

# **Welcome to a service of Holy Communion**

**Easter Sunday**

*20<sup>th</sup> April 2025*

## **The Greeting**

The Lord be with you

**And also with you.**

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

**He is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

## **Jesus Christ is Risen Today**

## **Prayers of penitence**

Christ our Passover lamb has been sacrificed for us.

Let us therefore rejoice by putting away all malice and evil  
and confessing our sins with a sincere and true heart.

*Silence is kept.*

Have mercy on us, O God,  
in your great goodness;  
according to the abundance of your compassion  
blot out our offences.

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Like Mary at the empty tomb,  
we fail to grasp the wonder of your presence.  
Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Like the disciples behind locked doors,  
we are afraid to be seen as your followers.  
Christ, have mercy.

**Christ, have mercy.**

Like Thomas in the upper room,  
we are slow to believe.  
Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

### **Absolution**

May the God of love and power  
forgive *you* and free *you* from *your* sins,  
heal and strengthen *you* by his Spirit,  
and raise *you* to new life in Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

### **Gloria in Excelsis**

**Glory to God in the highest,  
and peace to his people on earth.**

**Lord God, heavenly King,  
almighty God and Father,  
we worship you, we give you thanks,  
we praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,  
Lord God, Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world:  
have mercy on us;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:  
receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father.  
Amen.**

### **The Collect**

Let us pray that we may reign with the risen Christ in glory.

*Silence is kept.*

*The Collect is said, and the people respond,*  
**Amen.**

### **Reading**

**Acts 10. 34 - 43**

*At the end:*

This is the Word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God**

**Led like a lamb (You're alive!)**

**Reading**

**John 20. 1 – 18**

Alleluia, alleluia.

I am the first and the last, says the Lord, and the living one;

I was dead, and behold I am alive for evermore.

**Alleluia.**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord

Jesus Christ according to John.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*At the end:*

This is the Gospel of the Lord

**Praise to you O Christ**

## Sermon

See, what a morning

### Renewal of Baptismal Vows

As we celebrate the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ from the dead, we remember that through the paschal mystery we have died and been buried with him in baptism.

In baptism, God calls us out of darkness into his marvellous light. To follow Christ means dying to sin and rising to new life in him.

Therefore I ask:

Do you reject the devil and all rebellion against God?

**I reject them.**

Do you renounce the deceit and corruption of evil?

**I renounce them.**

Do you repent of the sins that separate us from God and neighbour?

**I repent of them.**

Do you turn to Christ as Saviour?

**I turn to Christ.**

Do you submit to Christ as Lord?

**I submit to Christ.**

Do you come to Christ, the way, the truth and the life?

**I come to Christ.**

## **Prayer over the water**

Praise God who made heaven and earth,  
who keeps his promise for ever.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give thanks and praise.

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ  
was baptised in the river Jordan,  
we thank you for the gift of water  
to cleanse us and revive us.

We thank you that through the waters of the Red Sea  
you led your people out of slavery  
to freedom in the promised land.

We thank you that through the deep waters of death  
you brought your Son,  
and raised him to life in triumph.

Bless this water, that your servants who are washed in it  
may be made one with Christ in his death and in his resurrection,  
to be cleansed and delivered from all sin.

Send your Holy Spirit upon them, bring them to new birth  
in the household of faith, and raise them with Christ to full  
and eternal life;  
for all might, majesty, authority,  
and power are yours, now and for ever.

**Amen**

## Profession of faith

*The president addresses the congregation*

Brothers and sisters, I ask you to profess the faith of the Church.

Do you believe and trust in God the Father?

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe and trust in his Son Jesus Christ?

**I believe in Jesus Christ,  
his only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

Do you believe and trust in the Holy Spirit?

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting.  
Amen.**

Almighty God,  
we thank you for our fellowship in the household of faith  
with all who have been baptized in your name.  
Keep us faithful to our baptism,  
and so make us ready for that day  
when the whole creation shall be made perfect in your Son,  
our Saviour Jesus Christ.  
**Amen.**

May Christ dwell in your hearts  
through faith,  
that you may be rooted and  
grounded in love,  
and bring forth the fruit of the Spirit.  
**Amen.**

### **Prayers of Intercession**

*This response may be used:*  
Lord in your mercy  
**Hear our prayer**

*At the end:*  
Merciful Father,  
**Accept these prayers for the sake of your Son our Saviour,  
Jesus Christ.**  
**Amen**



## **The Peace**

The risen Christ came and stood among his disciples and said,  
'Peace be with you.'

Then were they glad when they saw the Lord. Alleluia.

Alleluia. The peace of the risen Christ be always with you  
**and also with you. Alleluia.**

**And can it be**

## **Preparation of the Table**

Creator of all,  
you wash away our sins,  
you give us new birth by the Spirit,  
and redeem us in the blood of Christ.

As we celebrate the resurrection,  
renew your gift of life within us.

We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the risen Lord.

**Amen.**

## **Eucharistic Prayer A**

The Lord is here.

**His Spirit is with us.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,  
always and everywhere to give you thanks,  
almighty and eternal Father,  
and on this day of our redemption  
to celebrate with joyful hearts  
the memory of your wonderful works.

For by the mystery of his passion  
Jesus Christ, your risen Son,  
has conquered the powers of death and hell  
and restored in men and women the image of your glory.  
He has placed them once more in paradise  
and opened to them the gate of life eternal.

And so, in the joy of this Passover,  
earth and heaven resound with gladness,  
while angels and archangels and the powers of all creation  
sing for ever the hymn of your glory:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

Accept our praises, heavenly Father,  
through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ,  
and as we follow his example and obey his command,  
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit  
these gifts of bread and wine  
may be to us his body and his blood;  
who, in the same night that he was betrayed,  
took bread and gave you 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.

**To you be glory and praise for ever.**

In the same way, after supper  
he took the cup and gave you thanks;  
he gave it to them, saying:  
Drink this, all of you;  
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.

**To you be glory and praise for ever.**

Therefore, heavenly Father,  
we remember his offering of himself  
made once for all upon the cross;  
we proclaim his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension;  
we look for the coming of your kingdom,  
and with this bread and this cup  
we make the memorial of Christ your Son our Lord.

Great is the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died,  
Christ is risen,  
Christ will come again.**

Accept through him, our great high priest,  
this our sacrifice of thanks and praise,  
and as we eat and drink these holy gifts  
in the presence of your divine majesty,  
renew us by your Spirit,  
inspire us with your love  
and unite us in the body of your Son,  
Jesus Christ our Lord.

**To you be glory and praise for ever.**

Through him, and with him, and in him,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
with all who stand before you in earth and heaven,  
we worship you, Father almighty,  
in songs of everlasting praise:

**Blessing and honour and glory and power  
be yours for ever and ever.  
Amen.**

## **The Lord's Prayer**

Rejoicing in God's new creation, as our Saviour taught us, so we pray:

**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into  
temptation  
but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours  
now and for ever.  
Amen.**

## **Breaking of the Bread**

Jesus says, I am the bread of life,  
Whoever eats of this bread will live for ever.  
**Lord, our hearts hunger for you;  
Give us this bread always.**

## **Agnus Dei**

**Jesus, Lamb of God,  
have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, bearer of our sins,  
have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, redeemer of the world,  
grant us peace.**

### **Giving of Communion**

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.  
**Therefore let us keep the feast.**  
**Alleluia.**

### **Music for distribution of communion**

### **Prayer After Communion**

*The President prays after communion and the people respond,*  
**Amen.**

**Almighty God,  
we thank you for feeding us  
with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ.  
Through him we offer you  
our souls and bodies  
to be a living sacrifice.  
Send us out in the power of your Spirit  
to live and work  
to your praise and glory.  
Amen.**

## **Notices**

### **The Blessing**

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

**He is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

God, who through the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ  
has given us the victory,  
give you joy and peace in your faith;  
and the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always.

**Amen.**

**Thine be the glory**

### **The Dismissal**

We are raised to new life with Christ.

Go in his peace. Alleluia, alleluia.

**Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

**Exit Music**