

# St J of J 'At Home'

The Building is closed, the Church is open



*St John of Jerusalem, South Hackney  
from the Rectory window*

## Seventh Sunday of Easter - 24 May 2020

### The Gathering

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

### The Greeting

The Lord be with you  
and also with you.

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

*Informal greeting – words for the Eucharist on the website [www.sjoj.co.uk](http://www.sjoj.co.uk)*

### Prayer of Preparation

**Almighty God,  
to whom all hearts are open,  
all desires known,  
and from whom no secrets are hidden:  
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts  
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,  
that we may perfectly love you,  
and worthily magnify your holy name;  
through Christ our Lord.  
Amen.**

What God has prepared for those who love him,  
he has revealed to us through the Spirit;  
for the Spirit searches everything.  
Therefore, let us in penitence open our hearts to the Lord,  
who has prepared good things for those who love him.

*cf 1 Corinthians 2.9*

**Almighty God, our heavenly Father,  
we have sinned against you  
and against our neighbour  
in thought and word and deed,  
through negligence, through weakness,  
through our own deliberate fault.  
We are truly sorry  
and repent of all our sins.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
who died for us,  
forgive us all that is past  
and grant that we may serve you in newness of life  
to the glory of your name.  
Amen.**

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

Glory to God in the highest,  
and peace to his people on earth.  
Lord God, heavenly King,  
almighty God and Father,  
we worship you, we give you thanks,  
we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,  
Lord God, Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world:  
have mercy on us;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:  
receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father.  
Amen.

Collect for the Seventh Sunday of Easter

Let us pray:

O God the King of glory,  
you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ  
with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven:  
we beseech you, leave us not comfortless,  
but send your Holy Spirit to strengthen us  
and exalt us to the place where our Saviour Christ is gone before,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.  
Amen.

## The Coronavirus (COVID-19) Collect

Keep us, good Lord,  
under the shadow of your mercy  
in this time of uncertainty and distress.  
Sustain and support the anxious and fearful,  
and lift up all who are brought low;  
that we may rejoice in your comfort  
knowing that nothing can separate us from your love  
in Christ Jesus our Lord.  
**Amen.**

### The Liturgy of the Word

#### First Reading

#### A Reading from the Book of Acts

When the apostles had come together, they asked Jesus, ‘Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?’ He replied, ‘It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.’ When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up towards heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, ‘Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up towards heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.’

Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day’s journey away. When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying, Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

*Acts 1.6-14*

This is the Word of the Lord  
**Thanks be to God**

*(please say the verses in bold type):*

- 1 Let God arise and let his enemies be scattered; ◆  
let those that hate him flee before him.
- 2 **As the smoke vanishes, so may they vanish away; ◆**  
**as wax melts at the fire,**  
**so let the wicked perish at the presence of God.**
- 3 But let the righteous be glad and rejoice before God; ◆  
let them make merry with gladness.
- 4 **Sing to God, sing praises to his name;**  
**exalt him who rides on the clouds. ◆**  
**The Lord is his name; rejoice before him.**
- 5 Father of the fatherless, defender of widows, ◆  
God in his holy habitation!
- 6 **God gives the solitary a home**  
**and brings forth prisoners to songs of welcome, ◆**  
**but the rebellious inhabit a burning desert.**
- 7 O God, when you went forth before your people, ◆  
when you marched through the wilderness,
- 8 **The earth shook and the heavens dropped down rain,**  
**at the presence of God, the Lord of Sinai, ◆**  
**at the presence of God, the God of Israel.**
- 9 You sent down a gracious rain, O God; ◆  
you refreshed your inheritance when it was weary.
- 10 **Your people came to dwell there; ◆**  
**in your goodness, O God, you provide for the poor.**
- 32 Sing to God, you kingdoms of the earth; ◆  
make music in praise of the Lord;
- 33 **He rides on the ancient heaven of heavens ◆**  
**and sends forth his voice, a mighty voice.**
- 34 Ascribe power to God, whose splendour is over Israel, ◆  
whose power is above the clouds.
- 35 **How terrible is God in his holy sanctuary, ◆**  
**the God of Israel, who gives power and strength to his people!**  
**Blessed be God.**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John  
**Glory to you O Lord**

Jesus looked up to heaven and said, 'Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed.

'I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.'

*John 17:1-11*

This is the Gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Sermon - The Revd Andrew Wilson**

**The 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

*And at the end:*

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

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

The Peace

God has made us one in Christ.  
He has set his seal upon us and, as a pledge of what is to come,  
has given the Spirit to dwell in our hearts. Alleluia.

*cf Ephesians 1.13,14*

The peace of the Lord be always with you  
and also with you.

Preparation of the Table  
Taking of the Bread and Wine

Be present,  
Lord Jesus Christ,  
our risen high priest;  
make yourself known in the breaking of bread.  
Amen.

The Lord is here.  
**His Spirit is with us.**

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,  
holy Father, almighty and eternal God,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
For he is our great high priest  
who has entered once for all  
into the heavenly sanctuary,  
evermore to pour upon your Church  
the grace and comfort of your Holy Spirit.  
He is the one who has gone before us,  
who calls us to be united in prayer  
as were his disciples in the upper room  
while they awaited his promised gift,  
the life-giving Spirit of Pentecost.  
Therefore all creation yearns with eager longing  
as angels and archangels sing the endless hymn of praise:

**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.**

Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness;  
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit,  
and according to your holy will,  
these gifts of bread and wine  
may be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ;  
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.

Great is the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died:**

**Christ is risen:**

**Christ will come again.**

And so, Father, calling to mind his death on the cross,  
his perfect sacrifice made once for the sins of the whole world;  
rejoicing in his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension,  
and looking for his coming in glory,  
we celebrate this memorial of our redemption.  
As we offer you this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving,  
we bring before you this bread and this cup  
and we thank you for counting us worthy  
to stand in your presence and serve you.  
Send the Holy Spirit on your people  
and gather into one in your kingdom  
all who share this one bread and one cup,  
so that we, in the company of John the Baptist and all the saints,  
may praise and glorify you for ever,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord;  
by whom, and with whom, and in whom,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father,  
for ever and ever.

**Amen.**

## The Lord's Prayer

Rejoicing in God's new creation  
let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us:

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 ever.  
Amen.

## Breaking of the Bread

We break this bread  
to share in the body of Christ.

Though we are many, we are one body,  
because we all share in one bread.

## Agnus Dei (The Lamb of God)

Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world,  
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world,  
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world,  
grant us peace.

## Spiritual Communion

*From the Church of England's 'Guidance on Spiritual Communion and Coronavirus':*

Thanks be to you Lord Jesus Christ,  
for all the benefits you have given me,  
for all the pains and insults you have borne for me.  
Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally,  
I ask you to come spiritually into my heart.  
O most merciful redeemer, friend and brother,  
may I know you more clearly,  
love you more dearly,  
and follow you more nearly, day by day.  
Amen.

## Giving of Communion

Jesus is the Lamb of God  
who takes away the sin of the world.  
Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

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

*The sharing of Communion*

## Prayer after Communion

Eternal God, giver of love and power, your Son Jesus Christ has sent us into all the world to preach the gospel of his kingdom: confirm us in this mission, and help us to live the good news we proclaim; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Almighty God, we thank you for feeding us with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Through him we offer you our souls and bodies to be a living sacrifice. Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen.

## Notices

(1) Zoom church meeting at 11am. (2) If you would like to join Victoria at 4pm today to sing and reflect on some Easter hymns, or if you would like to join the virtual 'Happy Singers' group at 4pm on a Wednesday - please email her at [victoriahayorganist@gmail.com](mailto:victoriahayorganist@gmail.com) (3) scheme to help anyone who lives in Victoria Ward who needs to be self isolating at this time. The number to ring is **07447 462 531**. Please see the full message at the very bottom of this Order of Service. Love and prayers sent to everyone.

## Blessing & Dismissal

## Responsary

God raised Christ from the dead  
and enthroned him at his right hand in the heavenly realms.

God put all things in subjection beneath his feet  
and gave him as head over all things to the Church.

We died, and our life lies hidden with Christ in God.  
We set our minds on things above.

When Christ, who is our life, is revealed,  
we too will be revealed with him in glory.

Christ has gone up on high.  
Alleluia.

*cf Ephesians 1.20,23; Colossians 3.1-4*

May the Spirit,  
who hovered over the waters when the world was created,  
breathe into you the life he gives.

May the Spirit,  
who overshadowed the Virgin when the eternal Son came among us,  
make you joyful in the service of the Lord.

May the Spirit,  
who set the Church on fire upon the Day of Pentecost,  
bring the world alive with the love of the risen Christ.

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 the peace of Christ. Alleluia, Alleluia.  
Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.

## To neighbours in Victoria Ward

You may well have seen or heard of posters around our neighbourhood offering aid to people who need to be at home all the time now. People who are self isolating, including older members of our community and those with underlying health conditions.

The service being offered is that people can ring a number and a volunteer will be found who can help with shopping, running errands, walking your dog, have a conversation if you're feeling lonely - if you need to be at home at this time and there is no one to help you do these things.

The volunteer base has grown organically - all local people who live in Victoria Ward.

This volunteer network only covers Victoria Ward, so if you don't live in the Ward, I'm afraid this won't work for you. Neighbouring Wards are also running similar schemes. To check the Ward boundaries please use the 'Wards in Hackney' map on this page of the Hackney Council website. Scroll down to find the map, and then zoom in:

<https://hackney.gov.uk/constituencies-wards>

The number for people to call is  
**07447 462 531.**

email is [victoriamutualaid@gmail.com](mailto:victoriamutualaid@gmail.com)

Just to repeat - the area covered is Victoria Ward. People would need to be warned about that if this goes out widely, as the system is based on a web of very small units which cover the Ward.

Please spread the word about this to friends and neighbours in the Ward.

With all good wishes,

Andrew

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