

Festival Eucharist Easter Sunday

31st March 2024

Organ music before the service: Saraband for the Morning of Easter -Herbert Howells

We gather in worship

Before we begin, the priest will welcome everyone and invite us to join in prayer as we prepare ourselves for worship.

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.

The choir sings this Introit, written by a member of the congregation,

Wake-up everybody, greet this glorious day; come and worship Jesus in your special way. When we seek his mercy and we give our life to him we receive forgiveness for each and every sin.

Wake-up everybody, Jesus is alive, Satan's power is over, freedom for our lives. Come and meet the Saviour in this sanctuary of the Lord He is waiting for you; come take Him at His word.

Wake-up everybody,
the sacrifice is done.
Wonderful redemption,
eternity is won.
Wonder of all wonders that he
conquered sin that way,
now we have the promise
in heaven we will stay.

Wake-up everybody,
let us sing with Joy.
New life has begun now,
evermore enjoy.
So we must obey him and give
thanks and praise each day,
love and serve our neighbours,
and witness to his Way.

Andrew Winton

Donations can be made using the contactless card reader during the offertory hymn. There is a box by the entrance. Details of online options are in the news sheet and on our website.

Then the bell rings and we stand to sing:

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!

Surrexit Christus hodie Anonymous Latin, Lyra Davidica (1708), Compleat Psalmodist (1749 Arnold), Charles Wesley (1707-88)

In the name of the Father, and of the

♣ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

The Lord be with you; and also with you.

Alleluia, Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed, alleluia!

The priest introduces the service and invites us to confess our sins,

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.

Almighty God, our heavenly
Father, we have sinned against
you and against our neighbour in
thought and word and deed,
through negligence, through
weakness, through our own
deliberate fault. We are truly
sorry and repent of all our sins.
For the sake of your Son Jesus
Christ, who died for us, forgive us
all that is past and grant that we
may serve you in newness of life
to the glory of your name. Amen.

The priest declares the forgiveness of our sin, then we sing,

Glory to God, Glory in the highest. Peace to his people, peace on earth. Glory to God, Glory in the highest. peace to his people, peace on earth. Lord God, Heavenly King, Almighty God and Father, Glory to God, Glory in the highest. peace to his people, peace on earth.

We worship you, Glory in the highest.

Give you thanks, Glory in the highest.

Praise you for your glory.

Glory to God, Glory in the highest.

peace to his people, peace on earth.

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; have mercy on us.

You are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. **Receive our prayer**

Glory to God, Glory in the highest. Peace to his people, peace on earth. Glory to God, Glory in the highest. peace to his people, peace on earth.

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 glory of God, the Father. Glory to God, Glory in the highest. peace to his people, peace on earth. Amen. Amen. The priest invites us to pray in silence, and says the prayer set for today,

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. **Amen.**

We listen for God's Word

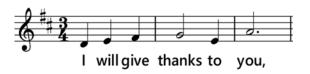
We sit for the First Reading: Acts 10.34-43

Then Peter began to speak: "I now realise how true it is that God does not show favouritism but accepts people from every nation who fear him and do what is right. You know the message God sent to the people of Israel, telling the good news of peace through Jesus Christ, who is Lord of all. You know what has happened throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John preached – how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and power, and how he went around doing good and healing all who were under the power of the devil, because God was with him.

"We are witnesses of everything he did in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They killed him by hanging him on a tree, but God raised him from the dead on the third day and caused him to be seen. He was not seen by all the people, but by witnesses whom God had already chosen – by us 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 whom God appointed 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. Thanks be to God.

The cantor leads **Psalm 118.14-24** and we join in the refrain.





♪ I will give thanks to you, for you have become my salvation O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his mercy endures for ever. Let Israel now proclaim, 'His mercy endures for ever.'

♪ I will give thanks to you, for you have become my salvation

The Lord is my strength and my song, and he has become my salvation. Joyful shouts of salvation sound from the tents of the righteous: 'The right hand of the Lord does mighty deeds; the right hand of the Lord raises up; the right hand of the Lord does mighty deeds.'

♪ I will give thanks to you, for you have become my salvation

I shall not die, but live and declare the works of the Lord. The Lord has punished me sorely, but he has not given me over to death.

♪ I will give thanks to you, for you have become my salvation

Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter and give thanks to the Lord. This is the gate of the Lord; the righteous shall enter through it. I will give thanks to you, for you have answered me and have become my salvation.

♪ I will give thanks to you, for you have become my salvation

The stone which the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone. This is the Lord's doing, and it is marvellous in our eyes. This is the day that the Lord has made; we will rejoice and be glad in it.

♪ I will give thanks to you, for you have become my salvation

Gospel Reading: Mark 16.1-8

We stand, facing the gospel.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

♪ Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Now he is living, the Christ. Out of the tomb he is risen; he has conquered death, opened heaven to all believers.

♪ Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

The Lord be with you; and also with you.

Alleluia, Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed, alleluia!

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark. Glory to you, O Lord.

When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. And very early on the first day

of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. They had been saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?" When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. But he said to them, "Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you." So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

We sit for the **Sermon**.

The choir sings,

This joyful Eastertide, away with sin and sorrow! My Love, the Crucified, has sprung to life this morrow:

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

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

Death's flood has lost his chill since Jesus crossed the river; Lover of souls, from ill my passing soul deliver: *R*

G.R. Woodward (1848-1934)

The Creed

We stand to affirm our faith,

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Prayers of Intercession

The response in the prayers is Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

and, at the end,
Merciful Father, accept these
prayers for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

We celebrate and receive Jesus in Bread and Wine

The priest introduces 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; and also with you.

The deacon says, Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

We offer one another a sign of peace with a handshake, warm smile, nod, or bow, and the words, 'Peace be with you.'

The Offering

We stand to sing this hymn as a collection is taken. Please indicate if you wish to make an offering, cash or contactless.

Alleluia, Alleluia, give thanks to the risen Lord, Alleluia, alleluia, give praise to his name.

Jesus is Lord of all the earth. He is the King of creation. *Alleluia...*

Spread the good news
o'er all the earth.
Jesus has died and has risen.
Alleluia...

We have been crucified with Christ. Now we shall live forever. *Alleluia...*

God has proclaimed the just reward: life for the world, alleluia!

Alleluia...

Come, let us praise the living God, joyfully sing to our Saviour.

Alleluia...

Donald Fishel (b.1950)

The priest takes the bread and wine and says the prayers of preparation: we respond to each part of the prayer: **Blessed be God forever.**

The Eucharistic Prayer

Please remain standing during the Eucharistic Prayer if it is comfortable for you. The priest says,

The Lord is here; God's Spirit is with us.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. 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:

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord. **▶ Holy, Holy, Holy Lord.**

God of power and God of might.

God of power and God of might.

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes,

Blessed is he who comes,

In the name of the Lord most high.

In the name of the Lord most high.

Hosanna, **Hosanna**, Hosanna, **Hosanna**, Hosanna in the highest. **Hosanna in the highest**.

The priest continues, recalling the Last Supper, then the deacon says

Praise to you, Lord Jesus,

Dying you destroyed our death,

♪ Dying you destroyed our death,

Rising you restored our life,

Rising you restored our life,

Dying you destroyed our death,

Dying you destroyed our death,

Lord Jesus, come,

Lord Jesus, come,

Lord Jesus, come,

Lord Jesus, come,

Come again in glory,

Come again in glory.

The priest continues ending with ...forever and ever.

Amen, Amen. Amen, Amen.

As our Saviour has taught, so together we pray:

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 the bread

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ. Though we are many, we are one body, because we all share in one bread.

We sing,

 Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us. Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us. Jesus, Word made flesh, bearer of our sins, Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us.

Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us.

Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us.

Jesus, Morning Star, Jesus, Prince of Peace, Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us.

Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us.

Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us.

Jesus, King of Kings, Jesus, Lord of all, **Jesus, Lamb of God, Give us your peace.**

Alleluia, Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

Therefore let us keep the feast.

Alleluia.

We share in Communion.

The people receive communion.

Those who do not wish to receive are warmly invited to come forward for an individual blessing. Gluten free wafers are available.

Please come to the front and form a queue.

Communion will be offered in both kinds, on the hand and from the chalice (optional). Please do not intinct (dip) the wafer in the chalice. Communion will be brought to those seated in the south aisle.

We sing this hymn,

The day of resurrection!
Earth, tell it out abroad;
the Passover of gladness,
the Passover of God.
From death to life eternal,
from earth unto the sky,
our Christ hath brought us over,
with hymns of victory.

Our hearts be pure from evil, that we may see aright the Lord in rays eternal of resurrection light; and listening to his accents, may hear, so calm and plain, his own "All hail!" and, hearing, may raise the victor strain.

Now let the heavens be joyful!
Let earth the song begin!
Let the round world keep triumph, and all that is therein!
Let all things seen and unseen their notes in gladness blend, for Christ the Lord hath risen, our joy that hath no end.

St John of Damascus (c.675-c750) tr. J.M. Neale (1818-1866)

The choir sings the anthem,

Te Deum in B flat

by Charles Villers Stanford (1852-1924)

We praise thee, O God, we acknowledge thee to be the Lord. All the earth doth worship thee, the Father everlasting. To thee all Angels cry aloud: the Heavens. and all the Powers therein. To thee Cherubim and Seraphim: continually do cry, Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of Sabaoth, Heaven and earth are full of the Majesty of thy glory. The glorious company of the Apostles praise thee. The goodly fellowship of the Prophets praise thee.

The noble army of Martyrs

praise thee.

The holy Church throughout all the world doth acknowledge thee the Father of an infinite Majesty
Thine honourable,
true and only Son,
Also the Holy Ghost, the Comforter.

Thou art the King of Glory, O Christ. Thou art the everlasting Son of the Father.

When thou tookest upon thee to deliver man thou didst not abhor the Virgin's womb.

When thou hadst overcome the sharpness of death thou didst open the Kingdom of Heaven to all believers.

Thou sittest at the right hand of God in the glory of the Father.

We believe that thou shalt come to be our Judge.

We therefore pray thee, help thy servants whom thou hast redeemed with thy precious blood.

Make them to be numbered with thy Saints in glory everlasting.

O Lord, save thy people and bless thine heritage.

Govern them

and lift them up for ever.

Day by day we magnify thee, and we worship thy Name, ever world without end.

Vouchsafe, O Lord to keep us this

day without sin.

O Lord, have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us.

O Lord, let thy mercy lighten upon us, as our trust is in thee.

O Lord, in thee have I trusted, let me never be confounded.

We keep silence together.

The priest says this prayer,

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. **Amen.**

Almighty God, we thank you for feeding us with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Through him we offer you our souls and bodies to be a living sacrifice. Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen.

Notices may be given.

We may hear from the children.

We go into the world to share God's love

We stand to sing this 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 hath lost its sting. Refrain

No more we doubt thee, glorious Prince of life; life is naught 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. Refrain

Edmund Budry (1854-1932) tr. Richard Birch Hoyle (1875-1939

The Blessing

We bow our heads and pray for God's blessing:

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

Alleluia, Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed, alleluia!

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. **Amen.**

The deacon says,

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

In the name of Christ. Amen.

Please remain standing until the Ministers have left.

Organ Voluntary: Fanfare by John Cook

Please take this Service Sheet home with you. Refreshments are served after the service. Please stay and join us, and make yourself known if you are a newcomer or visitor.