



## **Welcome to our Family Communion service on Easter Sunday**

**31 March 2024, 10am**

### **Welcome**

Alleluia, Christ is risen!

**He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

### **Hymn (1105)**

<sup>1</sup>See, what a morning, gloriously bright,  
With the dawning of hope in Jerusalem;  
Folded, the grave-clothes,  
Tomb filled with light,  
As the angels announce Christ is risen!  
See God's salvation plan,  
Wrought in love, borne in pain,  
Paid in sacrifice,  
Fulfilled in Christ the Man,  
For he lives, Christ is risen from the dead!

<sup>2</sup>See Mary weeping, 'Where is he laid?'  
As in sorrow she turns from the empty tomb;  
Hears a voice speaking,  
Calling her name;  
It's the Master, the Lord raised to life again!  
The voice that spans the years,  
Speaking life, stirring hope,  
Bringing peace to us,  
Will sound till he appears,  
For he lives, Christ is risen from the dead!

<sup>3</sup>One with the Father, Ancient of Days,  
Through the Spirit who clothes faith with certainty;  
Honour and blessing,  
Glory and praise  
To the King crowned with power and authority!  
And we are raised with him,  
Death is dead, love has won,  
Christ has conquered;  
And we shall reign with him,  
For he lives, Christ is risen from the dead!

(Stuart Townend & Keith Getty)

### Hymn (839)

*He has risen,  
He has risen,  
He has risen,  
Jesus is alive!*

<sup>3</sup>If there were no resurrection,  
We ourselves could not be raised;  
But the Son of God is living,  
So our hope is not in vain.

<sup>1</sup>When the life flowed from his  
body,  
Seemed like Jesus' mission failed.  
But his sacrifice accomplished,  
Victory over sin and hell.

<sup>4</sup>When the Lord rides out of  
heaven,  
Mighty angels at his side,  
They will sound the final trumpet,  
From the grave we shall arise.

<sup>2</sup>In the grave God did not leave  
him,  
For his body to decay;  
Raised to life, the great awakening,  
Satan's power he overcame.

<sup>5</sup>He has given life immortal,  
We shall see him face to face;  
Through eternity we'll praise him,  
Christ, the Champion of our faith.

(Gerald Coates, Noel & Tricia  
Richards)

### Hymn (402) – including the Easter Egg Hunt

<sup>1</sup>Led like a lamb to the slaughter  
In silence and shame,  
There on your back you carried a  
world  
Of violence and pain.  
Bleeding, dying, bleeding, dying.

*You're alive, you're alive,  
You have risen, Alleluia!  
And the power and the glory is  
given,  
Alleluia, Jesus, to you.*

<sup>2</sup>At break of dawn, poor Mary,  
Still weeping she came,  
When through her grief she heard  
your voice  
Now speaking her name.  
Mary, Master, Mary, Master!

<sup>3</sup>At the right hand of the Father  
Now seated on high  
You have begun your eternal reign  
Of justice and joy.  
Glory, glory, glory, glory.

(Graham Kendrick)

### **Confession**

Like Mary at the empty tomb,  
we fail to grasp the wonder of your presence.  
Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Like the disciples behind locked doors,  
we are afraid to be seen as your followers.  
Christ, have mercy.

**Christ, have mercy.**

Like Thomas in the upper room,  
we are slow to believe.  
Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

### **Absolution**

### **Collect**

#### **Reading:** John 20:1-18

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene went to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the entrance. So she came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved, and said, 'They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we don't know where they have put him!'

So Peter and the other disciple started for the tomb. Both were running, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent over and looked in at the strips of linen lying there but did not go in. Then Simon Peter came along behind him and went straight into the tomb. He saw the strips of linen lying there, as well as the cloth that had been wrapped round Jesus' head. The cloth was still lying in its place, separate from the linen. Finally the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went inside. He saw and believed. (They still did not understand from Scripture that Jesus had to rise from the dead.) Then the disciples went back to where they were staying.

Now Mary stood outside the tomb crying. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb and saw two angels in white, seated where Jesus' body

had been, one at the head and the other at the foot. They asked her, 'Woman, why are you crying?'

'They have taken my Lord away,' she said, 'and I don't know where they have put him.'

At this, she turned round and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not realise that it was Jesus. He asked her, 'Woman, why are you crying? Who is it you are looking for?' Thinking he was the gardener, she said, 'Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have put him, and I will get him.'

Jesus said to her, 'Mary.'

She turned towards him and cried out in Aramaic, 'Rabboni!' (which means 'Teacher').

Jesus said, 'Do not hold on to me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father. Go instead to my brothers and tell them, "I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God."'

Mary Magdalene went to the disciples with the news: 'I have seen the Lord!' And she told them that he had said these things to her.

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

## **Talk**

**Anthem, sung by our singers:** Christ is risen, he is risen indeed!

## **Renewal of baptism promises**

Do you turn away from sin? **I do.**

Do you reject evil? **I do.**

Do you turn to Christ as Saviour? **I do.**

Do you trust in him as Lord? **I do.**

## **Affirmation of faith**

Do you believe and trust in God the Father, source of all being and life, the one for whom we exist? **I believe and trust in him.**

Do you believe and trust in Jesus, God the Son, who took our human nature, died for us and rose again? **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? **I believe and trust in him.**

This is the faith of the Church.

**This is our faith. We believe and trust in one God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.**

## **Prayers**

### **The Peace**

The peace of the Lord be always with you. **And also with you.**

### **Hymn: (453)**

<sup>1</sup>Low in the grave he lay,  
Jesus, my Saviour,  
Waiting the coming day,  
Jesus, my Lord:

*Up from the grave he arose,  
With a mighty triumph o'er his foes;  
He arose a Victor from the dark  
domain,  
And he lives for ever with his saints  
to reign:  
He arose! He arose!  
Alleluia! Christ arose!*

<sup>2</sup>Vainly they watch His bed,  
Jesus, my Saviour;  
Vainly they seal the dead,  
Jesus, my Lord:

<sup>3</sup>Death cannot keep his prey,  
Jesus, my Saviour;  
He tore the bars away,  
Jesus, my Lord:

(Robert Lowry)

## **Prayer of thanks for our offering**

### **Eucharistic Prayer**

The Lord is here.  
Lift up your hearts.  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**His Spirit is with us.  
We lift them to the Lord.  
It is right to give thanks and  
praise.**

It is always right to give you thanks...  
...to celebrate and say:

**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.**

Father, on the night before he died...      ...Great is the mystery of faith:  
**Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

Father, as we bring this bread and wine...  
...one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

### **Lord's prayer**

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 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.**

### **Receiving Communion**

#### ***Prayer of Spiritual Communion***

*(a prayer that can be said by those unable to receive the bread and wine  
because they are watching at home)*

*Thanks be to you, Lord Jesus Christ,  
for all the benefits you have given me,  
for all the pains and insults you have borne for me.  
Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally,  
I ask you to come spiritually into my heart.  
O most merciful redeemer, friend and brother,  
may I know you more clearly, love you more dearly,  
and follow you more nearly, day by day. Amen.*

### **Hymn (76)**

<sup>1</sup>Christ the Lord is risen today: Hallelujah!  
Sons of men and angels say: Hallelujah!  
Raise your joys and triumphs high: Hallelujah!  
Sing, ye heavens, thou earth reply: Hallelujah!

<sup>2</sup>Love's redeeming work is done: Hallelujah!  
Fought the fight, the battle won: Hallelujah!  
Lo! Our sun's eclipse is o'er: Hallelujah!  
Lo! He sets in blood no more: Hallelujah!

<sup>3</sup>Vain the stone, the watch, the seal: Hallelujah!  
Christ hath burst the gates of hell: Hallelujah!  
Death in vain forbids him rise: Hallelujah!  
Christ hath opened paradise: Hallelujah!

<sup>4</sup>Lives again our glorious King: Hallelujah!  
Where, O death, is now thy sting? Hallelujah!  
Once he died, our souls to save: Hallelujah!  
Where thy victory, O grave? Hallelujah!

<sup>5</sup>Soar we now where Christ hath led: Hallelujah!  
Following our exalted Head: Hallelujah!  
Made like him, like him we rise: Hallelujah!  
Ours the cross, the grave, the skies: Hallelujah!

<sup>6</sup>Hail the Lord of earth and heaven: Hallelujah!  
Praise to thee by both be given: Hallelujah!  
Thee we greet, in triumph sing: Hallelujah!  
Hail our resurrected King: Hallelujah!

(Charles Wesley)

### **Hymn (467)**

<sup>1</sup>Morning has broken  
Like the first morning;  
Blackbird has spoken  
Like the first bird.  
Praise for the singing!  
Praise for the morning!  
Praise for them, springing  
Fresh from the Word!

<sup>2</sup>Sweet the rain's new fall  
Sunlit from heaven,  
Like the first dewfall  
On the first grass.  
Praise for the sweetness  
Of the wet garden,  
Sprung in completeness  
Where his feet pass.

<sup>3</sup>Mine is the sunlight! Mine is the morning  
Born of the one light, Eden saw play!  
Praise with elation, praise every morning,  
God's re-creation, of the new day!

(Eleanor Farjeon)

## Prayer after Communion

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 and family news

### Hymn (689)

<sup>1</sup>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!*

(Edmond Louis Budry. Tr. R. Birch  
Hoyle)

<sup>2</sup>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.

<sup>3</sup>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.

## Blessing