



Holy Communion

9.30am – 17th May 2026

7th Sunday of Easter

Hail the day that sees him rise, Alleluia, ¹⁶⁷
to his throne above the skies; Alleluia,
Christ, the Lamb for sinners given, Alleluia,
enters now the highest heaven. Alleluia!

There for him high triumph waits;
lift your heads, eternal gates.
He hath conquered death and sin;
take the King of Glory in.

Still for us he intercedes,
his prevailing death he pleads;
near himself prepares our place,
he the first-fruits of our race.

Lord, though parted from our sight,
far above the starry height,
grant our hearts may thither rise,
seeking thee above the skies.

Charles Wesley | Robert Williams | Thomas Cotterill

Gathering and Greeting

In the name of the Father, and of
the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you

Alleluia. Christ is risen

All: He is risen indeed. Alleluia.

Welcome – Revd. Philip Sudell

Prayers of Penitence

Christ died to sin once for all, and now he
lives to God. Let us renew our resolve to
have done with all that is evil and confess
our sins in penitence and faith.

Confession

Most merciful God, Father of our Lord
Jesus Christ, we confess that we have
sinned in thought, word and deed.
We have not loved you with our whole
heart. We have not loved our neighbours
as ourselves. In your mercy forgive what
we have been, help us to amend what we
are, and direct what we shall be; that we
may do justly, love mercy, and walk humbly
with you, our God. Amen.

Assurance of forgiveness

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly
repent, have mercy upon you, pardon and
deliver you from all your sins, confirm and
strengthen you in all goodness, and keep
you in life eternal; through Jesus Christ our
Lord. Amen.

We sing the

Gloria

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 Collect

O God the King of glory, you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven: we beseech you, leave us not comfortless, but send your Holy Spirit to strengthen us and exalt us to the place where our Saviour Christ is gone before, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

All: Amen.

The Liturgy of the Word

New Testament Reading

Acts 1:6-14

⁶ Then they gathered round him and asked him, 'Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?'

⁷ He said to them: 'It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority. ⁸ But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.'

⁹ After he said this, he was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight.

¹⁰ They were looking intently up into the sky as he was going, when suddenly two men dressed in white stood beside them. ¹¹ 'Men of Galilee,' they said, 'why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven.'

¹² Then the apostles returned to Jerusalem from the hill called the Mount of Olives, a

Sabbath day's walk from the city. ¹³ When they arrived, they went upstairs to the room where they were staying. Those present were Peter, John, James and Andrew; Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew; James son of Alphaeus and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. ¹⁴ They all joined together constantly in prayer, along with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brothers.

Reader: This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Psalm

Psalm 68:1-10

Our God is a God of salvation.

¹ Let God arise and let his enemies be scattered; ♦ let those that hate him flee before him. ² As the smoke vanishes, so may they vanish away; ♦ as wax melts at the fire, so let the wicked perish at the presence of God.

Our God is a God of salvation.

³ But let the righteous be glad and rejoice before God; ♦ let them make merry with gladness. ⁴ Sing to God, sing praises to his name; exalt him who rides on the clouds. ♦ The Lord is his name; rejoice before him.

Our God is a God of salvation.

⁵ Father of the fatherless, defender of widows, ♦ God in his holy habitation!

⁶ God gives the solitary a home and brings forth prisoners to songs of welcome, ♦ but the rebellious inhabit a burning desert.

Our God is a God of salvation.

⁷ O God, when you went forth before your people, ♦ when you marched through the wilderness, ⁸ The earth shook and the heavens dropped down rain, at the presence of God, the Lord of Sinai, ♦ at the presence of God, the God of Israel.

Our God is a God of salvation.

⁹ You sent down a gracious rain, O God; ♦ you refreshed your inheritance when it was

weary. ¹⁰ Your people came to dwell there; ♦ in your goodness, O God, you provide for the poor.

Our God is a God of salvation.

New Testament Reading

Romans 8:18-39

¹⁸ I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us. ¹⁹ For the creation waits in eager expectation for the children of God to be revealed. ²⁰ For the creation was subjected to frustration, not by its own choice, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope ²¹ that the creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the freedom and glory of the children of God.

²² We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time. ²³ Not only so, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our adoption to sonship, the redemption of our bodies. ²⁴ For in this hope we were saved. But hope that is seen is no hope at all. Who hopes for what they already have? ²⁵ But if we hope for what we do not yet have, we wait for it patiently.

²⁶ In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us through wordless groans. ²⁷ And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for God's people in accordance with the will of God.

²⁸ And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. ²⁹ For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters. ³⁰ And those he predestined, he also called; those he called, he also justified; those he justified, he also glorified.

³¹ What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? ³² He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all – how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things? ³³ Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies. ³⁴ Who then is the one who condemns? No one. Christ Jesus who died – more than that, who was raised to life – is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us. ³⁵ Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? ³⁶ As it is written: 'For your sake we face death all day long; we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered.'

³⁷ No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸ For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, ³⁹ neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Reader: This is the word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel

The Lord be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

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

All: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

John 17:1-11

After Jesus said this, he looked towards heaven and prayed:

'Father, the hour has come. Glorify your Son, that your Son may glorify you. ² For you granted him authority over all people that he might give eternal life to all those you have given him. ³ Now this is eternal

life: that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent. ⁴ I have brought you glory on earth by finishing the work you gave me to do. ⁵ And now, Father, glorify me in your presence with the glory I had with you before the world began.

⁶ I have revealed you to those whom you gave me out of the world. They were yours; you gave them to me and they have obeyed your word. ⁷ Now they know that everything you have given me comes from you. ⁸ For I gave them the words you gave me and they accepted them. They knew with certainty that I came from you, and they believed that you sent me. ⁹ I pray for them. I am not praying for the world, but for those you have given me, for they are yours. ¹⁰ All I have is yours, and all you have is mine. And glory has come to me through them. ¹¹ I will remain in the world no longer, but they are still in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them by the power of your name, the name you gave me, so that they may be one as we are one.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon – Revd. Philip Sudell

6. More than conquerors

Profession of 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.

Prayers of Intercession

This response may be used:

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.

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

The Peace

God has made us one in Christ. He has set his seal upon us and, as a pledge of what is to come, has given the Spirit to dwell in our hearts. The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All: And also with you.

The bread and wine are brought to the Lord's Table

The head that once was crowned with
thorns

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is crowned with glory now:
a royal diadem adorns
the mighty Victor's brow.

The joy of all who dwell above,
the joy of all below,
to whom he manifests his love,
and grants his name to know.

To them the cross, with all its shame,
with all its grace, is given:
their name, an everlasting name,
their joy, the joy of heaven.

The cross he bore is life and health,
though shame and death to him;
his people's hope, his people's wealth,
their everlasting theme.

Jeremiah Clarke | Thomas Kelly ©

The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

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,
holy Father, almighty and eternal God,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. For he is our
great high priest who has entered once for
all into the heavenly sanctuary, evermore
to pour upon your Church the grace and
comfort of your Holy Spirit. He is the one
who has gone before us, who calls us to be
united in prayer as were his disciples in the
upper room while they awaited his
promised gift, the life-giving Spirit of
Pentecost. Therefore all creation yearns
with eager longing as angels and archangels
sing the endless hymn of praise:

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.

Accept our praises, heavenly Father,
through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ,
and as we follow his example and obey his
command, grant that by the power of your
Holy Spirit these gifts of bread and wine
may be to us his body and his blood; who,
in the same night that he was betrayed,
took bread and gave you thanks; he broke
it and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take,
eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.
In the same way, after supper he took the
cup and gave you thanks; he gave it to
them, saying: 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.

Therefore, heavenly Father, we remember
his offering of himself made once for all
upon the cross; we proclaim his mighty
resurrection and glorious ascension; we
look for the coming of your kingdom, and
with this bread and this cup we make the
memorial of Christ your Son our Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus.

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

Accept through him, our great high priest,
this our sacrifice of thanks and praise, and
as we eat and drink these holy gifts in the
presence of your divine majesty, renew us
by your Spirit, inspire us with your love and
unite us in the body of your Son, Jesus
Christ our Lord.

Through him, and with him, and in him,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, with all who
stand before you in earth and heaven, we
worship you, Father almighty, in songs of
everlasting praise:

All: Blessing and honour and glory and
power be yours for ever and ever.
Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

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

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.

The Breaking of 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.

Agnus Dei

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.

The Giving of Communion

Draw near with faith. Receive the body of
our Lord Jesus Christ which he gave for
you, and his blood which he shed for you.
Eat and drink in remembrance that he died
for you, and feed on him in your hearts by
faith with thanksgiving.

Prayer after Communion

Father of all, we give you thanks and
praise, that when we were still far off you
met us in your Son and brought us home.
Dying and living, he declared your love,
gave us grace, and opened the gate of
glory. May we who share Christ's body live
his risen life; we who drink his cup bring
life to others; we whom the Spirit lights
give light to the world. Keep us firm in the
hope you have set before us, so we and all
your children shall be free, and the whole
earth live to praise your name; through
Christ our Lord. Amen.

Church family news

Crown him with many crowns, 166
the Lamb upon his throne;
hark, how the heavenly anthem drowns
all music but its own!

Awake, my soul, and sing
of him who died for thee,
and hail him as thy matchless King
through all eternity.

Crown him the Lord of love;
behold his hands and side,
those wounds yet visible above
in beauty glorified:
no angel in the sky
can fully bear that sight,
but downward bends his burning eye
at mysteries so bright.

Crown him the Lord of peace,
whose power a sceptre sways
from pole to pole, that wars may cease,
and all be prayer and praise:
his reign shall know no end,
and round his piercèd feet
fair flowers of paradise extend
their fragrance ever sweet.

Crown him the Lord of years,
the Potentate of time,
creator of the rolling spheres,
ineffably sublime:
all hail, Redeemer, hail!
for thou hast died for me;
thy praise shall never, never fail
throughout eternity.

George Job Elvey | Godfrey Thring | Matthew Bridges ©

Blessing

The Spirit of truth lead you into all truth,
give you grace to confess that Jesus Christ
is Lord, and strengthen you to proclaim the
word and works of God; and the blessing
of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and
the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain
with you always.

All: **Amen**

Dismissal

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

All: **In the name of Christ. Amen**

CCLI: 777478

Common Worship: Services and Prayers for the Church of England
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Readings for next Sunday

24th May – Pentecost

Numbers 11.24–30

Psalms 104.26–36

Acts 2.1–21

Matthew 9:9–13

The week ahead

Sun 17th	9.30am 11am 12.15am	Holy Communion Morning Service Annual Meetings (APCM)
Mon 18 th		
Tues 19 ^h	9:45-11am 8pm	Chat & Play for pre-schoolers and their parents/minders @ St Peter's Hall Midweek Groups meet
Wed 20 th		
Thurs 21 st	10-11.30am 12 noon 12-3pm 3.45-5pm 8pm	Women's Bible Study @ St Peter's Hall Holy Communion Community Café @ St Peter's Hall FAB Club @ St Peter's Hall Midweek groups meet
Fri 22 nd	7.15-8am	Friday Prayer @ 163 CHL
Sat 23 rd		
Sun 24 th	9.30am 11am	Holy Communion Morning Service

Looking ahead

Sun 17th May - Annual Meetings
Sun 7th June - Church Family BBQ Lunch
Sun 12th July - Church Family Picnic

Annual Meetings

The Annual Meeting of Parishioners for the election of Churchwardens (2) and the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) for the presentation of the annual reports and the election of 2 Deanery Synod members up to 9 members of the Parochial Church Council (PCC) will take place **after the 11am service on Sunday 17th May 2026**. Nomination forms are available

Co-Mission Revive W/E Away

26th - 28th June - Bookings will close soon on 26th May! - get online and don't forget to book!!



26th-28th June at the University of Kent, Canterbury
Book your place today!

Church Family BBQ Sunday 7th June

We are having a church family BBQ after the 11am service on Sunday 7th June. Please sign up on the sheet at the back of church.



St Peter's

Annual Giving Review
10th - 17th May

Ponder

Pray

Partner

Philippians 4:19

And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus.