



Team Parish of Christ the King St Aidan's, Brunton Park

**Sunday 17th April 2022
Easter Day**

Alleluia, Christ is risen. He is risen indeed, Alleluia!

Those words begin our Easter service this morning, and ring out their joyful praise across all of history, as we celebrate a moment of astounding discovery. A moment that changes everything, as the women arrive to anoint Jesus' dead body and find instead an empty tomb. It's the discovery around which everything changes. And this morning I think we celebrate a surprising discovery, a personal discovery and a transforming discovery.

A surprising discovery, because as we read this account of the morning of the resurrection, there's an almost comical confusion to it. Everyone's running backwards and forward, not quite sure what's happened or what it means. And that's because this thing that God has done in Jesus, is a new thing. God has never before acted in this way. The resurrection of Jesus is truly a surprise, it's an unanticipated, unimagined, breaking in of God's new life to his world. Perhaps we might spend time this Easter, in wonder at that surprising gift of life that bursts from an empty tomb.

And it's a personal discovery, because as Jesus meets Mary in the garden, he greets her by name. His first desire as he rises from death, is to re-establish his relationship with this disciple he loved. His first words are to speak her name. And in the same way, as we encounter Jesus, our risen Lord, we meet one who speaks our name. We meet one who comes to us in loving and intimate relationship. All that Jesus did in his life, his death and his resurrection, is done for us, and he speaks our name in love.

And finally, it's a transforming discovery, because as the disciples hear this news it changes them. Peter goes from the hesitant disciple who denied Jesus before his death, to preaching in his name and willing to risk his life in our reading from Acts. The small group of scared followers of a failed messiah, as they hear of Christ resurrection, become the church and start possibly the greatest missionary movement the world has ever known. Lives have been changed by this discovery ever since, and will continue to be changed until Christ's Kingdom comes. So how will we be changed as we hear of this Easter discovery today?

First Reading: Acts 10.34-43

Peter began to speak to those assembled in the house of Cornelius. 'I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ – he is Lord of all. That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.'

This is the word of the Lord

Gospel: John 20.1-18

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, 'They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him.' Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went towards the tomb. The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, and the cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. Then the disciples returned to their homes.

But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. They said to her, 'Woman, why are you weeping?' She said to them, 'They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him.' When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, 'Woman, why are you weeping? For whom are you looking?' Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, 'Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away.' Jesus said to her, 'Mary!' She turned and said to him in Hebrew, 'Rabbouni!' which means Teacher. Jesus said to her, 'Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers

and say to them, "I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God." Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, 'I have seen the Lord'; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

TODAY

Sunrise Service: 5.30am: join us bright and early this Easter morning as we join together at sunrise, celebrating that Christ is Risen.

Easter Sunday Eucharist Service: 9.30am we celebrate that Christ is Risen, with music, hymns, singing, and the sharing of communion. There will be the chance for families to help decorate our cross, crafts in the community room and an Easter egg hunt at the end.

THE WEEK AHEAD

Tues 2pm, Bowmont House: **Bowmont Easter Communion**

Wed 10.00am, Church: **BCP Midweek Eucharist**

Wed 12pm: **Lunch Group at the Rugby Club**

Sun 24th 9.30am, Church: **Parish Eucharist Second Sunday of Easter**
Rev'd Pauline Pearson Leading and Preaching (Gerard not in church). Readings from: Acts 5.27-32 , Revelation 1.4-8 , John 20.19-31

DATES FOR THE DIARY

Tues 26th 10.30am: **Tynemouth Crematorium, Funeral for John MacLeod**

Thurs 28th April, 2pm: **Chat and Craft in the Community Room**

Thurs 5th May, 2pm: **Prayer and Praise in the Community Room**

NOTICES

SUNDAY SERVICE – today's live broadcast link is <https://bit.ly/EasterDay22>

FUNERAL OF JOHN MACLEOD – will take place on Tuesday 26th April at 10.30am at Tynemouth Crematorium (NE29 9NJ). Afterwards there will be refreshments, from 11.30am at the Lighthouse Room, Spanish City (NE26 1BG). All are invited.

APCM – The APCM, for the Team Parish, will be on Wednesday 27th April, 7pm, at St Cuthbert's Church, all are welcome. Paperwork is available for those who would like to read through. If there aren't any copies left, please ask Janice and we'll print some for you.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT – are on their Easter break and will return on the 29th April running as a weekly service at 5pm on Friday's until 22nd July. The exception is during the Queen's Jubilee week (3rd June). The service is on Zoom (see link below) apart from the 3rd Friday of the month when it is in Church with the Youth Group, having a joint service with them. This service starts at the later time of 6pm. Join Zoom Meeting ID: 757 377 8713

Passcode: StAidan or link

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7573778713?pwd=NGVjcTRLQjBEaStqYjFDSm1KOURtQT09>

ZOOM CODES – all our Zoom sessions will use only the following details:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7573778713?pwd=NGVjcTRLQjBEaStqYjFDSm1KOURtQT09> Meeting ID: 757 377 8713 Passcode: StAidan

BOOKING ZOOM MEETINGS: if you would like to use the St Aidan's Zoom account for a church meeting, please contact Janice

CHURCH CORONAVIRUS RESTRICTIONS – face masks are optional, please sanitise your hands on entering church, and maintain at least a one metre distance.

USED STAMPS – if you have any used stamps, please save them and put them in the box at the back of church to raise fund for St Oswald's Hospice.

CHURCH OPENING – church is now open during the day, every day. Please come in at any time for some quiet time or prayer.

FOOD BANK – a little reminder that we still collect for the foodbank. There is a box at the back of church for donations.

DONATIONS - to make a donation to St Aidan's, please use the following link
<https://givealittle.co/campaigns/8a599239-a9bd-4136-8b4b-1dcabb0a2c65>

For Our Prayers: St Aidan's Cycle of Prayer

For the church – Particularly churches in our Deanery: Gosforth Parishes along with DCC members and officers

For the community – especially Snakes & Ladders Playgroup, Brunton Babies, Nursery & Toddler Groups

For the world – Particularly during the ongoing conflict in Ukraine, for her people, refugees and the Ukrainian community in the UK, and our own national and political life.

For those in particular need - Gladys Johnston, Sheila Lonie

For those who have died and those who grieve – John Macleod, Carol Fox. On their anniversaries: David Dawson, Margaret Rennie, Arthur Gibson, Marion Fothergill, Nevison Lorraine

CONTACTS

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