



SAINTS A & A



## **Worship@Home Friday 19th April Meeting by Zoom Saints A & A**

Join Zoom Meeting for our services;

Colin Gordon is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Sunday 19th April Worship

Time: Apr 19, 2020 09:00 AM Auckland, Wellington

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84185582941?pwd=eIFtaGRMU25hbDNNdTh2aUJMMS96dz09>

Meeting ID: 841 8558 2941

Password: 934815

Dial by your location

+64 9 884 6780 New Zealand

+64 4 886 0026 New Zealand

Meeting ID: 841 8558 2941

Password: 934815

**9:00am - 9:25am** Welcome and settling in ... *you are welcome to grab a cuppa and bring it into our service by getting your own ☺ so as not to bust the bubble.*

**Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2020**

**Saints A & A**

**Birkenhead Northcote**

**Aotearoa New Zealand**



**9:30am Gathering song:** This Easter celebration

### **Welcoming Space**

In hope, in longing

**We're glad to come together.**

In trust, in community

**We're glad to come together.**

In many moods, in many shapes and sizes

**We're glad to come together.**

In peace, in joy

**We're glad to come together.**

In solidarity with those who struggle

**We're glad to come together.**

In resistance to those who dominate

**We're glad to come together.**

In memory of Jesus, who lived with compassion

**We're glad to come together.**

In assurance that we belong here

**We're glad to come together**

**this Easter/Autumn season. <sup>i</sup>**

It is good to be alive!

To share life with each other

in this wonder-filled and evolving universe.

We are most grateful.

May wisdom dawn in us

so we may see all things in clarity.

**Let us light our community candles – the community of God.**

**Singing:** Psalm 46 God is our shelter and strength

**Meditation**

*You are invited to take hold of your Autumn leaf and look at it during the Meditation*

**“Autumn Leaf “**

Look at this leaf.

A sign of wonder,

a symbol of creation:

changing shape and colour

with the seasons...

This autumn shall be for me

the most glorious of them all

for I shall no longer

struggle possessively to clutch life

but instead like a leaf

let myself be blown by God’s spirit

and whenever I touch the earth

sing the song of the universe

dance in the power of God’s grace

and with tenderness offer myself to all.<sup>ii</sup>

**You are invited ...**

Breathe deeply... unclench your hands

and let your shoulders and neck relax.

Allow your face muscles to relax and sit comfortable,

You are connected with those

who wish for you, wellness.

*(Silence)*

Today is the beginning of the rest of our lives

and the world awaits the emerging wonders

we are and will yet be.

*(Silence)*

Deep peace to you all.<sup>iii</sup>

**Reading:** John 20:19 - 31

## Reflections on life with COVID-19 – interviews



In times of pandemic, for many of us most things have fallen off the calendar. Events are cancelled, routines are changed, and we live with the uncertainty of not knowing when things might return to normal. Depending on how you look at it, the calendar is a barren desert or a vast and welcoming open field.

### ***How do you handle loss of structure?***

**&** - Life—Easter improbably asserts—can come from death. This might seem like an absurd claim, if nature didn't tell us exactly the same thing.



### ***Where have you seen life arising from a place of death?***

Chat Rooms – with 2 questions to consider (10min)

1. ***Where have you seen life arising from a place of death?***
2. ***How do you handle loss of structure?***

Returning from chat rooms – one speaker from each group to report back

**Singing:** It is good to give thanks to the Lord

**Our Prayers for others:**

**The 'Abba' Prayer:**

*You are invited to pray in the spirit of the Abba/Lord's Prayer, and in your original language, as that is appropriate*

**Holy Being,  
whom we call by many different names,  
Blessed are you.  
Blessed are we in you.**

May we create with you a realm of mercy, peace and justice.  
 May love be done in the here and now as it is in the infinite.  
 May we share life in bread and hope.  
 For our failures to love, we need forgiveness.  
 May we find the paths of reconciliation.  
 In the midst of evil's every incarnation,  
 From the powers that possess our spirits and our structures,  
 May we find liberation.  
 In the power that is love, we seek to live and move and have our  
 being.  
 May it be so, now and forever. <sup>iv</sup>

**Concluding Song:** For the beauty of the Earth

### **Words of Blessing**

Fall in love with living  
 Wrestling with the chaos and the pain  
 Within ourself and within the world.  
 Join the celebration of life,  
 Dancing with the angels and the clowns.  
 And may the God of peace and joy,  
 Who is continually making all things new,  
 Embrace you  
 As a partner  
 In the divine creating. <sup>v</sup>  
**Amen! May it be so!**

Following the singing and blessing you are welcome to sign off or as has  
 been happening the last couple of times a number of folk have just stayed  
 on and chatted ... Just like on Sunday some have to get go and others stay.

John 20:19-31 New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)

## Jesus Appears to the Disciples

<sup>19</sup> 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." <sup>20</sup> After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. <sup>21</sup> Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." <sup>22</sup> When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. <sup>23</sup> If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

## Jesus and Thomas

<sup>24</sup> But Thomas (who was called the Twin<sup>Ⓜ</sup>), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. <sup>25</sup> 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."

<sup>26</sup> 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." <sup>27</sup> 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." <sup>28</sup> Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" <sup>29</sup> 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.”

## The Purpose of This Book

<sup>30</sup> Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. <sup>31</sup> But these are written so that you may come to believe<sup>[a]</sup> that Jesus is the Messiah,<sup>[a]</sup> the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

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<sup>i</sup> (Jack Nelson-Pallmeyer/wsj)

<sup>ii</sup> (Original: Unknown. Additional: Rex A E Hunt)

<sup>iii</sup> (Adapted. Rob Kleinheksel/C3Exchange, 2012)

<sup>iv</sup> (Nancy L Steeves)

<sup>v</sup> (Joyce Boyce-Tillman/wb)