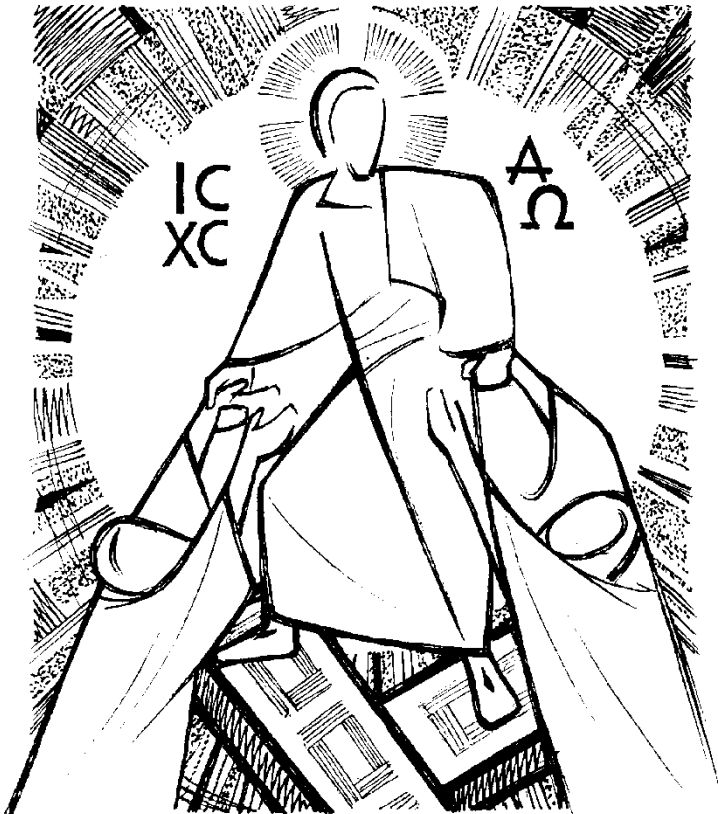




# Festival Eucharist for Easter Day



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

# **The Gathering**

*Priest:* Christ yesterday and today

*All:* **The beginning and the end**

Alpha and Omega, All time belongs to him, And all ages

*All:* **To him be glory and power**

**Through every age and for ever. Amen.**

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

*All:* **He is risen indeed. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

*We welcome the news of the resurrection with a joyful noise!*

*Hymn: 503 Thine be the glory*

1 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 vict'ry thou o'er death hast won.*

2 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 hath lost its sting:

3 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:

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!**

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

## **Gloria in Excelsis**

*All* **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**

*Priest* Lord of all life and power,  
who through the mighty resurrection of your Son  
overcame the old order of sin and death  
to make all things new in him:  
grant that we, being dead to sin  
and alive to you in Jesus Christ,  
may reign with him in glory;  
to whom with you and the Holy Spirit  
be praise and honour, glory and might,  
now and in all eternity.

*All* **Amen.**

# The Liturgy of the Word

## Readings

### A reading from the book of Acts (Acts 10.34-43)

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.'

This is the word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

### Psalm 118.14-24

#### Refrain: O give thanks to the Lord for he is good

14 The Lord is my strength and my might;  
he has become my salvation.

15 There are glad songs of victory in the tents of the righteous:

'The right hand of the Lord does valiantly;

16 the right hand of the Lord is exalted;  
the right hand of the Lord does valiantly.'

#### Refrain: O give thanks to the Lord for he is good

17 I shall not die, but I shall live,  
and recount the deeds of the Lord.

18 The Lord has punished me severely,  
but he did not give me over to death.

#### Refrain: O give thanks to the Lord for he is good

19 Open to me the gates of righteousness,  
that I may enter through them  
and give thanks to the Lord.

20 This is the gate of the Lord;  
the righteous shall enter through it.

**Refrain: O give thanks to the Lord for he is good**

21 I thank you that you have answered me  
and have become my salvation.

22 The stone that the builders rejected  
has become the chief cornerstone.

**Refrain: O give thanks to the Lord for he is good**

23 This is the Lord's doing;  
it is marvellous in our eyes.

24 This is the day that the Lord has made;  
let us rejoice and be glad in it.

**Refrain: O give thanks to the Lord for he is good**

### **A reading from the letter of Paul to the Colossians (Col. 3.1-4)**

So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth, for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

This is the word of the Lord.

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

### **Gospel Reading**

*Deacon* 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.

*All* **Alleluia!**

The Lord be with you

*All* **And also with you**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John (Jn 20.1-18)

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

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 towards 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' 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 yet 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 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 round and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, 'Woman, why are you weeping? For whom are you looking?' 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 hold on to 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.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

*All*

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Preacher**

**The Revd Rowena Gliddon**

**Sermon**

## Renewal of Baptismal Vows

*Priest* 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.  
**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.  
**Amen.**

*The congregation are sprinkled with the waters of baptism*

## **Prayers of Intercession**

*Priest* Let us bring to the Father our prayers of intercession  
Through Christ who gave himself for the life of the world.

*at the end*

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

## **The 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!

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

*Deacon* Let us offer one another a sign of peace

*Hymn: Joy is come, Easter Day (words by Andrew Carter)*

Joy is come! Eastertide! Sing we all far and wide,  
see the stone rolled aside,  
Christ our Lord is risen, bursting from his prison.  
Let the sound, sound, sound, ring around, round, round,  
and the song now rebound: Christ the Lord is risen!

Joy is come! Easter Day! Join the dance, homage pay,  
Christ the Lord lights our way, from the tomb now breaking,  
Satan's power shaking.  
Let the song, song, song, echo long, long, long,  
shout it loud, sing it strong, Christ the Lord is risen!

Joy is come! Easter Morn! With your Lord greet the dawn,  
He endured crown of thorn, and the bitter nailing,  
faithful and unfailing.  
Tidings tell, tell, tell, chant it well, well, well,  
risen Christ in us dwell, o'er the cross prevailing.

Easter joy may we bring, welcome Lord, Heavenly King,  
winter turns into spring, darkness overtaking,  
and our spirits waking.  
Praises flow, flow, flow, voices grow, grow, grow,  
sounding far, 'Gloria in excelsis Deo!'

### **Prayer at the Preparation of the Table**

*Priest* 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 Christ our Lord.

*All* **Amen.**

### **Eucharistic Prayer**

*Priest* The Lord be with you  
*All* **and also with you.**

*Priest* Lift up your hearts.  
*All* **We lift them to the Lord.**

*Priest* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
*All* **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 in these days of Easter  
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.

*All*     **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.**

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, shared it with 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 a 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, as 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 the cup of salvation,  
we proclaim his death and resurrection  
until he comes in glory.

*Deacon:* Jesus Christ is Lord:

*All:*     **Lord, by your cross and resurrection  
you have set us free.  
You are the Saviour of the world.**

*Priest:*    Lord of all life,  
help us to work together for that day  
when your kingdom comes

and your 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 Blessed Mary 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.

**Amen**

## **The Lord's Prayer**

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has 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 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.**

## **Agnus Dei**

*All* **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.**

## Giving of Communion

Alleluia. Christ our passover is sacrificed for us.

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

*Communion anthems:* *Rutter – Gaelic Blessing,*  
*Haydn – Achieved is the glorious work (from*  
*Creation)*

## Prayer after Communion

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.**

**Faithful God, in baptism you have adopted us as your children,  
made us members of the body of Christ  
and chosen us as inheritors of your kingdom:  
we thank you that in this Eucharist  
you renew your promises within us,  
empower us by your Spirit to witness and to serve,  
and send us out as disciples of your Son,  
Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.**

## *The Notices*

### **Blessing of the Easter eggs**

Blessed are you Lord God of all creation,  
above all for your Son Jesus Christ;  
bless these Easter Eggs:  
may they be wholesome food  
and remind us of the resurrection of Jesus,  
to whom be all praise and glory, now and for ever.

*All* **Amen.**

Hymn: **509** *This joyful Eastertide*

This joyful Eastertide,  
away with care and sorrow!  
My Love, the Crucified,  
hath sprung to life this morrow.

*Had Christ, that once was slain,  
ne'er burst his three-day prison,  
our faith had been in vain;  
but now is Christ arisen,  
arisen, arisen, arisen.*

My flesh in hope shall rest,  
and for a season slumber,  
till trump from east to west  
shall wake the dead in number.

Death's flood hath lost its chill,  
since Jesus crossed the river:  
Lover of souls, from ill  
my passing soul deliver,

## *The Dismissal*

All The Lord be with you  
**And also with you**

All Alleluia! Christ is risen  
**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 the grave has won a glorious victory,  
give you joy as you share the Easter faith.  
All **Amen.**

God the Holy Spirit,  
whom the risen Lord breathed into his disciples,  
empower you and fill you with Christ's peace.

All **Amen.**

And the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always.

All **Amen.**

Deacon With the risen life of Christ within you,  
Go in the peace of Christ. Alleluia, Alleluia!

All **Thanks be to God, Alleluia, Alleluia!**

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