness turn our hearts from you.  
Reveal yourself to us this day and all our days,  
as the First and the Last, the Living One,  
our immortal Saviour and Lord. Amen**

**Gracious God, we humbly thank you for the life and health and safety, for freedom to work, leisure to rest, and for all that is beautiful in creation and human life. But, above all, we give you thanks for our Saviour, Jesus Christ, for his death and resurrection; for the gift of your Spirit; and for the hope of sharing in your glory. Fill our hearts with joy and peace in believing; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

### **CONFESSION**

Hebrews 4:16 - So whenever we are in need, we should come bravely before the throne of our merciful God. There we will be treated with undeserved kindness, and we will find help.

**Heavenly Father, you have loved us with an everlasting love, but we have broken your holy laws and have left undone what we ought to have done. We are sorry for our sins and turn away from them. For the sake of your Son who died for us forgive us, cleanse us and change us. By your Holy Spirit enable us to live for you, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

God desires that none should perish, but that all should turn to Christ, and live. In Response to his call we acknowledge our sins. God pardons those who humbly repent, and truly believe the gospel. Therefore, we have peace with God, through Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

## **THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD**

### **Acts 10:34-43**

<sup>34</sup> Then Peter began to speak: 'I now realise how true it is that God does not show favouritism <sup>35</sup> but accepts from every nation the one who fears him and does what is right. <sup>36</sup> You know the message God sent to the people of Israel, announcing the good news of peace through Jesus Christ, who is Lord of all. <sup>37</sup> You know what has happened throughout the province of Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John preached – <sup>38</sup> how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and power, and how he went around doing good and healing all who were under the power of the devil, because God was with him.

<sup>39</sup> 'We are witnesses of everything he did in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They killed him by hanging him on a cross, <sup>40</sup> but God raised him from the dead on the third day and caused him to be seen. <sup>41</sup> He was not seen by all the people, but by witnesses whom God had already chosen – by us who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. <sup>42</sup> He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one whom God appointed as judge of the living and the dead. <sup>43</sup> All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.'

For the word of the Lord:

**Thanks be to God.**

## **Colossians, chapter 3:1-4**

Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. <sup>2</sup> Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. <sup>3</sup> For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God. <sup>4</sup> When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

Hear the word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God**

## **HYMN - Alleluia, Alleluia**

Alleluia alleluia

Give thanks to the Risen Lord

Alleluia alleluia

Give praise to His Name

Jesus is Lord of all the earth

He is the King of creation

Spread the good news o'er all the earth

Jesus has died and has risen

We have been crucified with Christ

Now we shall live forever

God has proclaimed the just reward

Life for all men alleluia

Come let us praise the Living God

Joyfully sing to our Saviour

CCLI Song # 32376

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## **Matthew, Chapter 28 beginning at verse 1**

28 After the Sabbath, at dawn on the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to look at the tomb.

<sup>2</sup> There was a violent earthquake, for an angel of the Lord came down from heaven and, going to the tomb, rolled back the stone and sat on it. <sup>3</sup> His appearance was like lightning, and his clothes were white as snow. <sup>4</sup> The guards were so afraid of him that they shook and became like dead men.

<sup>5</sup> The angel said to the women, “Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. <sup>6</sup> He is not here; he has risen, just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay. <sup>7</sup> Then go quickly and tell his disciples: ‘He has risen from the dead and is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him.’ Now I have told you.”

<sup>8</sup> So the women hurried away from the tomb, afraid yet filled with joy, and ran to tell his disciples. <sup>9</sup> Suddenly Jesus met them. “Greetings,” he said. They came to him, clasped his feet and worshiped him. <sup>10</sup> Then Jesus said to them, “Do not be afraid. Go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me.”

Hear the word of the Lord **Thanks be to God**

## **THE SERMON**

### **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

Loving and gracious Father, we thank you for the gift of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Thank you that today we celebrate the Risen Lord. Lord we pray for your church, we pray for all who are gathering via social media today and for all who are isolated in their homes unable to worship in the usual way, Lord grant them a firm trust in your goodness and the assurance of your love, we pray you give them your peace, especially at this time.

Lord in your mercy **Hear our prayer**

Father, you are the God of all the nations and people on this earth. Please look with mercy and compassion on all you have created. This day we ask for your help. Please deliver us from the coronavirus and limit its impact on Australia and the world. In your mercy bring a swift end to this crisis.

Lord in your mercy – **Hear our prayer**

Please protect with your loving care those we love; our families, friends and neighbours. Let your fatherly hand guide, shelter and strengthen them. Remove all anxious fears and doubts.

Give us an increasing trust in you and fill our hearts and minds with your peace. We pray for those around the world now struggling with COVID-19. Heal and comfort those who are sick and suffering. Protect and guide the health professionals who are at the front line. Please give wisdom and courage to those who bear responsibility for confronting this challenge. We ask these things through the powerful name of Jesus. Amen  
Lord in your mercy – **Hear our prayer**

**The Lords' Prayer** – Sung by Johannes

## **THE SENDING OUT OF GOD'S PEOPLE**

*Let us pray*

**Living God, make us disciples of the risen Christ.  
Give us joyful hearts, words of hope,  
and grace to recognise the Lord Jesus when he meets us,  
wherever we are on the road. Amen**

## **HYMN - Christ the Lord is Risen**

Christ the Lord is risen today alleluia  
Sons of men and angels say alleluia  
Raise your joys and triumphs high alleluia  
Sing ye heavens and earth reply alleluia

Lives again our glorious King alleluia  
Where O death is now thy sting alleluia  
Died he once our souls to save alleluia  
Where's thy victory O grave alleluia

Love's redeeming work is done alleluia  
Fought the fight the battle won alleluia  
Death in vain forbids Him rise alleluia  
Christ has opened paradise alleluia

CCLI Song # 279

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## **BLESSING**

And the blessing of the risen Christ,  
who brings light out of darkness  
and who sends you as disciples into all the world  
remain with you now and forever. **Amen.**

Go in the peace of Christ. Alleluia! Alleluia!  
**Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!**