

*Welcome to the Anglican Parish
of St. Philip by-the-Sea*



“Journeying together in God’s love”

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Interim Rector: The Reverend Heather Robinson
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**Sunday, April 11, 2021
Second Sunday of Easter**

Welcome and announcements

Greeting

This is the message we have heard from him and now celebrate with each other:

Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed.

Blessed are you who have not seen him, yet who truly believe and trust him.

See how good and delightful it is when Christians gather together as one.

The Lord has commanded a great blessing:

Life for evermore.

Penitence

Dear friends in Christ, as we prepare to worship almighty God, let us with penitent and obedient hearts confess our sins, that we may obtain forgiveness by his infinite goodness and mercy.

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us, that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your name. Amen.

Almighty God have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Psalm: 133

Oh, how good and pleasant it is,
when brethren live together in unity!

It is like fine oil upon the head
that runs down upon the beard,

Upon the beard of Aaron,
and runs down upon the collar of his robe.

It is like the dew of Hermon
that falls upon the hills of Zion.

For there the Lord has ordained the blessing:
life for evermore.

First reading:

Acts 4:32-35

Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Gospel:

John 20:19-31

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

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. 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.'

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.' 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.' Thomas answered him, 'My Lord and my God!' 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.'

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. 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.

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.

Sermon: The Reverend Heather Robinson

What we believe

**I believe in God,
The Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.
He 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, and is seated at the
right hand of the Father.
He will come again 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 the People

Let us pray.

God of Easter, wherever the irrepressible grace of Christ Jesus is known, may it be freely shared. We pray for the world, and for your servant the church, at work in every land.

We pray for the witness of the church in every community. Keep it loyal through times of harassment and suffering and keep it faithful in times of prosperity and comfort.

We pray for our nation with its many strengths and considerable flaws. Bless those political and community leaders whom we respect and cherish and we pray for your blessing on those who disappoint, frustrate and anger us.

We pray for other nations and their leaders, especially those that are struggling against heavy odds to maintain the well being of their citizens.

We pray for friends and family who love us well and whom we love dearly, in happiness or in grief, in success or failure, in sickness or in health; and we pray for those prickly souls among relatives or neighbours whom we find it hard to like.

We pray for the hardworking immigrants who have brought skills and wealth as well as need and difference to our nation, and whose diverse cultures have so enriched us.

We pray for each other gathered here today. We especially pray for those who are suffering physical or psychological ills, for those who've lost loved ones and been unable to gather to mourn, and for those who are happy and healthy.

**God of the Easter Christ, please endow us with more of his kind of love, that we may give of our best, and go on our way rejoicing even when we are misunderstood or rebuffed. For yours is the kingdom of love, the power of love, and the glory of love, now and for ever.
Amen.**

Collect

Almighty and eternal God, the strength of those who believe and the hope of those who doubt, may we, who have not seen, have faith and receive the fullness of Christ's blessing, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

As our Saviour has taught us, let us pray:

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever. Amen.

Conclusion

Let us bless the Lord
Thanks be to God.

Be steadfast in faith, joyful in hope, and untiring in love all the days of your life. And may the blessing of God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be with you now and always.
Amen.

In the Worldwide Anglican Communion: Pray for The Church of the Province of the Indian Ocean.

In our Diocese of British Columbia, we pray for: Anna, our bishop. S. Matthias, Victoria - Meagan Crosby-Shearer. Diocese of Yukon - Bishop Lesley Wheeler-Dame.

This week in our Parish Family of St. Philip by-the-Sea, we pray for our interim priest, Heather Robinson. We pray for Jennifer Gifford, Blair Gohl, Jane Gribling and for all their families. We pray for peace and for all refugees around the world.

Announcement

COVID-19 Statement from the Diocese of British Columbia:

Considering the continuing increase in COVID cases across British Columbia, the bishop, with the support of her archdeacons, has decided we will continue to worship online only for the remainder of April. In the first week of May, diocesan leadership will re-evaluate this decision, pending more information being released by public health officials and the provincial government, alongside our own commitments and priorities as a diocese. This decision is being made to protect the most vulnerable among us, and with an ongoing commitment to help reduce the burden on our already overextended health care system. Please watch the diocesan website for future updates.

