

We gather in worship

Please join in all parts of the service printed in bold type. Please stand where indicated only if you wish.

Collection plates are at the back of church if you would like to donate.

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.

After praying, please remain quiet until the bell rings and we stand to sing:

**Lord, enthroned in heavenly splendour,
first-begotten from the dead,
thou alone, our strong defender,
liftest up thy people's head.
Alleluia, alleluia,
Jesu, true and living Bread.**

**Here our humblest homage pay we;
here in loving reverence bow;
here for faith's discernment pray we,
Lest we fail to know thee now.
Alleluia, alleluia,
thou art here, we ask not how.**

**Though the lowliest form doth veil thee
as of old in Bethlehem,
here as there thine angels hail thee,
branch and flower of Jesse's stem.
Alleluia, alleluia,
we in worship join with them.**

**Paschal Lamb, thine Offering, finished
once for all when thou wast slain,
in its fullness undiminished
shall for evermore remain,
Alleluia, alleluia,
cleansing souls from every stain.**

**Life-imparting heavenly manna,
stricken rock with streaming side,
heaven and earth with loud hosanna
worship thee, the Lamb who died,
Alleluia, alleluia,
risen, ascended, glorified!**

George Hugh Bourne (1840 – 1925)

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.

✠ 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 invites us to confess our sins, and we say,

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 to God,
Glory to God in the highest!
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.
Glory to God, Glory to God,
Glory to God in the highest!**

**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.
Glory to God, Glory to God,
Glory to God in the highest!**

**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.
Glory to God, Glory to God,
Glory to God in the highest!**

The priest invites us to pray in silence, then says the prayer set for today,

Risen Christ, your wounds declare your love for the world and the wonder of your risen life: give us compassion and courage to risk ourselves for those we serve, to the glory of God the Father.
Amen.

We listen for God's Word

We sit **First Reading: Acts 8.26-40**

An angel of the Lord said to Philip, 'Get up and go towards the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.' (This is a wilderness road.) So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury.

He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, 'Go over to this chariot and join it.' So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, 'Do you understand what you are reading?' He replied, 'How can I, unless someone guides me?' And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this: 'Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter, and like a lamb silent before its shearer, so he does not open his mouth. In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth.' The eunuch asked Philip, 'About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?' Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, 'Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?' He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more,

and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea. This is the word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

*The cantor leads **Psalm 22.25-31** and we join in the refrain.*



♪ **Be not far from me, O Lord.**

From you comes my praise in the great congregation; I will perform my vows in the presence of those that fear you. The poor shall eat and be satisfied; those who seek the Lord shall praise him; their hearts shall live for ever.

♪ **Be not far from me, O Lord.**

All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord, and all the families of the nations shall bow before him. For the kingdom is the Lord's and he rules over the nations.

♪ **Be not far from me, O Lord.**

How can those who sleep in the earth bow down in worship, or those who go down to the dust kneel before him? He has saved my life for himself; my descendants shall serve him; this shall be told of the Lord for generations to come. They shall come and make

known his salvation, to a people yet unborn, declaring that he, the Lord, has done it.

♪ **Be not far from me, O Lord.**

Gospel Reading: John 15.1-8

We stand, facing the gospel.

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.

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 John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine-grower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches.

Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from

me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

*We sit for the **Sermon**, then we keep silence together.*

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.

We sit or kneel for 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 Peace

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.

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

The Offering

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

**Love is his word, love is his way,
feasting with all, fasting alone,
living and dying, rising again
love only love is his way.
*Richer than gold is the love of my Lord.
Better than splendour and wealth.***

**Love is his way, love is his mark,
sharing his last Passover feast.
Christ at the table, host to the twelve
love, only love, is his mark.
*Richer than gold...***

**Love is his mark, love is his sign,
bread for our strength, wine for our joy,
'This is my body, this is my blood'
Love, only love is his sign.
*Richer than gold...***

Love is his sign, love is his news,
'Do this,' he said 'lest you forget
all my deep sorrow, all my dear blood.'
Love, only love, is his news.
Richer than gold...

Love is his news, Love is his name,
we are his own, chosen and called,
sisters and brothers, parents and kin.
Love, only love is his name.
Richer than gold...

Love is his name, love is his law,
hear his command, all who are his:
'Love one another; I have loved you.'
Love, only love, is his law.
Richer than gold...

Love is his law, Love is his word:
love of the Lord, Father, and Word,
love of the Spirit, God ever one;
love, only love, is his word.
Richer than gold...

Luke Connaughton (1917-1979)

*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.

The priest praises God and we sing,

♪ **Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your
glory. Hosanna, hosanna,
hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name
of the Lord. Hosanna, hosanna,
hosanna in the highest.**

*The priest continues, recalling the Last
Supper, then the Deacon says,*

Great is the mystery of faith
♪ **Christ has died; Christ is risen;
Christ will come again.**

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

♪ **Amen, amen, amen.**

As our Saviour taught, so 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.**

♪ **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.**

We share in Communion

Alleluia. Christ our Passover
is sacrificed for us.

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

*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.*

**Bread of heaven, on thee we feed,
for thy flesh is meat indeed.
ever may our souls be fed
with this true and living bread;
day by day with strength supplied
through the life of Christ who died.**

**Vine of heaven, thy love supplies
this blest cup of sacrifice;
Lord, thy wounds our healing give,
to thy cross we look and live:
Jesus, may we ever be
rooted, grafted, built in thee.**

Josiah Conder (1789 - 1855)

The choir sings the anthem,

Christ Rising Again - Thomas Tallis (1505 – 1585)

Christ rising again from the dead now dieth
not. Death from henceforth hath no power
upon him. For in that he died he died but
once to put away sin; but in that he liveth,
he liveth unto God. And so likewise, count
yourselves dead unto sin, but living unto
God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

We keep silence together.

The priest says this prayer,

Eternal God, whose Son Jesus Christ is
the way, the truth, and the life: grant us
to walk in his way, to rejoice in his
truth, and to share his risen life; who is
alive and reigns, now and for ever.
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,

**O Jesus, I have promised
To serve thee to the end;
Be thou forever near me,
My master and my friend;
I shall not fear the battle
If thou art by my side,
Nor wander from the pathway
If thou wilt be my guide.**

**O let me hear thee speaking
In accents clear and still,
Above the storms of passion,
The murmurs of self-will.
O speak to reassure me,
To hasten or control;
O speak, and make me listen,
Thou guardian of my soul.**

**O Jesus, thou hast promised
To all who follow thee
That where thou art in glory
There shall thy servant be.**

**And, Jesus, I have promised
To serve thee to the end;
O give me grace to follow,
My master and my friend.**

**O let me see thy foot-marks,
and in them plant mine own;
my hope to follow duly
is in thy strength alone:
O guide me, call me, draw me,
uphold me to the end;
and then in heaven receive me,
my saviour and my friend.**

John Ernest Bode (1816-1874)

The Blessing

*We bow our heads
and pray for God's 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. **Amen.**

*The Deacon says,
Go in the peace of Christ.*

Alleluia, alleluia.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

*Please remain standing until the
ministers have left.*