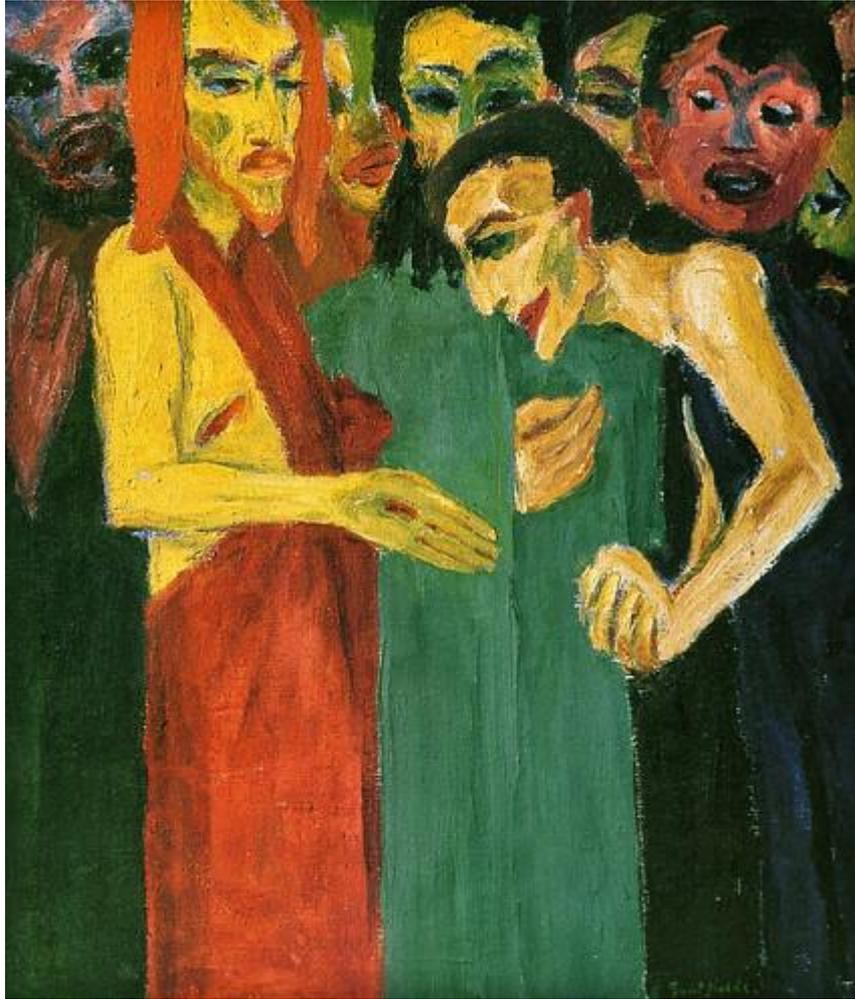


## Easter 2



**Alleluia Christ is risen**

**He is Risen indeed! Alleluia!!**

## An Act of Spiritual Communion

*The following act of spiritual communion is made available because sadly we cannot gather together to worship in church.*

*The church has from earliest times used the term 'Spiritual Communion' to describe the means of grace by which a person, prevented for some serious reason from sharing in a celebration of the Eucharist, nonetheless shares in the communion of Jesus Christ.*

*Remember always, that we are never truly alone.*

*Not only is God present with us, and in the prayer and worship we offer, even when physically alone, the saints and angels are present spiritually with us.*

*The Eucharist will be celebrated at 10am on Sunday.*

*Joining in this short service will unite us all spiritually with this celebration.*

*First settle yourself quietly without distractions. Turn the phone and TV off. You might want to play quiet, reflective music in the background. You may want to light a candle as a focus. You could even set up a 'prayer corner' with religious images, statues, or candles.*

*Be still and know that God is with you.*

**Welcome** –: “Oh Lord, it’s you”: [here](#)

**In the name of the Father  
and of the Son  
and of the Holy Spirit.  
Amen.**

*Now call to mind your sins and make this act of contrition:*

**Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the living God, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

*Ask God for his forgiveness:*

**May the Lord in all his mercy,  
grant me forgiveness of my sins,  
deliver me from evil,  
and bring me to the joy of eternal life.  
Amen.**

*At this point read the Opening Prayer (Collect) for the day:*

Risen Christ,  
for whom no door is locked, no entrance barred:  
open the doors of our hearts,  
that we may seek the good of others  
and walk the joyful road of sacrifice and peace,  
to the praise of God the Father. **Amen.**

**Now read the Gospel or watch it [here](#)**

*(scroll to 3mins.13 secs for just this gospel or watch the whole Easter story from the beginning of the clip)*

John 20: 19- end

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

**Glory to you O lord**

<sup>19</sup> 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." <sup>20</sup> After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. <sup>21</sup> Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." <sup>22</sup> When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. <sup>23</sup> If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

<sup>24</sup> But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. <sup>25</sup> 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."

<sup>26</sup> 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." <sup>27</sup> 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." <sup>28</sup> Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" <sup>29</sup> 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."

<sup>30</sup> Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. <sup>31</sup> 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.

This is the Gospel of the Lord Alleluia!

Praise to you O Christ. Alleluia!

**Homily: [here](#)**

### **The Apostles' Creed**

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,

and he will come to judge the living and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

**Prayers of Intercession:** [here](#)

By Lynne Selman

**Let us pray for the church and for the world and let us thank God for his goodness.....**

Almighty God, we have been born again through the resurrection and, even though we have not seen the Risen Christ, we love and believe in him, rejoicing with all Christians in indescribable joy.

**Lord, in your Mercy: Hear our Prayer**

Gracious God, like Thomas, we will still face times of doubt and uncertainty –but we know that we are not alone in this, and that you, our Father in heaven, loves us - whatever our state of mind or body.

**Lord, in your Mercy: Hear our Prayer**

We give thanks for all the hard work Father Matthew and the wider team are putting into online worship, and for the way it keeps us together even though our church is closed. We give thanks for the way the community has pulled together, helping those with emotional, physical and practical needs.

**Lord, in your Mercy: Hear our Prayer**

Healing God, your son Jesus travelled through towns and villages “curing every disease and illness.” Come to our aid now, in the midst of the global spread of coronavirus, that we may experience your healing love. We think especially of those living in poverty and deprivation around the world who do not have the infrastructure to support them. Heal those who are sick with the virus. May they regain their strength and health through quality medical care.

Heal us from pride, which makes some believe they are invulnerable to a disease that knows no borders.

Be with the families and friends of those who are sick or have died. As they worry and grieve, defend them from illness and despair.... May they know your peace.

Be with those whose jobs and futures are at risk,... help them remain positive and receive the financial support they need. We pray for those suffering mental health issues as a result of the changing circumstances.

Be with the clinical teams, scientists and social care professionals, paramedics and emergency services who heal and help those affected, putting themselves at risk in the process. ... May they know your protection and peace.

Be with all those who keep our country running, especially the shop workers, farmers, delivery drivers, construction workers, postal workers, bin men and many more...

We give thanks too for the tenacity of those, like Capt Tom Moore, raising much-needed funds for charities struggling in this difficult environment.

Be with the leaders of all nations. Give them the *foresight* to act with charity and true concern for the people they serve.

Give them the *wisdom* to invest in long-term solutions to prepare for, or prevent, future outbreaks. May they all know your peace, as they work together to achieve it on earth.

**Lord, in your Mercy: Hear our Prayer**

Lord we bring before you now, all those known to us personally who -especially at this time – need our compassion whilst passing through illness, pain and death.

.....

.....

Uphold their faith that they may trust and not be afraid.

**Lord in your mercy,**

**Hear our prayer**

Help us during the coming week to be ready to show our gratitude and live the Good News of Easter. In place of our anxiety, Lord, give us your peace.....

Merciful father:

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

**The Eucharistic Prayer:** [here](#)

The Lord be with you

**And also with you**

Lift up your hearts

**We lift them to the Lord**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

**It is right to give thanks and praise**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,  
always and everywhere to give you thanks,  
almighty and eternal Father,

and in these days of Easter

to celebrate with joyful hearts

the memory of your wonderful works.

For by the mystery of his passion

Jesus Christ, your risen Son,

has conquered the powers of death and hell

and restored in men and women the image of your glory.

He has placed them once more in paradise

and opened to them the gate of life eternal.

And so, in the joy of this Passover,

earth and heaven resound with gladness,

while angels and archangels and the powers of all creation

sing for ever the hymn of your glory.

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,**

**God of power and might,**

**heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest;**

**Blessed is he,**

**who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

Accept our praises, heavenly Father,

through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ,

and as we follow his example and obey his command,

grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit  
these gifts of bread and wine  
may be to us his body and his blood;

who, in the same night that he was betrayed,  
took bread and gave you thanks;  
he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:

Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;  
do this in remembrance of me.  
In the same way, after supper  
he took the cup and gave you thanks;  
he gave it to them, saying:

Drink this, all of you;  
this is my blood of the new covenant,  
which is shed for you and for many for  
the forgiveness of sins.  
Do this, as often as you drink it,  
in remembrance of me.

Therefore, heavenly Father,  
we remember his offering of himself  
made once for all upon the cross;  
we proclaim his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension;  
we look for the coming of your kingdom,  
and with this bread and this cup  
we make the memorial of Christ your Son our Lord.  
Christ is the bread of life:

**When we eat this bread and drink this cup,  
we proclaim your death, Lord Jesus,  
until you come in glory.**

Accept through him, our great high priest,  
this our sacrifice of thanks and praise,  
and as we eat and drink these holy gifts  
in the presence of your divine majesty,  
renew us by your Spirit,  
inspire us with your love  
and unite us in the body of your Son,  
Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through him, and with him, and in him,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
with all who stand before you in earth and heaven,  
we worship you, Father almighty,  
in songs of everlasting praise:

**Blessing and honour and glory and power  
be yours for ever and ever. Amen.**

**The Lord's Prayer** click : [here](#)

**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. Amen**

*Now make your spiritual communion.  
Imagine that you are receiving the Host:*

**Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,  
but only say the word and I shall be healed.**

**My Jesus, I believe that you  
are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.  
I love you above all things,  
and I desire to receive you into my soul.  
Since I cannot at this moment receive you sacramentally,  
come at least spiritually into my heart.  
I embrace you as if You were already there  
and unite myself wholly to you.  
Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.**

*Now spend some time in silence*

### **Post Communion Prayer**

**Lord God our Father,  
through our Saviour Jesus Christ  
you have assured your children of eternal life  
and in baptism have made us one with him:  
deliver us from the death of sin**

**and raise us to new life in your love,  
in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,  
by the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.**

**The Blessing:** [here](#)

God the Father,  
by whose love Christ was raised from the dead,  
open to you who believe the gates of everlasting life.

**Amen.**

God the Son,  
who in bursting from the grave has won a glorious victory,  
give you joy as you share the Easter faith.

**Amen.**

God the Holy Spirit,  
who filled the disciples with the life of the risen Lord,  
empower you and fill you with Christ's peace.

**Amen.**

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

**Amen.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. **Alleluia!! Alleluia!!**  
In the name of Christ, Amen. **Alleluia!! Alleluia!!**

**HAPPY EASTER!!**