



## The Acting Bishop of Lincoln

### Easter 2026

There are so many different parts of the Easter Story. The Bible tells us about Jesus' death on the Cross, being buried in the tomb, and then his rising to new life.

The Bible also tells us many different ways in which Jesus appears to his friends and followers. One of my favourite Easter stories in the Bible is when Jesus appears to his followers who are huddled together in an upstairs room. They are uncertain and afraid, but Jesus comes into the room and he says 'Peace be with you.'

These are words that Christians all over the world say to each other. It's important for Christians to be talking about Peace, especially here and now.

In church, we will often say these words to each another during a service. Sometimes people turn to each other and wave, and sometimes people like to shake each other's hands. With our friends and family, we might share a hug as well. We say to each other: 'Peace be with you' just as Jesus did.

These are words and actions that mean something special. They are a hope and a prayer for our fellow Christians and the people we love. They are a sign that we are 'at peace' with each other. They are a prayer for peace in the church and in the world. What does the word 'Peace' mean to you?

In the Easter Story, when Jesus says 'Peace be with you' he is saying it to his followers who are afraid, to comfort and help them. We can do the same. Our words and actions can bring peace – comfort and help to those in need.

At the end of a church service, we will sometimes say 'Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.' Peace isn't just something we say, it is something we do! How can you share Peace with someone else today? What words can you say, or what things can you do, that will bring some Peace into someone's life?

There are lots of worrying things happening today, in the world, in the church, and even in our own lives as well. This Easter, I want you to remember those words that Jesus spoke: 'Peace be with you.' Remember that God gives you his gift of peace, and he wants you to share it with others. My prayer is that we can learn to share that gift with the people around us, and that the world will be a more peaceful place.

Peace be with you, and happy Easter!

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