



The Eucharist for Eastertide

We welcome you to St Matthew's Church this morning and hope you enjoy our worship together.

If you are with us for the first time please fill in one of the Welcome leaflets on the pew. Thank you.

*Please join in the words in **bold print**.*

Remember to switch off your mobile phone whilst you are in the church.

¶ The Gathering

Entry Hymn

Welcome and Greeting

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 has been raised from the dead.

Alleluia! He is Risen indeed!

Prayer at the Easter Garden

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**

We pray together

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.

Please sit or kneel for

The Confession and Absolution

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...

Jesus Christ, risen Master and triumphant Lord, we come to you in sorrow for our sins, and confess to you our weakness and unbelief. We have lived by our own strength, and not by the power of your resurrection.

In your mercy, forgive us.

Lord, hear us and help us.

We have lived by the light of our own eyes, as faithless and not believing.

In your mercy, forgive us.

Lord, hear us and help us.

We have lived for this world alone, and doubted our home in heaven.

In your mercy, forgive us.

Lord, hear us and help us.

The Absolution

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. **Amen.**

Gloria in Excelsis

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

The president introduces a period of silent prayer with the words 'Let us pray'

Risen Christ,
for whom no door is locked, no entrance barred:
open the doors of our hearts,
that we may seek the good of others
and walk the joyful road of sacrifice
and peace,
to the praise of God the Father.
Amen.

¶ The Liturgy of the Word

Readings

1st Reading

At the end of each the reader may say

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Song

*After which the young people leave
for Young Church*

2nd Reading

*At the end of each the reader may
say*

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Gospel Reading

The Acclamation

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, Alleluia.

*When the Gospel is announced the
reader says*

The Lord be with you

And also with you

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus
Christ according to N.

Glory to you, O Lord.

At the end

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

The Sermon

The Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father
almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only
Son, our Lord, who was conceived
by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin
Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was
crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again; he
ascended into heaven, he is seated
at the right hand of the Father, and
he will come to judge the living and
the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy
catholic Church, the communion of
saints, the forgiveness of sins, the
resurrection of the body, and the life
everlasting. Amen.**

Prayers of Intercession

*The prayers usually include these
concerns and may follow this
sequence:*

¶ *The Church of Christ*

¶ *Creation, human society, the
Sovereign*

and those in authority

¶ *The local community*

¶ *Those who suffer*

¶ *The communion of saints*

One of these responses may be used
Lord, in your mercy
hear our prayer.

(or)

Lord, hear us.
Lord, graciously hear us.

And at the end
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.

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

Let us offer one another I sign of
peace

Offertory Hymn

Prayer of Preparation

Blessed are you, Lord God of all
creation.

In your loving care you spread before
us the table of life and give us the
cup of salvation to drink. Keep us
always in the fold of our Saviour and
our Shepherd,
your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.
Blessed be God for ever.

The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

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,
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.**

Praise to you, Lord Jesus:
**Dying you destroyed our death,
rising you restored our life:
Lord Jesus, come in glory.**

(or)

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

Father of all, we give you thanks for
every gift that comes from heaven.
To the darkness Jesus came as your
light. With signs of faith and words of
hope he touched untouchables with
love and washed the guilty clean. The
crowds came out to see your Son, yet
at the end they turned on him.

On the night he was betrayed
he came to table with his friends to
celebrate the freedom of your
people.

Jesus blessed you, Father, for the
food; he took bread, gave thanks,
broke it and said: This is my body,
given for you all.

Jesus then gave thanks for the wine;
he took the cup, gave it and said:
This is my blood, shed for you all for
the forgiveness of sins. Do this in
remembrance of me.

Therefore, Father, with this bread
and this cup we celebrate the cross
on which he died to set us free.
Defying death he rose again and is
alive with you to plead for us and all
the world. Send your Spirit on us
now that by these gifts we may feed
on Christ with opened eyes and
hearts on fire. May we and all who
share this food offer ourselves to live
for you and be welcomed at your
feast in heaven where all creation
worships you, Father, Son and Holy
Spirit:

**Blessing and honour and glory and
power
be yours for ever and ever. Amen.**

*As the Children return from Young
Church we sing*

Chant

The Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour taught us, 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 of the Bread

The president breaks the consecrated 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.**

The Agnus Dei

**Jesus, Lamb of God,
have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, bearer of our sins,
have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, redeemer of the world,
grant us peace.**

Alleluia. Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us:

so let us celebrate the feast. Alleluia

The president and people receive communion.

Authorised words of distribution are used and the communicant replies

Amen.

Communion Hymn

Anthem

The President says the

Post Communion Prayer

Lord God our Father,
through our Saviour Jesus Christ
you have assured your children of
eternal life
and in baptism have made us one
with him:
deliver us from the death of sin
and raise us to new life in your love,
in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
by the grace of our Lord Jesus
Christ.

Then we pray together

**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.**

The Notices

Final Hymn

The Blessing

*The president may use this,
or another suitable blessing*

God the Father,
by whose love Christ was raised from
the dead, open to you who believe
the gates of everlasting life.

Amen.

God the Son, who in bursting from
the grave has won a glorious victory,
give you joy as you share the Easter
faith. **Amen.**

God the Holy Spirit, who filled the
disciples with the life of the risen
Lord,
empower you and fill you with
Christ's peace. **Amen.**

And the blessing ...

(or)

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 ...

The Dismissal

He is not here. He is risen. Go in
peace to love and serve the Lord.
Alleluia, alleluia.

**In the name of Christ. Alleluia,
alleluia.
Amen.**

The ministers and people depart.

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