

A Celebration of Holy Communion at Easter



**God of glory, by the raising of your Son
you have broken the chains of death and hell:
fill your Church with faith and hope;
for a new day has dawned and the way to life
stands open in our Saviour Jesus Christ.**

Information about Communion

Communion is now received and you will be invited forward. At the distribution the minister will say words of administration to which you may reply, **AMEN**.

If you would like communion brought to you, please remain in your seat and inform the communion steward. **All are welcome**, to receive the bread and wine, but if for any reason you do not wish to receive, then please bring this order of service with you and hold it in your hand. The minister will then know not to offer the sacrament to you and will say a prayer of blessing instead.

Children at Communion. Children are welcome to take communion. The Ministers will be pleased to speak with children and adults about growing our appreciation of the sacrament.

Confirmation. You do not have to be confirmed to take communion in our church.

If you would like gluten free bread. Please advise the minister at the administration.

If you wish to partake only of the bread, take the chalice or glass as it is presented and give it back without drinking.

You are welcome to intinct, by holding the wafer and dipping the tip of the wafer into the chalice. Please ensure that you dip only the tip of the wafer, you must not allow your fingers to touch the wine.

Prayer for Christian Healing

In our services of Holy Communion everybody is offered the opportunity to receive a prayer for Christian healing. If you wish to receive this prayer please cross your arms over your chest when you come forward to receive the bread and the wine. Before administering the bread and wine the minister will pray the following prayer

'In the name of God and trusting in his might alone, receive Christ's healing touch to make you whole. May Christ bring you wholeness of body, mind, and spirit, deliver you from every evil, and give you his peace.'

The Easter Candle

Today we light the Paschal Candle, it takes its name from the Hebrew word 'Pesach' meaning Passover. Passover was that time when the Israelites celebrated their exodus from slavery in Egypt. It was the feast celebrated by Jesus with the disciples (Maundy Thursday) on the night before he died. The Paschal Candle is then lit for every service in our church during the full 50 days of Eastertide. After the solemn weeks with purple colours of Lent we wear the white of Easter and the brightness of the candle symbolises the joy of the resurrection.

Minister Alleluia! Christ is risen.
All He is risen indeed, Alleluia!

Minister Jesus Christ yesterday and today the beginning and the end Alpha and Omega, all time belongs to him and all ages; to him be glory and power through every age and for ever. Amen.

All May the light of Christ, rising in glory banish all darkness from our hearts and minds.

Minister This is the day when our Lord Jesus Christ was raised gloriously from the dead, crushing the power of sin and destroying the sting of death. Throughout the world Christians celebrate the mighty power of God as Christ calls us out of darkness to share in his marvellous light. May we, and all Christ's people, shine as lights in the world to the glory of God the Father.

As the candle is lit

Minister The light of Christ
All Thanks be to God

Hymn

Confession

The minister uses this invitation to confession

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.

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

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

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

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.
All Amen.

Kyrie Eleison (Sung)

Musical notation for the Kyrie Eleison (Sung) section. The notation is written on two staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff begins with a first ending bracket and contains the melody for the first line of text. The second staff begins with a fifth ending bracket and contains the melody for the second line of text. The lyrics are: Ky - ri-e e - lei - son, Christ - te e - lei - son, Ky - ri-e e - le - i - son.

The Gloria (Sung)

**Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to God's 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.**

Offering Prayer (Sung)

Thank you to those who have presented their gifts by standing order, through the bank. If you are a tax payer please use Gift Aid envelopes to enable us reclaim tax. After the offering is collected it may be brought forward with the bread and wine. The people stand as it is presented and say or sing

**Yours, Lord, is the greatness, the power,
the glory, the splendour, and the majesty;
for everything in heaven and on earth is yours.
All things come from you, and of your own do we
give you.**

The Ministry of God's Word

The Bible Readings can be followed in Partnership News

The Collect Prayer for Easter Day

God of glory, by the raising of your Son you have broken the chains of death and hell: fill your Church with faith and hope; for a new day has dawned and the way to life stands open in our Saviour Jesus Christ.

First and Second Readings

Reader The reading is taken from
..... *(name of book)*
chapterbeginning at verse.....

At the end of the reading

Reader This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading *all stand*

Reader I am the first and the last, says the Lord, and the living one; I was dead, and behold I am alive for evermore.

All Alleluia.

At the end of the reading

Reader This is the Gospel of Christ.

All Praise to Christ our Lord.

The Sermon

Hymn

The Affirmation of Faith

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

The Apostles Creed

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ,
God's 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.**

**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.**

The Prayers

Leader Lord in your mercy.
All Hear our prayer.

The prayers end with

Leader Merciful Father.
**All Accept these prayers for the sake of your
Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer (*Sung*)

**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.**

The Ministry of the Sacrament

The Peace

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

*You may wish to exchange a sign of peace
and shake hands with those around you*

Hymn

The Prayer of Thanksgiving

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.
All **Amen.**

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:

And now we give you thanks because in his victory over the grave a new age has dawned, the long reign of sin is ended, a broken world is being renewed and humanity is once again made whole.

The president breaks the consecrated bread.

Jesus says, I am the bread of life, whoever eats of this bread will live for ever.

All **Lord, our hearts hunger for you;
give us this bread always.**

The Agnus Dei (*Sung*)

**Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us.
Jesus, bearer of our sins, have mercy on us.
Jesus, redeemer of the world,
grant us your peace.**

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

God of Life, who for our redemption gave your only-begotten Son to the death of the cross, and by his glorious resurrection have delivered us from the power of our enemy: grant us so to die daily to sin, that we may evermore live with him in the joy of his risen life; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

After Communion

**Father of all, we give you thanks and praise,
that when we were still far off
you met us in your Son and brought us home.
Dying and living, he declared your love,
gave us grace, and opened the gate of glory.
May we who share Christ's body
live his risen life;
we who drink his cup
bring life to others;
we whom the Spirit lights
give light to the world.
Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us,
so we and all your children shall be free,
and the whole earth live to praise your name;
through Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

A Hymn

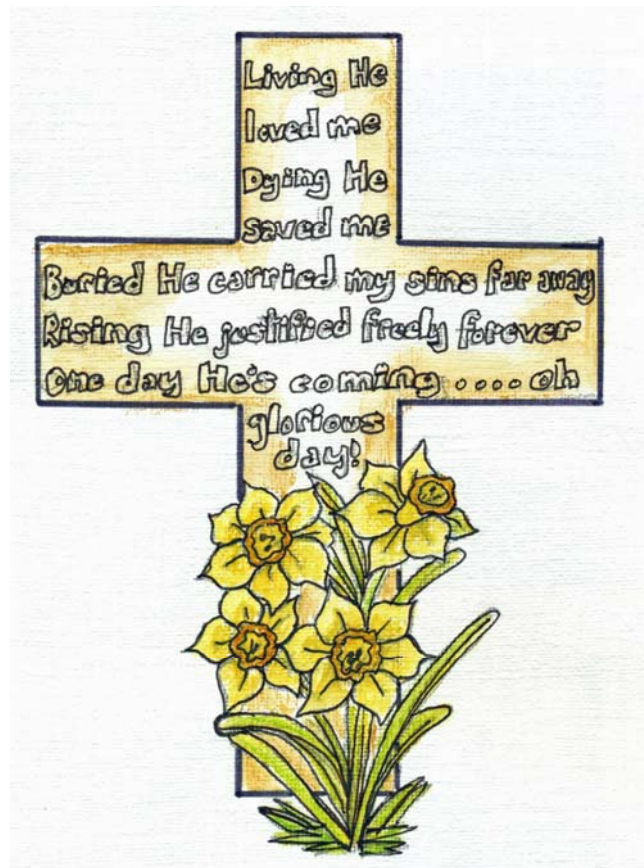
The Dismissal

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the eternal covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. All Amen.

We are raised to new life with Christ.
Go in his peace. Alleluia.

All

Thanks be to God. Alleluia.



The Resurrection of Jesus



Now Jesus was going up to Jerusalem. On the way, he took the Twelve aside and said to them,

“We are going up to Jerusalem, and the Son of Man will be delivered over to the chief priests and the teachers of the law. They will condemn him to death and will hand him over to the Gentiles to be mocked and flogged and crucified. On the third day he will be raised to life!”

Matthew Chapter 20