

**Welcome to
a service of
Holy Communion
Sunday after the Ascension
17th May 2026**



The Greeting

The Lord be with you
And also with you.

Alleluia. Christ is risen.
He is risen indeed. Alleluia.

Hymn: Christ Triumphant

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 has gone up on high, leading captivity captive
and bringing gifts for men.

As we prepare ourselves to meet him here in the courts of heaven
let us call to mind our many failures and sins.

Silence is kept.

Lord Jesus, you suffered a cruel death on the cross for our
redemption,

yet we have forgotten your pain
and stayed in the realm of the evil you defeated.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, you were raised from death to bring us new life,
yet we have preferred the comfort of the familiar,
and the empty promises of a sinful world.

Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, you have ascended
to your Father and our Father,
your God and our God;
plead there at the right hand of God
for our forgiveness
and entry into the fullness of his presence.

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.

O God the King of glory,
you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ
with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven:
we beseech you, leave us not comfortless,
but send your Holy Spirit to strengthen us
and exalt us to the place where our Saviour Christ is gone before,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

Reading

Acts 1. 6 – 14

At the end:

This is the Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Hymn: Meekness and majesty

Gospel Reading

John 17. 1 - 11

Alleluia, alleluia.

Go, and make disciples of all nations, says the Lord, and remember I am with you always to the end of the age.

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

Hymn: Our God reigns

Profession of faith

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.**

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

God has made us one in Christ.
He has set his seal upon us and,
as a pledge of what is to come,
has given the Spirit to dwell in our hearts. Alleluia.

cf 2 Corinthians 1.22

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

Hymn: Lord enthroned in heavenly splendour

Preparation of the Table

Father, by your Holy Spirit
you keep the Church in unity and truth.
As we break bread together,
may we be one with Christ in faith and hope and love,
now and for ever.

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,
holy Father, almighty and eternal God,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

For he is our great high priest
who has entered once for all
into the heavenly sanctuary,
evermore to pour upon your Church
the grace and comfort of your Holy Spirit.
He is the one who has gone before us,
who calls us to be united in prayer

as were his disciples in the upper room
while they awaited his promised gift,
the life-giving Spirit of Pentecost.

Therefore all creation yearns with eager longing
as angels and archangels sing the endless hymn of praise:

**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

We break this bread
to share in the body of Christ.
**Though we are many, we are one body,
because we all share in one bread.**

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

Eternal God, giver of love and power,
your Son Jesus Christ has sent us into all the world
to preach the gospel of his kingdom:
confirm us in this mission,
and help us to live the good news we proclaim;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
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.

The Spirit of truth lead you into all truth,
give you grace to confess that Jesus Christ is Lord,
and strengthen you to proclaim the word and works of God;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.
Amen.

Hymn: We want to see Jesus lifted high

The Dismissal

We are raised to new life with Christ.
Go in his peace. Alleluia, alleluia.
Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

Exit Music

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