

DULWICH GROVE
UNITED REFORMED CHURCH



E A S T E R

SUNDAY 11TH APRIL 2021

THE SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

You may join this act of worship online by accessing Zoom (either via your phone/tablet/PC)

Zoom Meeting ID
827 8687 2515

Newcomers and visitors, the community of Dulwich Grove URC welcomes you.

A polite reminder to keep your microphones on mute unless invited to unmute.

Please silence all mobile phones / background noise.

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ORDER OF SERVICE

THE GATHERING

The Welcome

Call to Worship *from Psalm 133*

HYMN

Bless the Lord oh my Soul

Bless the Lord oh my soul

Oh my soul

Worship His Holy name

Sing like never before

Oh my soul

I'll worship Your Holy name

2 You're rich in love
And You're slow to anger
Your name is great
And Your heart is kind
For all Your goodness
I will keep on singing
Ten thousand reasons
For my heart to find

1 The sun comes up
It's a new day dawning
It's time to sing Your song again
Whatever may pass
And whatever lies before me
Let me be singing
When the evening comes

3 And on that day
When my strength is failing
The end draws near
And my time has come
Still my soul will
Sing Your praise unending
Ten thousand years
And then forevermore

Prayer of Adoration

Officiant Lord we know You are risen,
yet you constantly surprise us,
not only on Easter morning,
but every time we glimpse you,
each recognition of your presence with us.
Surprise us again, Lord —
surprise us now by being real to us this morning.

All Risen Lord we praise You and greet You as You greet us.

Officiant Surprise us as you surprised Mary...
Fill us with joy as you welcome us...
Breathe your Spirit upon us and renew our spirit within us...
Pour out your peace upon us and make us whole.

All Risen Lord we praise You and greet You as You greet us.

Officiant Lord we greet you now.
May this time of worship allow us
to transcend this place and this time
and unite us with those who have come through death
to praise you in eternity.

**All Risen Lord we praise You and greet You as You greet us.
In Your precious name
Amen**

Confession of Sin

All Lord, it is only a week since we celebrated the joy of Easter, yet our lives have returned to normal. It is as if we have already forgotten that unbelievable gift of life that you made known to us through the risen Christ. Forgive us, Lord, and may the Easter message take root in our lives, and so enable us to live out its reality, this and every day. In the name of Jesus. Amen.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Hymn *My Help* <https://youtu.be/DWydssGbUBc?t>

THE MINISTRY OF GOD'S WORD

The New Testament Lesson

Reader A reading from the Acts of the Apostles (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

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people

All Thanks be to God

The Gospel

Reader The Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to 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.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people

All Thanks be to God

Reflection

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD’S WORD

Prayers of Intercession

The Lord’s Prayer (*modern form*)

THE SENDING FORTH

CLOSING HYMN

God sent His son, they called Him, Jesus
He came to love, heal and forgive
He lived and died to buy my pardon
An empty grave is there to prove my Saviour lives.

*Because He lives, I can face tomorrow
Because He lives, all fear is gone
Because I know He holds the future
And life is worth the living
Just because He lives.*

How sweet to hold a newborn baby
And feel the pride and the joy he gives
But greater still the calm assurance
This child can face uncertain days because He Lives. *refrain*

And then one day, I'll cross that river
I'll fight life's final war with pain
And then, as death gives way to vict'ry
I'll see the lights of glory and I'll know He reigns. *refrain*

Benediction & Dismissal