

Sunday 11 April 2027

Third Sunday of Easter (Year B)

First Reading - Acts 10.9-23

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

At about midday,

Peter went up on the roof
to pray.

He became hungry,
and while a meal
was being prepared,
he fell into a trance.

He saw the heavens opened,
and something like
a large sheet
coming down,

being lowered
to the ground
by its four corners.

In the sheet, there were all kinds of
animals, reptiles, and birds.

Then he heard a voice, saying, 'Peter, get up.
Kill, and eat.'

But Peter said, 'Surely not, Lord; for I have
never eaten
anything
profane, or unclean.'

The voice replied, 'Whatever God declares clean,
you should not call profane.'

This happened three times;

then the vision
was suddenly
taken back up
into heaven.

Peter was still wondering what this could mean,
when three men arrived, having been sent
by the centurion, Cornelius.

The three men were standing by the gate,
asking whether Simon Peter was staying there.

Peter was still thinking about the vision,
but the Spirit said to him, 'These men
are searching for you.
You are to go with them, without hesitation,
for I have sent them to you.'

So Peter went down to meet them,
saying, 'I am Simon Peter. What brings you here?'

They answered, 'The centurion Cornelius
is a righteous man, who honours God,
and is respected
by the whole Hebrew nation.

He was directed,
by a vision of an angel,
to summon you to his house,
to hear what you have to say.'

So Peter invited them in,
and gave them lodging for the night;

and the next day, Peter,
and a small
group of believers,
set off with them,
towards the house of Cornelius.

This is the word of the Lord.

Second Reading - 1 John 1.6-9

A reading from the first letter of John.

We cannot say

that we have fellowship with God
if we are walking in darkness.

But if we walk in the light,
we have fellowship with God,
and with one another.

And the sacrifice of Jesus
cleanses us
from all our transgressions.

If we say

that we have
done no wrong,
we deceive ourselves,
and the truth is far from us.

But if we confess,
God is faithful and just,
and will forgive us,
and cleanse us
from all unrighteousness.

This is the word of the Lord.

Gospel - Luke 24.36-48

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to Luke.

The gathered disciples
were talking about all
that they had heard and seen,
when Jesus himself
stood amongst them,

and said, 'Peace be with you.'

They were astonished, and feared
that they were seeing a ghost.

Jesus said to them, 'Why are you afraid,
and why is there doubt in your hearts?
Look at my hands and my feet -
touch, and see -
for a ghost does not have flesh and bones
as you see that I have.'

Overwhelmed by joy and amazement,
the disciples were hardly able to believe
that Jesus himself
was standing amongst them.

Jesus said, 'Do you have anything here to eat?'
They gave him a piece of fish,

and he took it, and ate in their presence.

Then he said to them, 'Everything
that is written about me,
in the law of Moses, in the prophets,
and in the psalms, must be fulfilled.'

And he opened their minds
to understand the scriptures, where it is written
that the Messiah is to suffer,
and to rise from the dead
on the third day;

and that repentance, and forgiveness,
will be proclaimed, in his name,
to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem.

And he said to them, 'You are witnesses
to these things.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.