



**Welcome to  
a service of Holy Communion  
Easter Sunday**

*5<sup>th</sup> April 2026*

**The Greeting**

The Lord be with you  
And also with you.  
Alleluia. Christ is risen.  
**He is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

**Hymn/Song**

**Prayer of preparation**

**Almighty God,  
to whom all hearts are open,  
all desires known,  
and from whom no secrets are hidden:  
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts  
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,  
that we may perfectly love you,  
and worthily magnify your holy name;  
through Christ our Lord.  
Amen.**

**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 Minister prays the Collect of the day, and the people respond:*

**Amen.**

## First Reading

**Acts 10. 34 - 43**

*At the end:*

This is the Word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God**

**Hymn/Song**

**Reading**

**Matthew 28. 1 - 10**

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 Matthew.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*At the end:*

This is the Gospel of the Lord

**Praise to you O Christ**

**Sermon**

**Hymn/Song**

**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.

Here we are washed by the Holy Spirit  
and made clean.

Here we are clothed with Christ,  
dying to sin that we may live his risen life.  
As children of God, we have a new dignity  
and God calls us to fullness of life.

### **Presentation of the Candidate**

Jesus said, 'Let the children come to me.  
Do not stop them'.

We thank God for [N] who has come to be baptised today.

Christ loves her and welcomes her into his Church.

[N] do you wish to be baptised?

**I do.**

God knows each of us by name  
and we are his.

Parents and godparents,  
you speak for Elodie and Brogan today.

Will you pray for them,  
and help them to follow Christ?

**We will.**

Faith is the gift of God to his people.

In baptism the Lord is adding to our number those whom he is calling.

People of God, will you welcome [N] and uphold them in their new life in Christ?

**With the help of God, we will.**

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.**

### **Profession of Faith**

Let us affirm,  
together with Carol who is being baptised,  
our common faith in Jesus Christ.

Do you believe and trust in God the Father,  
source of all being and life,  
the one for whom we exist?

**I believe and trust in him.**

Do you believe and trust in God the Son,  
who took our human nature,  
died for us and rose again?

**I believe and trust in him.**

Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit,  
who gives life to the people of God  
and makes Christ known in the world?

**I believe and trust in him.**

This is the faith of the Church.

**This is our faith.**

**We believe and trust in one God,  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.**

### **Prayer over the water**

We praise you, loving Father, for the gift of your Son Jesus.  
He was baptised in the River Jordan, where your Spirit came upon him  
and revealed him as the Son you love.  
He sent his followers to baptise all who turn to him.  
Now, Father, we ask you to bless this water,  
that those who are baptised in it  
may be cleansed in the water of life, and, filled with your Spirit,  
may know that they are loved as your children, safe in Christ for ever.

**Amen**

## Baptism

[N] is this your faith?

**This is my faith**

[N] I baptise you  
in the name of the Father,  
and of the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

## Signing with the Cross

Christ claims you for his own.  
Receive the sign of his cross.

**Do not be ashamed of Christ.**

**You are his for ever.**

**Stand bravely with him  
against all the powers of evil,  
and remain faithful to Christ to the end of your life.**

May almighty God deliver you from the powers of darkness, and lead you in the light and obedience of Christ.

**Amen.**

## Commission

God of grace and life, in your love you have given us a place among your people; keep us faithful to our baptism, and prepare us for that glorious day when the whole creation will be made perfect in your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ.

**Amen**

## The Welcome

There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism: by one Spirit we are all baptised into one body.

**We welcome you into the fellowship of faith;  
we are children of the same heavenly Father;  
we welcome you.**

## 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**

# Liturgy of the Sacrament

## 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.**

## Hymn/Song

## 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.**

## Hymn/Song

## The Dismissal

We are raised to new life with Christ.

Go in his peace. Alleluia, alleluia.

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

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If something you've heard or experienced today has stirred a question in you, *don't ignore it*. Faith often begins with a question. You are always welcome here to explore, to wonder, and to belong.



## **Come and join us for our regular services:**

### **St Andrew's**

Sundays – 9.30am

Wednesdays – 10.45am

### **St Paul's**

Sundays – 11.30am

Thursdays – 11.00am (in the Hall)

### **St Peter's**

Sundays – 9.30am

## **Contact us:**

For baptism, wedding or funeral enquiries, questions about faith or if you have a pastoral concern

### **Revd Pam Smith**

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## **Follow us:**

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[www.blackleycofe.church](http://www.blackleycofe.church)