



## **St John the Evangelist**

Scottish Episcopal Church, Jedburgh  
*A community of welcome in the Borders*

**14<sup>th</sup> April 2024**

## **Third Sunday of Easter**

**10.00 EUCHARIST**

*Celebrant: Revd. Andi Hofbauer*

**Hymn 105**

Christ the Lord is risen again!

### **PREPARATION**

*(page 1, blue service book)*

**Collect**

O God, who, in the death and resurrection of your Son, have raised up this fallen world: may we and all your people, whom you have saved from the gates of everlasting death, rejoice in your eternal presence; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end. **Amen**

### **LITURGY OF THE WORD**

*(page 4, blue service book)*

**1<sup>st</sup> reading:**

Acts 3:12 – 19

*(p. 129, pew Bible)*

**Psalm 4**

**Lift up the light of your countenance upon us, O Lord.**

2<sup>nd</sup> reading: 1 John 3:1 – 7 (p. 258, pew Bible)

**Gradual Alleluia:** *Salisbury Alleluia; Christopher Walker*

*The choir sings the Alleluia refrain, which the congregation repeats. The choir/cantor leads the verses after which all will join in singing the refrain.*



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

5  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Speak, Lord, we listen. Speak your words of wisdom,  
that we may receive the words that give life, life for the world ...

Pray for your needs, and God will always answer.

Where two or three come to pray in my name, I shall be there ...

Your words are Spirit, your words are Life.

Lord, we believe that you have the words that bring lasting life ...

Gospel: Luke 24:36b – 48

Sermon, Creed, Intercessions, Peace

**Hymn 295** Let all mortal flesh keep silence

**EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER AND COMMUNION**

*(page 7, then page 23, blue service book)*

**At Communion:** *there is hand gel on the way to the altar rail for those who wish to handle the chalice themselves. Please do not intinct (dip your wafer in the wine).*

Prayer after *We use prayer (a) on page 30:*

Communion ***“Holy and life-giving God ... ”***

**Hymn 117** The Day of Resurrection!

Blessing and Dismissal

***We pray especially today for***  
Syd Farquharson and Grace Lancaster

***Dear Friends and Easter people,***

After Jesus walked the Emmaus road with the two disciples, opening the Scriptures, breaking the bread and disappearing from their sight, the two hurry back to Jerusalem, where their excited report is discussed and debated. There, Jesus' sudden appearance scares all present out of their wits. Jesus shows them his hands and his feet and says, 'Touch me and see that it is I myself; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.'

A human act, a very material, physical act. Jesus gestures to his wounds and then eats that piece of fish. To be human and to have a body is to be vulnerable, liable to death and yet made for the eternity of God's life.

Here is love strong enough to bear a cross and to say with authority to frightened disciples, 'Touch me and see.' Through the open arms of forgiven and forgiving people, the deepest wounds are set upon a path of healing. Thus does the Easter Lord keep on inviting, "Touch me and see."

And it points us to the future: The risen Lord's invitation to touch and see foretells what is yet to come for our bodies. And don't we sometimes long for that fulfilment: to embrace the Christ and those long gone from us. And may we never take the simple joy of 'touch' for granted!

But before that great consummation, there is a task for us. For the Lord does not leave it just at 'making himself known to his disciples'. He opens their hearts to the scriptures, he speaks of repentance and forgiveness, for all the world and all creation – 'you are witnesses of these things!' Our promise, our task, my friends, in the name of the risen Christ.

For, alleluia! Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

***With my love and prayers for continuing Easter joy:  
Andi***

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Priest-in-Charge

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**Toilets** are available next door in St. John's Old School  
at the end of the downstairs corridor.

*Our welcomers have the key to the front door.*