

Easter Sunday 2023

St Mary's Church



He is risen!
He is risen indeed!
Alleluia!

The Gathering

Welcome

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 forever. Amen.**

We light the Easter Candle

Alleluia, Christ is risen!

All He is risen indeed. Alleluia, alleluia, 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 marvelous light. May we, and all Christ's people, shine as lights in the world to the glory of God the Father.

Hymn – Jesus Christ is risen today, alleluia! - 381

**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 which he endured, Alleluia!
Our salvation have procured; Alleluia!
Now above the sky he's king, Alleluia!
Where the angels ever sing. Alleluia!**

Prayer of preparation

All 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 others. Amen.

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.

Confession.

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 can be slow to believe.

Lord, have mercy.

All Lord, have mercy.

Absolution

God our Father, your gift of water brings life and freshness to the earth;
In baptism it is a sign of the washing away of our sins and the gift of life
eternal. Sanctify this water, we pray. Renew the living spring of your life
within us, that we may be free from sin and filled with your saving health;
Through Christ our Lord. **All Amen.**

The people are sprinkled as a reminder of their baptism.

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.*

Gloria in Excelsis

We stand to sing the Gloria.

GLORIA

Moderato ♩ = 116 *ff*

[Organ] Glo - ry to God, Glo - ry to God, Glo - ry to God in the
high - est. *f* Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to his peo - ple on
earth. Lord God, Heav'n - ly King, al - migh - ty God and Fa - ther, we
wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we_ praise you for your glo - ry.

The musical score is written in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature. It begins with a tempo marking of 'Moderato' and a metronome marking of '♩ = 116'. The first line of music is marked with a forte dynamic 'ff' and includes the instruction '[Organ]'. The lyrics are: 'Glo - ry to God, Glo - ry to God, Glo - ry to God in the high - est. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to his peo - ple on earth. Lord God, Heav'n - ly King, al - migh - ty God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we_ praise you for your glo - ry.' The score consists of four staves of music.

Words: copyright © 2000 The Archbishops' Council
Music: copyright © 1995 David Thorne

[ff] Glo - ry to God, Glo - ry to God in the high - est.
f Glo - ry to God, Glo - ry to God, Glo - ry to God in the high - est.

mf
 Lord, Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther. Lord God,

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;

You are sea - ted at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our

f prayer. Glo - ry to God, Glo - ry to God in the
 Glo - ry to God, Glo - ry to God, Glo - ry to God in the

high - est. high - est. *f* For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the

Lord, you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ,

with the Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther.

ff Glo - ry to God, Glo - ry to God, Glo - ry to God in the high - est.

The Collect

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.

All Amen.

The Liturgy of the Word

Reading – Acts 10:34-43 read by Rufus Barnes

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.’

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

Hymn - The strife is o'er, the battle done; - 733

**The strife is o'er, the battle done;
Now is the Victor's triumph won;
O let the song of praise be sung.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**Death's mightiest powers have done their worst,
And Jesus hath His foes dispersed;
Let shouts of praise and joy outburst.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**On the third morn He rose again
Glorious in majesty to reign;
Oh, let us swell the joyful strain!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**Lord, by the stripes which wounded Thee.
From death's dread sting Thy servants free
That we may live and sing to Thee.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

We stand to hear the Gospel read by Carey Dickinson

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to *Matthew (28:1-10)*

All Glory to you, O Lord.

After the sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. And suddenly there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. But 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. Come, see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples, "He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him." This is my message for you.' So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. Suddenly Jesus met them and said, 'Greetings!' And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshipped him. Then Jesus said to them, 'Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All Praise to you, O Christ.

Please sit

Sermon

Creed.

Please stand.

Let us affirm our faith in Jesus Christ the Son of God.

**All Though he was divine,
he did not cling to equality with God,
but made himself nothing.
Taking the form of a slave,
he was born in human likeness.
He humbled himself
and was obedient to death,
even the death of the cross.**

**Therefore God has raised him on high,
and given him the name above every name:
that at the name of Jesus
every knee should bow,
and every voice proclaim that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

cf Philipians 2:6-11

Prayers of intercession

Steve Hasler

We sit or kneel for our prayers. These or other appropriate responses may be used;

Lord, in your mercy

All Hear our prayer.

Or

Lord, hear us.

All Lord, graciously hear us.

And at the end

Merciful Father,

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

Amen.

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

A welcome to Holy Communion

We welcome Poppy Razzell to receive Holy Communion.

Poppy, when you were baptised you were welcomed into God's Church. Today we continue to celebrate God's love for you in Jesus Christ, to whom you belong. You are now to be admitted to Holy Communion. You will be able to share in the special meal given to us by Jesus as a sign of his living presence among us. It is our prayer that in the future you will be confirmed by the Bishop and will promise, with the help of the Holy Spirit, to go on following Jesus for the rest of your life.

Do you wish to be admitted to Holy Communion? **Poppy – I do**

Will you do your best to follow our Lord Jesus Christ? **Poppy - I will**

Will you do your best to grow in the Christian faith so that later you will be confirmed by the Bishop? **Poppy - I will**

Poppy, I admit you to Holy Communion in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. May you find in this sacrament the love and the presence of God in your life.

Will you as God's people here do everything you can to support and nurture Poppy in her journey of faith.

All We will.

The Peace

We stand for 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.

The peace of the Lord be always with you

All and also with you.

We offer one another a sign of peace.

Hymn – Alleluia, Alleluia, - 32

Alleluia, alleluia!

hearts to heaven and voices raise:

sing to God a hymn of gladness,

sing to God a hymn of praise;

he who on the cross a victim

for the world's salvation bled

Jesus Christ, the king of glory,

now is risen from the dead.

Christ is risen, Christ the first fruits

of the holy harvest field,

which will all its full abundance

at his second coming yield;

then the golden ears of harvest

will their heads before him wave,

ripened by his glorious sunshine,

from the furrow of the grave.

**Christ is risen, we are risen!
shed upon us heavenly grace,
rain and dew, and gleams of glory
from the brightness of thy face;
that we, with our hearts in heaven,
here on earth may fruitful be,
and by angel hands be gathered,
and be ever, Lord, with thee.**

**Alleluia, alleluia!
glory be to God on high:
alleluia to the Saviour
who has gained the victory;
alleluia to the Spirit,
fount of love and sanctity:
alleluia, alleluia
to the Triune Majesty!**

Preparation of the Table

The gifts of the people may be gathered and presented..

Risen Lord Jesus Christ,
We believe you, and all we have heard is true.
When you break the bread
May we recognize you as the fire that burns within us,
That we may bring light to your world. **All Amen.**

The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you
All and also with you.
Lift up your hearts.
All We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
All It is right to give thanks and praise.

You are worthy of our thanks and praise,
Lord God of truth,
for by the breath of your mouth
you have spoken your word,
and all things have come into being.

You fashioned us in your image
and placed us in the garden of your delight.
Though we chose the path of rebellion
you would not abandon your own.
Again and again you drew us into your covenant of grace.
You gave your people the law and taught us by your prophets
to look for your reign of justice, mercy and peace.

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 being made whole.

As we watch for the signs of your kingdom on earth,
we echo the song of the angels in heaven,
evermore praising you and *singing*:

SANCTUS

Moderato ♩ = 112
mf

[Organ] Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of po - wer and

might, hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na,

Ho - san - na, Ho - san - na in the high - est.

BENEDICTUS

mf Bles - sed is he who comes in the name___ of the_ Lord. *f* Ho -
-san - na, *ff* Ho - san - na, Ho - san - na___ in the high - est.

We sit or kneel as we continue in our Eucharistic prayer.

Lord God, you are the most holy one,
enthroned in splendour and light,
yet in the coming of your Son Jesus Christ
you reveal the power of your love
made perfect in our human weakness.

Embracing our humanity,
Jesus showed us the way of salvation;
loving us to the end,
he gave himself to death for us;
dying for his own,
he set us free from the bonds of sin,
that we might rise and reign with him in glory.

On the night he gave up himself for us all
he 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.

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.

Therefore we proclaim the death that he suffered on the cross,
we celebrate his resurrection, his bursting from the tomb,
we rejoice that he reigns at your right hand on high
and we long for his coming in glory.

As we recall the one, perfect sacrifice of our redemption,
Father, by your Holy Spirit let these gifts of your creation
be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ;
form us into the likeness of Christ
and make us a perfect offering in your sight.

Look with favour on your people
and in your mercy hear the cry of our hearts.
Bless the earth,
heal the sick,
let the oppressed go free
and fill your Church with power from on high.
Gather your people from the ends of the earth
to feast with all your saints
at the table in your kingdom,
where the new creation is brought to perfection
in Jesus Christ our Lord;

**All by whom, and with whom, and in whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray:

**All 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.

**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!

You are invited to Communion. Christians of all traditions are welcome to receive this sacrament. All are welcome for a blessing.

During communion the choir will sing

Laudate dominum

This joyful Eastertide

Mozart

arr. Wood

Communion Hymn – Now the green blade riseth - 533

**Now the green blade riseth
from the buried grain,
wheat that in the dark
earth many days has lain;
Love lives again,
that with the dead has been:
Love is come again,
like wheat that springeth green.**

**In the grave they laid him,
Love by hatred slain,
thinking that never
he would wake again,
laid in the earth
like grain that sleeps unseen:
Love is come again,
like wheat that springeth green.**

**Forth he came at Easter,
like the risen grain,
he that for three days
in the grave had lain;
quick from the dead,
my risen Lord is seen:
Love is come again,
like wheat that springeth green.**

**When our hearts are wintry,
grieving or in pain,
thy touch can call us
back to life again;
fields of our hearts,
that dead and bare have been:
Love is come again,
like wheat that springeth green**

Prayer after Communion

Here are words you may trust.

Remember Jesus Christ, risen from the dead:

All He is our salvation, our eternal glory.

If we die with him, we shall live with him;

All If we endure, we shall reign with him.

If we deny him, he will deny us;

All If we are faithless, he keeps faith.

For he has broken the power of death

All and brought life and immortality to light through the Gospel.

The Dismissal

Hymn – Thine be the glory - 751

**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 hath lost its sting.**

Thine be the glory...

**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...

Blessing

God the Father,
by whose glory Christ was raised from the dead,
strengthen you to walk with him in his risen life;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.
All Amen.

Sing – Hallelujah Chorus

Dismissal

Go in the peace of Christ. Alleluia! Alleluia!
All Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

All are invited to stay for refreshments after the service, at the back of the church.

If you would prefer to give to today's collection electronically, please use this QR code.
Many thanks.



Common Worship: Services and Prayers for the Church of England, material from which is included above, is copyright © The Archbishop's Council 2000. Music used by permission Christian Copyright Licence no 25613

Congregation

Hallelujah

George Frideric Handel

Allegro ♩ = 100

Hal - le-lu- jah,

hal - le-lu- jah, Hal - le- lu- jah, Hal - le lu- jah, Hal - le - lu- jah!

Hal - le-lu- jah, Hal - le- lu jah, Hal-le-lu- jah, Hal-le-lu jah, Hal -le - lu- jah!

A For the Lord God Om-ni - po-tent reign - eth. Hal-le-lu- jah, Hal-le-lu- jah, Hal-le

Men's voices lu- jah, Hal-le-lu jah! For the Lord God Om-ni - po-tent reign - eth. *All* **f** Hal-le-

B *Ladies' voices* lu- jah, Hal-le-lu jah, Hal-le-lu- jah, Hal-le-lu jah, **f** For the Lord

God Om - ni - po - tent reign - eth.

All voices For the Lord God Om - ni - po - tent reign - eth.

For the Lord God Om - ni - po - tent

C *Choir only* reign - eth. Hal - le - lu - jah! The king-dom of this

35 world is be - come the King-dom of our Lord and of His Christ, and of His

40

Turn over

D *Men's voices* 45
 Christ; and He shall reign for e - ver and e - ver,

Ladies' voices
 And He shall reign for e - ver and e - ver,

50 **E** *Ladies' voices* 55
f King of Kings, and Lord of Lords.

Choir only 60
 King of Kings, and Lord of

Lords, King of Kings,

65 **F**
 and Lord of Lords, and Lord of

Men's voices 70 *Ladies' voices*
 Lords And He shall reign for e - ver and e - ver, and

All voices
 He shall reign for e - ver and e - ver. King of

75 2 **G**
 Kings, and Lord of Lords. King of

85 2
 Kings and Lord of Lords, King of Kings, and Lord of Lords!

90
 For e - ver and e - ver, for e - ver and e - ver: Hal-le-lu - jah, Hal-le-

lu - jah, Hal-le - lu - jah, Hal-le - lu - jah! Hal -le - lu - jah!