A place of worship and welcome, sharing Christ's love

Seventh Sunday of Easter

24th May 2020

Notices:

Thy Kingdom Come 21 - 31 May:

Thy Kingdom Come is a global prayer movement that invites Christians around the world to pray for more people to come to know Jesus. What started in 2016 as an invitation from the Archbishops of Canterbury and York to the Church of England has grown into an international and ecumenical call to prayer.

Thursday 21 – Sunday 31 May 2020 Daily morning prayer at 8.30 am:

These are live streamed on our YouTube Channel and the link will be sent to you via email at the beginning of the week. You can also find the link on our website as they are created, together with the order of service.

Church Fundraising:

If you are shopping Online, please consider raising funds for our church at same time. If you would like to know more go to our church fundraising website:

https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/resurrectionandstbarnabas/



Recently Deceased:

Joyce Baker RIP Dorothy Clewlow RIP

> Years In Mind: Birthdays:

Reflection:

"Dear brothers and sisters... For forty days we have been celebrating with joyful hearts the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ, his bursting from the tomb and his defeat of the power of sin and death...Today we recall how he left this earth and returned to his Father, ascending into heaven to take his throne over all dominions and powers..." These words were said on Thursday as we celebrated Jesus' Ascension, returning back home to his Father. In the light of this, his prayer we hear today, reveals a poignant longing for home.

In a similar way, in Acts, Jesus, in a roundabout way, invites his disciples to give up on their hope for an earthly kingdom as home, and to recognise that God is their home. The angelic message that they will see Jesus return in the same way he left is reminiscent of Jesus' words in John 14:2-3. For the Psalmist, God's victory brings a place of safety and belonging to the most vulnerable and to God's people. And Peter encourages the believers to endure persecution because, as they share in Christ's suffering, so they also have the hope of sharing in Christ's glory – Christ's home.

So, even as Jesus longed for home, and opened the way for his followers to find a home in God's Kingdom (God's glory) so we live in God's glory, yet walking in this world, and unable to yet see and experience it completely. And as Christ sought to provide a home for the marginalised, the poor, the excluded and the suffering – so, we who are called to follow him, are called to be one with Christ and the Father, not just in their glory, but also in their home-building mission.

Risen, ascended Lord,
as we rejoice at your triumph,
fill your Church on earth with power and compassion,
that all who are estranged by sin
may find forgiveness and know your peace,
to the glory of God the Father. Amen.

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