

John Starling has prepared our Service this week

19th April 2020

He writes to say that he has based much of the service on the information in ROOTS, particularly the prayers. If you would like to explore their material further please use this link:<https://www.rootsontheweb.com/lectionary/2020/106-march-april-2020-a/easter-2/adultsathome>. They are giving everyone access to some of their material during this time.

Reflection

Few Christians living in the developed world can ever have experienced an Easter like this one. At the same time, however, this Easter gives us an opportunity to identify a little more closely with the doubts and fears felt by the first disciples, and with their experience of resurrection depicted in this week's Gospel reading.

Like the disciples, we are hiding away behind locked doors for fear of the potential danger posed by the people outside. As for them, so for us, the everyday interactions, which we too easily take for granted, are currently denied us, and the mundane but reliable routines of work and school, appointments and activities, shopping and socialising are no longer available. For the disciples, contact with the people outside carries the risk of injury or even death by mob violence; for us, such contact may lead to severe or even fatal illness.

Many of us have had to cancel plans and projects, or at the very least put them on hold. Eagerly awaited parties and holidays, matches and performances have been postponed at best, abandoned at worst. We may justifiably feel disappointed, depressed, devastated; and these emotions are pretty much what the disciples were feeling, too. We should not feel guilty about them.

Peace be with you

[Acts 2 v 22-32](#); [Psalm 16](#); [1 Peter 1.3-9](#); [John 20.19-31](#)

As we say the **Lord's Prayer** this morning, let us use it in the way that Jesus taught. After each phrase reflect on what the words mean to us and add our own thoughts.

We sing

[Fill Thou my life O Lord my God in every part with Praise](#)

