



Happy Easter from Rev Sam Sanya

April 2025

Dear friends,

Christ Is Risen! He is Risen Indeed Alleluia!

It is my joy to wish you a 'Happy Easter' this Sunday morning!

I write as I look out the window awaiting sunrise which is scheduled for 5.54am! I love welcoming the dawn of a new day - perhaps it has something to do with my surname too, 'Sanya', which means Sunrise (a name given to a child born at sunrise which would be around 6-7am all year round in Uganda).

I hear the birds singing as they join the trees clapping their hands and indeed creation and Christians around the world celebrating the triumph of our Lord Jesus Christ! Because he lives, we can face tomorrow. Our Jesus is alive and has triumphed over sin and death.

Over this lent season I have rediscovered the value of fellowship and community. We are created as social beings to live in relationship with God and with one another. My prayer and hope for each of us is that we will be intentional in identifying someone or a group of fellow believers with whom we can share life and faith together.

Jesus models this for us well over his ministry where he is sent from a place of fellowship with the Father and the Spirit, and as he continues to minister in that fellowship of his divine nature, he is raised in a family and in a community then later in his ministry, he calls the 12 disciples that they might be with him and at the end of his ministry, he serves them; he washes their feet and shares communion with them.

We are called to be a people of belonging and participation. Jesus came with a ministry of reconciliation of us to God and indeed to one another for he longs for a united body. Jesus also then commissions his disciples and all who heard him to love as he has loved us; to serve one another as he had served. He commissions them to a life of mission and discipleship. We are called to belong to Christ, to the body of Christ and to be indeed a functional body where we participate in a practical life of mission and discipleship.

My Prayer for us this Easter is that we will rediscover or discover for the first time, our belonging and identity in our risen Lord Jesus Christ, that we shall find true welcome and belonging within the fellowship of brothers and sisters at St John's and in so doing, that we shall find our purpose and unique contribution that we can make. For one of the strongest witnesses there can be, is the real and practical love of brothers and sisters united in Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit!

Happy Easter!

Revd Sam Sanya
Vicar

