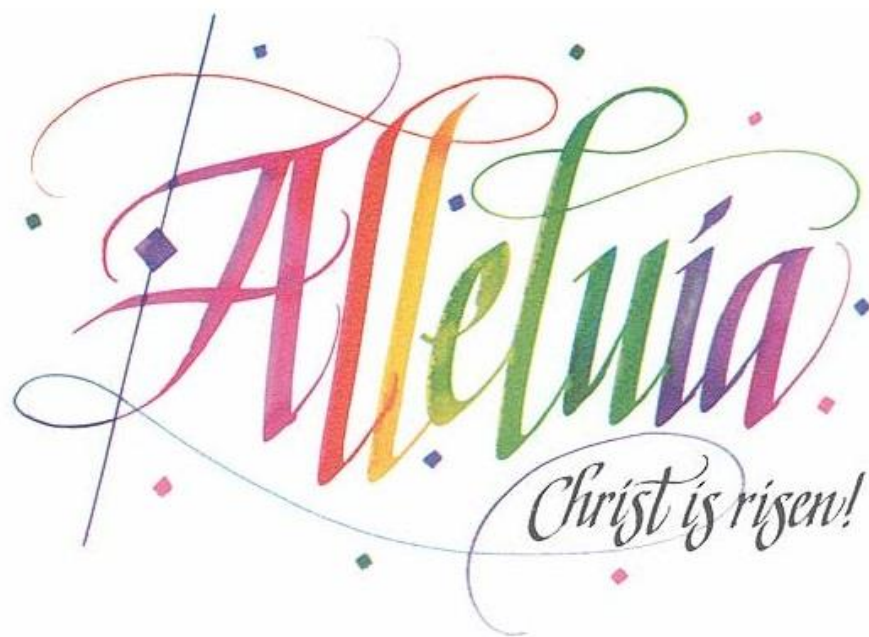


# The Liturgy of EASTER DAY



# Welcome! Happy Easter!

*You are very welcome to church this morning as we proclaim the resurrection of Jesus.*

*As well as this service booklet you need a hymn book and a pew sheet. You'll find hymn numbers there (as well as on the board at the front of church).*

*Please join in with as much of the service as you can – all the words in **bold type** and sing the hymns loudly!*

*If you need it, the church is fitted with a hearing induction loop. There are toilets and baby-changing facilities at the back of church. Please ask a steward if you need anything else.*

*At the time for Communion, please do come to the altar. If you usually receive Holy Communion, and are a baptised adult, then you're welcome to receive here. If that's not you, then please come, and keep your head bowed, and the priest will give you a blessing.*

## Welcoming the Easter Candle

*The new Easter Candle, which has already been blessed and marked, is carried to the back of the church. Please turn to face the ministers and new Easter Candle.*

*All* Christ yesterday and today,  
**the beginning and the end,**

*All* Alpha and Omega he, all time belongs to him, and all ages;  
**to him be glory and power,  
through every age and for ever. Amen.**

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.

*All* The light of Christ.  
**Thanks be to God.**

*The Easter Candle is carried in the procession to its holder. Once all are in place the joint choirs sing the Easter anthem.*

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

*All* **Amen.**

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

*All* **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

*All* **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

*All* **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

*We sing the first hymn.*

The angel said to the women, 'Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. He is not here; for he has been raised as he said.'

*Turning to the Easter Garden and flower displays*

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. To you be glory now and for ever. In your great mercy you have given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.

By your ✠ blessing, may we who have prepared these symbols in celebration of his victory be strengthened in faith, know the power of his presence, and rejoice in the hope of eternal glory. Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

*All* **Blessed be God for ever.**

Risen Lord Jesus, as Mary Magdalene met you in the garden on the morning of your resurrection, so may we meet you today and every day: speak to us as you spoke to her; reveal yourself as the living Lord; renew our hope and kindle our joy; and send us to share the good news with other.

*All* **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 sins 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**

*The President introduces the Collect for Easter Day.*

## **Readings & Sermon**

*Please sit for the readings. At the end of each the reader says*

This is the word of the Lord.

*All* **Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand to sing the Gradual hymn and remain standing for the Gospel  
reading.*

Jesus Christ is risen from the dead. *All* **Alleluia!**

He has defeated the powers of death. *All* **Alleluia!**

Jesus turns our sorrows into dancing. *All* **Alleluia!**

He has the words of eternal life. *All* **Alleluia!**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to *N.*

*All* **Glory to you, O Lord.**

*At the end*

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

*All* **Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **Sermon**

## **Renewal of Baptismal Vows**

*Please stand.*

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

Therefore I ask:

Do you turn to Christ?	<i>All</i>	<b>I turn to Christ.</b>
Do you repent of your sins?	<i>All</i>	<b>I repent of my sins.</b>
Do you renounce evil?	<i>All</i>	<b>I renounce evil.</b>

May almighty God who has given you the desire to follow Christ give you the strength to continue in the way.

## Prayer over the Water

*The President and others may gather at the font.  
Standing before the water of baptism the President says*

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

*All* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**It is right to give thanks and praise.**

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ was baptized 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.

*All* **Amen.**

## Profession of Faith

Let us affirm 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?

*All* **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?

**All 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?

**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.**

*The congregation is sprinkled with the baptismal water.*

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.

**All 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.

**All Amen.**

## The Peace

The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

**All And also with you.**

*We sing the Offertory Hymn. The gifts of the people are presented and the altar is prepared.*

## The Liturgy of the Sacrament

Lord of life, with unbounded joy we offer you our sacrifice of praise.  
As we are fed with the bread of heaven may we know your  
resurrection power; through Jesus Christ our risen Lord.

**All Amen**

The Lord be with you.

**All**     **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**All**     **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

*The president praise God for his mighty acts and all respond*

**All**     **Holy, holy, holy, 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.**

*The president recalls the Last Supper.*

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

*The prayer continues and leads into the doxology to which all respond*

**All**     **Amen.**

*Please kneel or sit.*

## **The Lord's Prayer**

**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.**

## **The Breaking of Bread**

Jesus says, I am the bread of life,

whoever eats this bread will live for ever.

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

## Giving of Communion

Alleluia. Christ our passover is sacrificed for us.

**All** Therefore let us keep the feast. **Alleluia.**

*Everyone is invited and encouraged to come to the altar rail. If it is your custom to receive Holy Communion, then please do so here. If not, please bow your head at the altar rail and receive a blessing.*

*During the distribution hymns and anthems may be sung.*

## Prayer after Communion

*The president leads the prayer and all respond*

**All** Amen.

*The Notices are given and a final hymn may follow.*

## The Blessing & Dismissal

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**All** He is risen indeed! **Alleluia!**

God the Father, by whose love Christ was raised from the dead, open to you who believe the gates of everlasting life.

**All** Amen.

God the Son, who in bursting from the grave has won a glorious victory, give you joy as you share the Easter faith.

**All** Amen.

God the Holy Spirit, who filled the disciples with the life of the risen Lord, empower you and fill you with Christ's peace.

**All** Amen.

And the blessing...

**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.**

*The ministers and people depart.*