

Easter Day 31st March 2024

9.30am Choral Eucharist

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Welcome to our Easter Day Service. In Saxon times, the period from Maundy Thursday to Easter Sunday was known as 'the still days'. Since then, bells and organ are traditionally not used, but that fast is broken on Easter Sunday morning where both proclaim the joy of Christ's – and our own – resurrection. Today we will mark that by creating a cacophony of jubilant sound with the hand bells and other noise-making instruments that are given out before the service. It is a moment to forget our essential English reserve and let go!

Everyone is invited to come to the altar to receive communion or God's blessing. All are welcome, so please do come forward. Please bow your head to indicate if you would like a blessing.

During communion, the Choir sings on behalf of the congregation; this allows us the opportunity to think more deeply about our relationship with God in our lives, through meditating on the words and music chosen for the day.

After the service, there is an Easter Egg hunt around the inside of the church! Tea and coffee will be served at the East End, so please feel very welcome to stay and enjoy, and, if you have not been to the church before, please do introduce yourself to one of the clergy or churchwardens – we would love to meet you.

A very Happy Easter to everyone.

JESUS CHRIST IS RISEN: HE IS RISEN INDEED. ALLELUIA!

Please keep your belongings with you at all times.

Introit

At the beginning of the service, please stand as the Choir sings the Introit.

Haec dies quam fecit Dominus; exultemus et laetemur in ea. Alleluia.

This is the day which the Lord hath made; Let us rejoice and be glad in it. Alleluia.

Words: Psalm 118: v.24. Music: William Byrd (1543–1623) Cantiones Sacrae, Book 2, (1591).

The Easter Proclamation

Please remain standing and face the Paschal candle when it is brought into the Church.

In solemn procession it will be carried up the nave, stopping three times for this simple proclamation to be sung:

The light of Christ.

To which the congregation responds, singing:

Thanks be to God.



These are the same three positions from which the Cross was proclaimed on Good Friday. The final proclamation is made from the foot of the altar, after which the Priest will say:

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

All respond with one great voice:

He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Together, with gusto, we proclaim the resurrection with bells and other noise-making instruments.

Hymn

Jesus Christ is risen today, Alleluia! Our triumphant holy day, Alleluia! Who did once upon the cross, Alleluia! Suffer to redeem our loss. Alleluia!

Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluia! Unto Christ, our heavenly King, Alleluia! Who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia! Sinners to redeem and save. Alleluia!

But the pains that he endured, Alleluia! Our salvation have procured, Alleluia! Now above the sky he's King, Alleluia! Where the angels ever sing. Alleluia!

Words: Lyra Davidica (1708). Tune: 'Easter Hymn', adapted from a melody in Lyra Davidica.

Greeting

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All Amen.

The Lord be with you

All and also with you.

All 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

The Priest invites everyone to recall their shortcomings.

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.

After a few moments we say together the prayer of confession.

Most merciful God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we confess that we have sinned in thought, word and deed. We have not loved you with our whole heart. We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves. In your mercy forgive what we have been, help us to amend what we are, and direct what we shall be; that we may do justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with you, our God. Amen.

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

The Choir sings the Gloria.

Gloria in excelsis Deo. Et in terra pax hominibus bonae voluntatis. Laudamus te, benedicimus te, adoramus te, glorificamus te. Gratias agimus tibi propter magnam gloriam tuam. Domine Deus, rex cælestis, Deus Pater omnipotens. Domine Fili unigenite, Jesu Christe. Domine Deus, Agnus Dei, Filius Patris. Qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis. Suscipe deprecationem nostram. Qui sedes ad dexteram Patris, miserere nobis. Quoniam tu solus sanctus. Tu solus Dominus. Tu solus altissimus, Jesu Christe. Cum sancto Spiritu in gloria Dei Patris. Amen.

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.

Messe Solennelle, by Louis Vierne (1870–1937).

The Collect

We say together the special prayer for the 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. Amen.

Please sit.

New Testament Reading

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

Then Peter began to speak to them: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ he is Lord of all. That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem.

"They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. "He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

(Acts 10: 34-43)

This is the word of the Lord. All Thanks be to God.

Hymn

Jesus lives! thy terrors now Can, O Death, no more appal us; Jesus lives! by this we know Thou, O grave, canst not enthral us. Alleluya!

Jesus lives! henceforth is death But the gate of life immortal; This shall calm our trembling breath, When we pass its gloomy portal. Alleluya!

Jesus lives! for us he died; Then, alone to Jesus living, Pure in heart may we abide, Glory to our Saviour giving. Alleluya!

Jesus lives! our hearts know well Nought from us his love shall sever; Life, nor death, nor powers of hell Tear us from his keeping ever. Alleluya! Jesus lives! to him the throne Over all the world is given; May we go where he is gone, Rest and reign with him in heaven. Alleluya!

Words: Christian Gellert (1715–1769), trans. Frances Cox (1812– 1897). Tune: 'St Albinus', by H J Gauntlett (1805–1876).

Gospel Reading



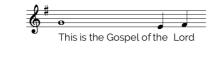
Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him." Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went toward the tomb. The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, and the cloth that had been on Jesus's head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed, for as vet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. Then the disciples returned to their homes.

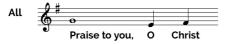
But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look[a] into the tomb, and she saw two angels in white sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. They said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him." When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?" Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away." Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned and said to him in Hebrew. "Rabbouni!" (which means Teacher). Jesus said to her. "Do not touch me. because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go

to my brothers and say to them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'" Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord," and she told them that he had said these things to her.

(John 20: 1-18)

At the end of the reading:





Sermon The preacher this morning is the Revd Joe Moffatt, Vicar of All Saints.

Renewal of Baptismal Vows

Please stand.

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, so that we may rise with him to a new life within the family of his Church. Now that we have completed our observance of Lent, we renew the promises made at our baptism, affirming our allegiance to Christ, and our rejection of all that is evil.

Therefore I ask these questions:

Do you turn to Christ?

All I turn to Christ.

Do you repent of your sins?

All I repent of my sins.

Do you renounce evil?

All I renounce evil.

And now I ask you to make the profession of Christian faith into which you were baptized, and in which you live and grow.

Do you believe and trust in God the Father, who made the world?

All I believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in his Son Jesus Christ, who redeemed humankind?

All I believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in his Holy Spirit, who gives life to the people of God?

All I believe and trust in him.

This is the faith of the Church. All This is our faith. We believe and trust in one God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

> Almighty God, we thank you for our fellowship in the household of faith with all those 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.

All Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

The following response is used:

We pray to the Lord.

All Hear our prayer.

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.

All and also with you. Alleluia.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

Hymn

A collection is taken for the work of the church and is brought to the altar, together with the communion bread and wine.

> At the Lamb's high feast we sing Praise to our victorious King, Who hath washed us in the tide Flowing from his pierced side; Praise we him, whose love divine Gives the guests his blood for wine, Gives his body for the feast, Love the victim, Love the priest.

Where the Paschal blood is poured, Death's dark angel sheathes his sword; Israel's hosts triumphant go Through the wave that drowns the foe. Christ, the Lamb whose blood was shed, Paschal victim, Paschal bread! With sincerity and love Eat we Manna from above.

Mighty victim from on high, Powers of hell beneath thee lie; Death is broken in the fight, Thou hast brought us life and light: Now thy banner thou doest wave Conquering Satan and the grave. See the prince of darkness quelled; Heaven's bright gates are open held. Paschal triumph, Paschal joy, Only sin can this destroy; From sin's death do thou set free Souls re-born, dear Lord, in thee. Hymns of glory, songs of praise, Father, unto to thee we raise; Risen Lord, all praise to thee, Ever with the Spirit, be.

> Words from a Latin Breviary hymn, trans. Robert Campbell (1814–1868). Tune: 'Salzburg'. Melody from J Hintze (1622–1702). Harmony: J S Bach (1685–1750).

Be present, be present, Lord Jesus Christ, our risen high priest; make yourself known in the breaking of bread.

All Amen.

The Eucharistic Prayer



It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, always and everywhere to give you thanks, almighty and eternal Father, and on this night 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:

Sanctus, sanctus, sanctus, Dominus Deus Sabaoth. Pleni sunt coeli et terra gloria tua. Hosanna in excelsis! Benedictus qui venit in nomine Domini. Hosanna in excelsis!

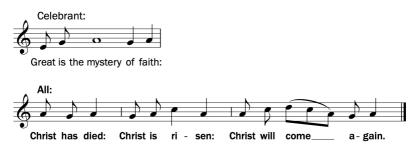
Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Messe Solennelle, by Louis Vierne (1870–1937).

We praise and bless you, loving Father, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; and as we obey his command, send your Holy Spirit, that broken bread and wine outpoured may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

On the night before he died he had supper with his friends and, taking bread, he praised you. He broke the bread, gave it to them and said: Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me. When supper was ended he took the cup of wine. Again he praised you, gave it to them and said: 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.

So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did, in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice made once for all upon the cross. Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation, we proclaim his death and resurrection until he comes in glory.



Lord of all life, help us to work together for that day when your kingdom comes and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth. Look with favour on your people, gather us in your loving arms and bring us with St John the Evangelist, St John the Baptist and all the saints to feast at your table in heaven.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father, for ever and ever.

All Amen.

Please sit.

The Lord's Prayer

Rejoicing in God's new creation, let us pray with confidence as our Saviour taught us:

All Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory for ever and ever. Amen.

Breaking of the Bread

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

All Though we are many, we are one body, because we all share in one bread.

Giving of Communion

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

Everyone is welcome to come to the altar to receive the bread of communion or a blessing. The sidespeople will direct you.

The Choir sings

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis. Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis. Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, dona nobis pacem.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, grant us peace.

Messe Solennelle, by Louis Vierne (1870–1937).

While the congregation comes forward to receive Holy Communion, the Choir will sing.

> Ecce vicit Leo de tribu Juda, radix David, aperire librum, et solvere septem signacula eius. Alleluia.

Dignus est Agnus qui occisus est, accipere virtutem, et divinitatem, et sapientiam, et fortitudinem, et honorem, et gloriam, et benedictionem. Alleluia.

Behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the root of David, hath prevailed to open the book and to loose the seven seals thereof. Alleluia.

Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power, and godliness, and wisdom, and strength, and honour, and glory, and blessing. Alleluia.

> Words: Revelation 5: 5, 12. Music: Peter Philips (1561–1628).

Christus vincit, Christus regnat, Christus imperat. Exaudi Christe. Summo Pontifici et universali Papae, vita.

Salvator mundi. Tu illum adiuva Sancta Maria. Tu illum adiuva Sancte Petre Tu illum adiuva Sancte Paule Tu ilum adiuva.

Christus vincit, Christus regnat, Christus imperat.

Rex regum. Christus vincit. Rex noster. Christus regnat Gloria nostra. Christus imperat.

Ipsi soli imperium, gloria et potestas Per immortalia saeculae saeculorum. Amen.

Christus vincit, Christus regnat, Christus imperat.

Christ conquers, Christ reigns, Christ commands. Graciously hear us, Christ. To the supreme Pontiff and Pope of the universal Church, long life!

Saviour of the world, do Thou help him. Saint Mary, do thou help him. Saint Peter, do thou help him. Saint Paul, do thou help him.

Christ conquers, Christ reigns, Christ commands.

King of kings. Christ conquers. Our King. Christ reigns. Our glory. Christ commands. To Him alone be there loyalty unfailing, glory and power For ever and ever. Amen.

Christ conquers, Christ reigns, Christ commands.

Words & Music: Worcester Antiphonal 12th Century, arranged by Martin Baker (b.1967)

Prayer after Communion

God of Life, who for our redemption gave your onlybegotten 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.
- All 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.

Notices

Hymn

Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son, Endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won; Angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away, Kept the folded grave-clothes where thy body lay. Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son, Endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won.

Lo, Jesus meets us, risen from the tomb; Lovingly he greets us, scatters fear and gloom; Let the Church with gladness hymns of triumph sing, For her Lord now liveth, death has lost its sting: Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son, Endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won.

No more we doubt thee, glorious Prince of Life; Life is nought without thee: aid us in our strife; Make us more than conquerors through thy deathless love;

Bring us safe through Jordan to thy home above: Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son, Endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won.

> French words: Edmund Budry (1854–1932), translated by Richard Hoyle (1875–1939). Tune: 'Maccabæus', by G F Handel (1685–1759).

Blessing

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.

With the risen life of Christ within you, go in the peace of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.

All Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

Organ music at the end of the service

Prelude and Fugue in C major, BWV 545 – J S Bach



Tonight at 6.00pm – Festival Choral Evensong



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