

Morning Prayer  
8th May - 4th of Easter  
(We will be following this in our own homes at 10.30am)

*Please read these words out loud, or in your heart.*

Preparation

O Lord, open our lips  
and our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

Alleluia, Christ is risen:  
He is risen indeed, alleluia!

The night has passed, and the day lies open before us;  
let us pray with one heart and mind.

*Silence may be kept.*

As we rejoice in the gift of this new day,  
so may the light of your presence, O God,  
set our hearts on fire with love for you;  
now and for ever.  
Amen.

The Word of God

First Reading: Acts 9:36-43

In Joppa there was a disciple named Tabitha (in Greek her name is Dorcas); she was always doing good and helping the poor. <sup>37</sup> About that time she became ill and died, and her body was washed and placed in an upstairs room. <sup>38</sup> Lydda was near Joppa; so when the disciples heard that Peter was in Lydda, they sent two men to him and urged him, 'Please come at once!'

<sup>39</sup> Peter went with them, and when he arrived he was taken upstairs to the room. All the widows stood round him, crying and showing him the robes and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was still with them.

<sup>40</sup> Peter sent them all out of the room; then he got down on his knees and prayed. Turning towards the dead woman, he said, 'Tabitha, get up.' She opened her eyes, and seeing Peter she sat up. <sup>41</sup> He took her by the hand and helped her to her feet. Then he called for the believers, especially the widows, and presented her to them alive. <sup>42</sup> This became known all over Joppa, and many people believed in the Lord. <sup>43</sup> Peter stayed in Joppa for some time with a tanner named Simon.

This is the word of the Lord.  
Thanks be to God.

Second reading: John 10:22-30

Then came the Festival of Dedication at Jerusalem. It was winter, <sup>23</sup> and Jesus was in the temple courts walking in Solomon's Colonnade. <sup>24</sup> The Jews who were there gathered round him, saying, 'How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly.'

<sup>25</sup> Jesus answered, 'I did tell you, but you do not believe. The works I do in my Father's name testify about me, <sup>26</sup> but you do not believe because you are not my sheep. <sup>27</sup> My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me. <sup>28</sup> I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one will snatch them out of my hand. <sup>29</sup> My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all; no one can snatch them out of my Father's hand. <sup>30</sup> I and the Father are one.'

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Venite - A Song of Triumph

- 1 O come, let us sing to the Lord;  
let us heartily rejoice in the rock of our salvation.
- 2 Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving  
and be glad in him with psalms.
- 3 For the Lord is a great God  
and a great king above all gods.
- 4 In his hand are the depths of the earth  
and the heights of the mountains are his also.
- 5 The sea is his, for he made it,  
and his hands have moulded the dry land.
- 6 Come, let us worship and bow down  
and kneel before the Lord our Maker.
- 7 For he is our God;  
we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand.
- 8 O that today you would listen to his voice:  
'Harden not your hearts as at Meribah,  
on that day at Massah in the wilderness,
- 9 'When your forebears tested me, and put me to the proof,  
though they had seen my works.
- 10 'Forty years long I detested that generation and said,  
"This people are wayward in their hearts; they do not know my ways."
- 11 'So I swore in my wrath,  
"They shall not enter into my rest."

*Psalm 95*

Glory to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning is now  
and shall be for ever. Amen.

## Prayers

*Please offer your own prayers following these suggestions, if you wish, with the response below:*

¶ *for the day and its tasks*

¶ *for the world and its needs*

¶ *for the Church and her life*

Lord, in your mercy

hear our prayer.

*Silence may be kept.*

Lord, help us to use honestly and well this day  
all the talents which you have given us,  
that the gain may not be ours only,  
but yours, and your kingdom's;  
through Jesus Christ, our Lord.  
Amen.

*Daily Prayer*

## Collect

Almighty God,  
whose Son Jesus Christ is the resurrection and the life:  
raise us, who trust in him,  
from the death of sin to the life of righteousness,  
that we may seek those things which are above,  
where he reigns with you  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.  
Amen.

Trusting in the compassion of God,  
let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us  
"Our Father, who art in heaven ..."

*The Lord's Prayer is said*

## **The Conclusion**

May the God of peace,  
who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ,  
that great Shepherd of the sheep,  
through the blood of the everlasting covenant,  
make us perfect in every good work to do his will,  
working in us all that is well-pleasing in his sight.  
And the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,  
be among us and remain with us always.  
Amen.

Let us go in peace to love and serve the Lord.  
Alleluia, alleluia.  
In the name of Christ. Amen.  
Alleluia, alleluia.

*Our services today take place:  
online via Zoom at 9.00 am;  
at Grewelthorpe (All-Age Worship), Kirkby Malzeard (Morning Worship) and  
Sawley (Holy Communion) at 10.30 am;  
Aldfield (Evening Prayer) at 6.00 pm.*

***Everyone from across the benefice (and beyond) is welcome at all services.***

*We believe the precautions we take to be adequate in keeping us safe.  
Face coverings are no longer compulsory in church services,  
but you may like to bring one out of consideration for other people.*