

St Mary's Church

Chartham



Family Communion

Song: *Alleluia (sung by the choir)*

Lighting the Easter Candle

Leader: Alleluia. Christ is risen

All: **He is risen indeed, 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.

Leader: The Light of Christ

All: **Thanks be to God**

Hymn

Prayers at the Easter Garden

Leader: The Light of Christ

All: **Thanks be to God**

Leader: Alleluia. Christ is risen

All: **He is risen indeed, Alleluia**

Reader: 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.'

(Matthew 28:5,6)

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. To you be glory now and for ever. In your great mercy you have given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.

By your blessing, may we who have prepared this garden in celebration of his victory be strengthened in faith, know the power of his presence, and rejoice in the hope of eternal glory. Blessed be God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
Blessed be God for ever.

Invitation to Confession

The sun of righteousness has dawned with healing in his wings. Let us come to the light of Christ, confessing our sins in penitence and faith. 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 are slow to believe. Lord, have mercy.

All: Lord, have mercy.

The almighty and merciful Lord,
grant you pardon and forgiveness of all your sins,
time for amendment of life
and the grace and strength
of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

Gloria in Excelsis

All: *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

Amen.

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 First Reading

Please sit

When the reading ends

This is the word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

Song:

The Gospel Reading

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.

All: Alleluia.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to

All sing: Glory to you, O Lord.

At the end:

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All sing: Praise to you, O Christ.

The Talk

The Creed

Please stand

All: We believe in God the Father
from whom every family in heaven
and on earth is named.
We believe in God the Son
who lives in our hearts through faith
and fills us with his love
We believe in the Holy Spirit
who strengthens us with power
from on high.
We believe in one God
Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

Life-giving God
All: Give us new life in you

And at the end

Merciful Father
All: accept these prayers
for the sake of Your Son,
our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen

The Peace

Please stand

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.

Let us share together a sign of peace

The Offertory Song

Preparation of the Table

Be present, be present,
Lord Jesus Christ,
our risen high priest;
make yourself known in the breaking of bread

All: Amen

The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord is here.

All: His Spirit is with us.

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.

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:

All 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.**

We praise and bless You, loving Father,
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
and as we obey His command,
send Your Holy Spirit,
that broken bread and wine outpoured
may be to us the body and blood of Your dear Son.

On the night before He died, He had supper with His
friends and, taking bread, He praised You.
He broke the bread, gave it to them, and said:
*Take, eat, this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.*

When supper was ended he took the cup of wine.
Again he praised you, gave it to them, and said:
*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.*

So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did,
in Him we plead with confidence His sacrifice
made once for all upon the cross.

Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation
we proclaim His death and resurrection
until He comes in glory.

Great is the mystery of faith:

**All sing: Christ has died:
Christ is risen:
Christ will come again.**

Lord of all life,
help us to work together for that day
when Your kingdom comes
and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth.

Look with favour on Your people,
gather us in Your loving arms
and bring us with Mary and all the saints,
to feast at Your table in heaven.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory are Yours, O loving Father,
for ever and ever.

All say or sing: Amen

The Lord's Prayer

Let us pray with confidence,
as our Saviour has taught us.

**All: Our Father who art in heaven,
hallowed be Thy name;
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done;
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And Lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,**

**the power and the glory,
for ever and 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.**

**All sing: 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.**

Giving of Communion

Jesus is the Lamb of God
who takes away the sin of the world.
Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

**All: Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,
but only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

All are welcome to come up to the high altar. If you usually receive communion in your church, then you are welcome to receive the bread and the wine. If you would prefer to receive a prayer of blessing, then please keep your hands down to your sides to indicate this.

Prayer after Communion

All: Thank you, Lord,
for this wonderful, hopeful day.
Thank you that you are alive and with us
in all the celebrations and challenges of life.
Go with us now to enjoy our celebrations
and face any challenges ahead.
May we share your good news and blessing
with all those we meet this week.
Amen.

Notices

Closing hymn

The Blessing & Dismissal

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

All: He is risen indeed. Alleluia.

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

All: Amen.

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

All: 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.

All: Amen.

And the blessing of God almighty,

the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

All: Amen.

With the risen life of Christ within you,
go in the peace of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.

All: In the name of Christ. Amen.

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