



ST. JOHN'S RICHMOND

May 3, 2026

THE FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EASTER

(Holy Communion, based on 1662 Book of Common Prayer)


WELCOME!

Dear Friends: The Lord Jesus Christ gives every reason for Thomas to believe in him. It's what he wants: Jesus desires that all people would turn to him and be saved (or, in the words of St. John, "have life.") But what about legitimate doubts? How can we truly believe (trust in) Jesus Christ if we weren't there to see him after he rose from the dead? Are we disadvantaged compared with Thomas and his friends? Is belief possible without direct evidence? Our sermon text is short, well known, and has many critical things to say to us tonight!

I encourage you to sign up for Bible in a Day next weekend (Friday evening and Saturday for part of the day), especially if you have never been. This seminar was developed at SJR and has been refined and offered over 50 times across Canada and internationally. I'm speaking right now with a Deacon who wants to present it to a thriving expat community just outside of Paris. I think it is a wonderful way to get a sense of the big story of the Bible. I hope you can join me and many others from SJR and St. Andrew's Delta, and friends.

Warmly, *Sean*

TODAY'S SERVICE DETAILS

Lyrics and liturgy are on-screen & online. 

BIBLE READINGS: Sheldon Yu

Acts 10:34-43

John 20:24-29

CHILDREN (K-grade 6) begin in the service.

After the Children's Focus, their class will meet upstairs for approximately one hour. On Communion Sundays, they will rejoin the adult service in time to receive Holy Communion.

YOUTH (grades 7-12) meet each Sunday, except for the first Sunday of the month, when they remain for the whole Holy Communion service.

PRAYERS: Sarah Fleming

HOLY COMMUNION: All baptized Christians are welcome to receive Communion; if you would like to receive a prayer of blessing, please come forward with your arms crossed.

NOTICES

Bible in a Day: Will be shared at St. Andrew's Delta on Fri. May 8th & Sat. May 9th. SJR members are encouraged to carpool out in support of the STA congregation. Please register for BIAD using the recent SJR email.

SJR Lecture Series: Thurs. evening, May 14th: 'Challenges and Hopes for Christians in Canada', with guest speaker Dr. James Cunningham.

Baptism class: will be held Sundays for four weeks, with dinner, prior to Evening Services. Dates TBD.

SJR Reading group: Reading & discussing 'Basic Christianity' by John Stott. Contact Louise McConaghy if you are interested.

Midweek small group Bible Studies: Speak to Chris Wright or Ven. Sean if you want to join a group. Many at SJR have found this mid-week connection and encouragement indispensable.

Wednesday Morning Prayer - simplified - continues each week, 8:30am-9am on Zoom.

Have a prayer request? Reach out to Chris at contact@stjohnsrichmond.com and this will be included in our prayers.

OFFERING

We are very grateful for the financial support we receive from our church family! Please use the offering plate or give online, using the code. If you are visiting SJR, please simply be our guest.



NEW TO ANGLICANISM?

Find out more by picking up a brochure on the welcome table or by using the code.



WELCOME

OPENING VERSES

OPENING HYMN

(All lyrics will be screen-shared)

CONGREGATIONAL GREETING

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your Holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE SUMMARY OF THE LAW

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ says:

You shall love the Lord your God

with all your heart, and

with all your soul, and

with all your mind, and

with all your strength.

This is the first and great commandment.

And the second is like it: You shall love your neighbour as yourself.

On these two commandments depend all the law and the prophets. (Matthew 22:37-40)

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Let us pray.

COLLECT OF THE DAY & ADDITIONAL COLLECTS *(a focused request to God from the Book of Common Prayer, for this day in the church year; found on Page 1 of our service sheet).*

FIRST BIBLE READING (listed on the front page)

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

PRAYER WITH THE CHILDREN

SONGS

SECOND BIBLE READING (listed on the front page)

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

NICENE CREED

I believe in one God the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible:

I believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, True God from True God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe One, Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic Church.

I acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

SERMON

OFFERTORY HYMN

And they came, everyone whose heart was stirred up, and everyone whose spirit was made willing, and they brought the Lord's offering. Exodus 35:21

OFFERTORY PRAYER:

Blessed are you, O Lord, for everything in heaven and on earth is yours.

All things come from you, and of your own have we given you.

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYERS

HOLY COMMUNION INSTRUCTIONS

INVITATION

All you who truly and earnestly repent of your sins, and seek to live in love and charity with your neighbours, and intend to live the New Life, following the commandments of God and walking in his holy ways: draw near with faith, and make your humble confession to Almighty God.

CONFESSION

Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,

Maker of all things and Judge of all people:

**We acknowledge and confess all our sins and wickedness,
which we have committed by thought, word, and deed, against your divine majesty, provoking
most justly your righteous anger against us.**

We sincerely repent with heartfelt sorrow for these our transgressions.

The memory of them grieves us; the burden of them is more than we can bear.

**Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; for your Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake
forgive us all that is past; and grant that from now on we may serve and please you in newness of
life, to the honour and glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

ABSOLUTION

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who in his great mercy has promised forgiveness of sins to all who sincerely repent and with true faith turn to him: Have mercy upon you; pardon and deliver you from all your sins; confirm and strengthen you in all goodness; and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

COMFORTABLE WORDS

Hear what comfortable words our Saviour Christ says to all that truly turn to him.
Come to me, all who labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. *Matthew 11:28*

God so loved the world that he gave his only-begotten Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish, but have eternal life. *John 3:16*

Hear also what Saint Paul says: This is a trustworthy saying, deserving of full acceptance: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. *1 Timothy 1:15.*

And hear also what Saint John says: If anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the propitiation for our sins. *1 John 2:1-2*

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you; **And with your spirit.**
Lift up your hearts; **We lift them up unto the Lord.**
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God; **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right, our duty and joy, that we should always and everywhere give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of Heaven and Earth.

But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious Resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord: for he is the very Paschal Lamb, which was offered for us, and has taken away the sin of the world; who by his death has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again has restored to us everlasting life.

Therefore with angels and archangels, and with all the saints in heaven,
we praise and magnify your glorious Name, evermore praising you, and saying:

[spoken]

**Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of hosts, heaven and earth are full of thy glory.
Glory be to thee, O Lord most high. Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest!**

PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS

**We do not presume to come to this your table, O merciful Lord,
trusting in our own righteousness, but in your abundant and great mercies.
We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table;
but you are the same Lord, whose character is always to have mercy:
Grant us therefore, gracious Lord,
so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ,
and to drink his blood,
that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body,
and our souls washed through his most precious blood,
and that we may evermore dwell in him,
and he in us. Amen.**

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

Blessing and glory and thanksgiving belong to you, Almighty God our heavenly Father, because in your tender mercy you gave your only Son, Jesus Christ, to take our nature upon him, and to suffer death upon the Cross for our redemption; who made there, by his one oblation of himself, once offered, a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, offering, and satisfaction, for the sins of the whole world; and instituted and in his Holy Gospel commanded us to continue a perpetual memory of his most precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

Hear us, O merciful Father, and grant that we, receiving this bread and wine, according to your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed body and blood; who in the same night he was betrayed, took bread; and, when he had given thanks, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you: Do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise, after supper he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink this, all of you; for this is my blood of the New Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins: Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

WORDS OF ADMINISTRATION

The body of our Lord Jesus Christ, which was given for you, preserve your body and soul unto everlasting life: Take and eat this in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your heart by faith, with thanksgiving.

The blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, which was shed for you, preserve your body and soul unto everlasting life: Drink this in remembrance that Christ's blood was shed for you, and be thankful.

THE LORD'S PRAYER *please kneel*

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive them that trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

PRAYERS AFTER COMMUNION

Almighty and everlasting God, we thank you for graciously feeding us in these holy mysteries with the spiritual food of the most precious body and blood of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ; for assuring us through this Sacrament of your favour and goodness towards us; that we are living members of the mystical body of your Son, the blessed company of all faithful people, and are also heirs, through hope, of your everlasting kingdom.

And here we offer and present to you O Lord, ourselves - our souls and bodies - to be a reasonable, holy, and living sacrifice. And although we are unworthy, yet we ask you to accept this duty and service we owe, not weighing our merits but pardoning our offences, through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with you and the Holy Spirit be all honour and glory, world without end, Amen.

NOTICES

CLOSING HYMN

BLESSING / BENEDICTION The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you, always.
Amen.

What we see in Chapter 20

Thomas and the Ten: Unbelief (Not 'Doubt')

Thomas and Jesus: Belief by Sight

Thomas' Confession and Commitment

Blessed are Those Who Trust the Evidence