

Vol: 43 - No 28

Sunday 11th April 2021

Second Sunday of Easter



(Easter Day Service at Trinity at Bowes including Holy Communion)

Dear Members and friends of Trinity at Bowes

This Sunday, the second Sunday of Easter, it is with great joy I can tell you that Trinity at Bowes is alive, active, and has opened its doors once again to welcome us all to its sanctuary. Yes we are opened for worship, and had a wonderful Easter Day service last Sunday, in which many members participated. The service was also available via Zoom. Indeed, the stone which lay at the entrance of the tomb in which Jesus was laid was rolled away before Mary Magdalene and Mary, the mother of Jesus, got there.

Matt 28: 1. These were women who before had said amongst themselves "who will roll away the stone from the door to the sepulchre?" Mark 16: 3. However, Matthew continues saying "there was a great earthquake: for the angel of the Lord descended from heaven and came and rolled back the stone from the door, and sat upon it."

Members and friends of Trinity at Bowes; is it right for us to say that there has been a great stone at the entrance to the door of our Church for most of the past thirteen months? Yes this Covid-19 pandemic, has caused us to shut our doors, now thankfully the angel of the Lord has descended, and rolled the stone away, and with all the precautionary measures of our Government we can safely enter again. Praise and thanks to Almighty God our father.

Now then let us go forth in faith with God going before us we will overcome every obstacle in our path. This is how Edmond Budry sums it up in song: ***Singing the Faith No: 313***

*"Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son
Endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won;
Angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away
Kept the folded grave-clothes where thy body lay
Thine be the glory, risen, conquering son;
Endless is the victory thou o'er death has won*

Theo Hercules

Contact:

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LECTIONARY REFLECTION

Lectionary readings: *Psalm 133, Acts 4:32-35, 1.John 1:1-2:2, St John 20:19-23*



Reflection based on the Gospel. **‘Jesus Appears to His Disciples’**

The scene shifts from the tomb in the garden to a locked room somewhere in Jerusalem, and from “early on the first day of the week” (v. 1) to **the evening of that first day of the week** (v. 19). Despite the faith of the beloved disciple (v. 8) and despite the message brought by Mary Magdalene (v. 18), the disciples as a group are still afraid.

Their reaction to her message is not recorded in John’s Gospel, but another tradition appended to Mark by later scribes’ states that after Mary had seen Jesus, she “went and told those who had been with him” and found them “mourning and weeping. When they heard her say that Jesus was alive and that she had seen him, they did not believe it” (Mark 16:10; cf. the apostles’ reaction to the report of the women who had seen the angels at the tomb according to Luke 24:11).

In John, the unbelief of the disciples as a group is not mentioned explicitly, only their fear of the Jewish authorities. The unbelief is attributed instead to one disciple, Thomas, in particular (vv. 24–25). Thomas is, the disciples’ representative and spokesman *both* in his scepticism (v. 25b) *and* in his faith (v. 28). The rest of the disciples, except for their report to Thomas in verse 25a, **‘We have seen the Lord’** are silent throughout the story, but Thomas’ confession, **My Lord and my God!** (v. 28) is finally theirs as well.

Jesus’ self-disclosure to his disciples on Easter Sunday evening and a week later is most appropriately understood as the fulfilment of virtually all he had promised them in his farewell discourses:

The Promise:

I will come to you -14:18, 28.

Jesus came and stood among them - 0:19, 26.

Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you -14:27.

Peace be with you -20:19, 21, 26.

I will see you again and you will rejoice, and no one will take away your joy -16:22.

The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord -20:20.

I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counsellor, the Spirit of truth -14:16–17.

With that he breathed on them and said: “Receive the Holy Spirit” -20:22.

If the empty tomb signified to the beloved disciple Jesus’ departure to the Father, his appearance to the disciples gathered behind locked doors signifies his return. He has come back, not to pay them a brief visit and go away again, but to stay.

Amen.

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PASTORAL



If you would like news items, prayer requests and or celebrations to be included in the Newsnotes Please send an email to revsam@mail.com before 6.00pm every Wednesday.
Pastoral Sec. Tony Addo – Anthony.addo54@gmail.com

O God our heavenly Father, as our United Kingdom continues with our restricted lockdown, we continue to seek your strength and courage for the days ahead.

God, this week we lift up the people of TaB, the families, friends and those who have asked us to pray for them. Help them to find ways to know that you love us all and consider each one of us important and a part of your creation. Pour into our lives your Holy Spirit to take away our worries, sickness and fear.

We pray for: those who are unwell, for those who are “staying safe” in their homes alone, for those working in care homes as well as the residents. We also pray for parents who struggle; juggling the pressures of work and home schooling, or those whose work puts them in the front line of risk.

We offer new prayers for: Suzy Godfrey following her mini heart attack last week. She has been in hospital for a week and is now at home, although will need to return for more tests and a second stent inserted.

We continue to pray for those who continue to need God’s grace and healing:

Elizabeth Arnold, Joyce Beaumont, Barbara Biggs, Iris Branch, Christina Cabrera, Dorothy Campbell, Yvonne Jardine, Rhona Knight, Yvonne Obeng, Hope Siwela, Victoria Sibanda, Elizabeth Takaedza, Charles & Elizabeth Dadey, Christine (Linda Dawson’s sister), Catherine Smith, Nick (friend of Francis Branch Thomas & the family of Roy Mdudu, the family of Bob Barker and Steve & Francis for the loss of his aunt.

We pray for the families of those who have died recently: including the family of Peter Godfrey, following the death of his sister Diane. We continue to hold in our prayers the family of Barbara McNally (previously Lewent) and also Franklyn & the rest of Cathy Riley’s family

Dear God hear our prayers. Amen



Birthdays & Anniversaries



Happy Birthday to our friends who may be celebrating a birthday this week

Clinton Morris 15th April

May God grant you overflowing joy, abundant opportunities, and a shower of blessings.
Happy Birthday!

To all who have Anniversaries this week.

May your marriage continue to be blessed with love, joy and companionship all the days of your life.

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Remembering our friends and loved ones



Let us remember our dearly departed. Where we would usually have flowers in church in their memory, instead, we will still remember them. Let Peter know if there is any dearly departed loved one that you would want remembered.

**Diane Howard (sister of Peter Godfrey),
Cathey Riley & Barbara McNally (previously Lewent)**

Donations that would have gone to the flower fund, will instead be used for the church garden project. Please send payment to the Tab bank account detailed on the next page, with a reference "Garden"

Live worship in our church building

REV SAM: COULD YOU ADD DETAILS OF THE UPCOMING SERVICES?

Catherine Riley or Cathy, as she was known among us has been an outstanding member of TaB ever since she became a member in the early 1980s. She served as a Senior Church Steward and was also a member of the Property and Finance Committee.

Her funeral shall take place at Tab on Wednesday 5th May at 1pm. More details regarding zoom attendance or live attendance in accordance with government guidelines.

Watch this space



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Church News and Centre Plus

During this Lockdown 3, Trinity at Bowes buildings is now open for worship in person, however worship will still be taking place through the New River Methodist Circuit - Online Church

Available on Facebook OR search You Tube for New River Methodist Circuit. Alternatively, you can use the link on our website's Home page of <http://trinityatbowes.co.uk>

Streaming Schedule for New River Methodist Circuit Online Church

Day/(s)	Time	Online Event	
Monday - Saturday	8.00 am	Thought for the Day	<i>Pre-recorded</i>
Monday - Saturday	9.00 am	Morning Prayers	<i>Live</i>
Saturday	10.30 am	Virtual Coffee Morning	<i>Live</i>
Sunday	10.30 am	Sunday Circuit Service	<i>Pre-recorded</i>

TaB church: Worship on Wednesday

Every Wednesday at 5pm-

As our building is closed, but our worship is growing week by week

Worship & Interactive Bible study.



Join via Zoom

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9928297354?pwd=TjdiSG40ZG5YbUVLaXBFL0RjRGZ5dz09>

Meeting ID: 992 829 7354 - Passcode: 518822



TaB Church Face Book

"Like" our Facebook Page and receive regular inspirational updates



TaB Sunday School Resources

Updated every Saturday and ready for use from the Sunday following



TaB Bank Account Details

Should you wish to make your offertory or a donation here are our details:

Account Name: [Trinity at Bowes Methodist Church](#)

Account no: [92883701](#) **Sort Code:** [09-01-55](#)

Please ensure you use your name as the payment reference



Local Elections are coming in May. Stay safe – register to vote by post

