



## **Reading: Acts 2.14a,22-32**

But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them: ‘Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. ‘You that are Israelites, listen to what I have to say: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with deeds of power, wonders, and signs that God did through him among you, as you yourselves know— this man, handed over to you according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of those outside the law. But God raised him up, having freed him from death, because it was impossible for him to be held in its power. For David says concerning him, “I saw the Lord always before me, for he is at my right hand so that I will not be shaken; therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced; moreover, my flesh will live in hope. For you will not abandon my soul to Hades, or let your Holy One experience corruption. You have made known to me the ways of life; you will make me full of gladness with your presence.” ‘Fellow Israelites, I may say to you confidently of our ancestor David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. Since he was a prophet, he knew that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would put one of his descendants on his throne. Foreseeing this, David spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, saying, “He was not abandoned to Hades, nor did his flesh experience corruption.” This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are witnesses.

## **Gospel: John 20.19-end**

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.

**Post Communion Prayer:** Lord God our Father, through our Saviour Jesus Christ you have assured your children of eternal life and in baptism have made us one with him: deliver us from the death of sin and raise us to new life in your love, in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, by the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

## Notices

**THE ELECTORAL ROLL** is being revised, and the list is open **until this Saturday, 18<sup>th</sup> April.** There are forms at the back of the church for those whose names are not on the list and want to add their names. If you are not sure whether your name is on the list, please speak to Davison who is the electoral role officer. Everyone who is over the age of 16, Baptised, live in the Parish or have been a regular worshipper for at least six months is eligible to go on the electoral roll. Being on the list gives you voting right and you can vote for church leaders.

**WOMEN'S GROUP:** A reminder that the women's group will meet in church after the service today.

**MIDWEEK PRAYER SERVICES: Monday Morning Prayer** - at 9am online via Teams. Link is on [www.christchurcherith.org.uk](http://www.christchurcherith.org.uk) and Facebook, and can be shared. **Thursday Morning Prayer** – 9am at Christ Church. **Tuesday Evening Prayer** – 5pm at St John's.

**JUNIOR DISCIPLES CLUB** for ages 3.5 – 11 years, every Sunday except the first of each month, meet in the Church Hall 10-10.30am, and then join the service. **ELEVATED YOUTH GROUP** for ages 12-18 years meet in the Church Hall 7-9pm on the **third and fourth Fridays** of each month.

**TODDLER CHURCH** continues every **Tuesday at 9.00 – 10.30am** in the church hall. **MESSY CHURCH** continues on the third Friday of each month at 3.30 – 5.45pm in the church hall, next date this **Friday, 17 April**.

**GAMES NIGHTS:** Come and join us for an evening of fun and games - all ages welcome. The next sessions are at **St Johns Hall this Tuesday, 14 April**, then at **Christ Church Hall on Friday 24 April, both 7pm – 9pm**. **St JOHN'S SILVER BIRCH CLUB** continues on **Thursday 7 May, 12pm-2.30pm at St John's Community Hall**. Please take a leaflet at the back of church.

**LOVE TO SING:** Join us for fun, music and dancing on the third Thursday of each month. Next date is this Thursday, **16 April at 10.45am – 12.15pm in church (Christ Church)**. This event is in collaboration with *Memory Lane Melodies*, a *Home Instead* programme. Christ Church is collaborating with them in providing the space as part of our outreach.

**TODAY'S second New Testament Lectionary reading** is 1 Peter 1.3-9.

**COMMUNITY PRAYERS:** This week we pray especially for our local **Leisure Centre, Shop Keepers and Morrisons staff and shoppers**.

**NEXT WEEK: Readings for the Service of the Word at 10.00am on Sunday 19 April:**

Acts 2.14a,36-41    *Gospel:* Luke 24.13-35

## Contact Details

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*Contact details of other office holders are available at the back of church.*