



## Holy Communion

9.30am – 27<sup>th</sup> April 2025

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter

### 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.

Ye choirs of new Jerusalem, 162  
your sweetest notes employ,  
the Paschal victory to hymn  
in strains of holy joy.

How Judah's Lion burst his chains,  
and crushed the serpent's head;  
and brought with him,  
from death's domains,  
the long-imprisoned dead.

Triumphant in his glory now  
his sceptre ruleth all,  
earth, heaven, and hell before him bow,  
and at his footstool fall.

While joyful thus his praise we sing,  
his mercy we implore,  
into his palace bright to bring  
and keep us evermore.

All glory to the Father be,  
all glory to the Son,  
all glory, Holy Ghost, to thee,  
while endless ages run.

Alleluia! Amen.

Translator: Robert Campbell; Author: Fulbert of Chartres

**Welcome** – Revd Philip Sudell

### Prayers of Penitence

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.

### 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

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.

All: Amen.

## The Liturgy of the Word

### New Testament Reading

Acts 5:27-32

<sup>27</sup> When they had brought them, they had  
them stand before the council. The high  
priest questioned them, <sup>28</sup> saying, 'We gave  
you strict orders not to teach in this name,  
yet here you have filled Jerusalem with  
your teaching and you are determined to  
bring this man's blood on us.' <sup>29</sup> But Peter  
and the apostles answered, 'We must obey  
God rather than any human authority. <sup>30</sup>  
The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus,  
whom you had killed by hanging him on a  
tree. <sup>31</sup> God exalted him at his right hand as  
Leader and Saviour, so that he might give  
repentance to Israel and forgiveness of  
sins. <sup>32</sup> And we are witnesses to these  
things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God  
has given to those who obey him.'

Reader: This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

## Psalm

Psalm 150

Let everything that has breath praise the  
Lord.

<sup>1</sup> Alleluia. O praise God in his holiness; •  
praise him in the firmament of his power.

<sup>2</sup> Praise him for his mighty acts; • praise  
him according to his excellent greatness.

Let everything that has breath praise the  
Lord.

<sup>3</sup> Praise him with the blast of the trumpet;  
• praise him upon the harp and lyre.

<sup>4</sup> Praise him with timbrel and dances; •  
praise him upon the strings and pipe.

Let everything that has breath praise the  
Lord.

<sup>5</sup> Praise him with ringing cymbals; • praise  
him upon the clashing cymbals.

<sup>6</sup> Let everything that has breath • praise  
the Lord.

Alleluia.

Let everything that has breath praise the  
Lord.

## New Testament Reading

Revelation 1:4-8

<sup>4</sup> John to the seven churches that are in  
Asia: Grace to you and peace from him  
who is and who was and who is to come,  
and from the seven spirits who are before  
his throne, <sup>5</sup> and from Jesus Christ, the  
faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead,  
and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To  
him who loves us and freed us from our  
sins by his blood, <sup>6</sup> and made us to be a  
kingdom, priests serving his God and  
Father, to him be glory and dominion for  
ever and ever. Amen. <sup>7</sup> Look! He is coming  
with the clouds; every eye will see him,  
even those who pierced him; and on his  
account all the tribes of the earth will wail.  
So it is to be. Amen. <sup>8</sup> 'I am the Alpha and  
the Omega', says the Lord God, who is and  
who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

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 Matthew.

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

### Matthew 7:13-23

<sup>13</sup> 'Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it. <sup>14</sup> But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life, and only a few find it.

<sup>15</sup> 'Watch out for false prophets. They come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ferocious wolves. <sup>16</sup> By their fruit you will recognise them. Do people pick grapes from thorn-bushes, or figs from thistles? <sup>17</sup> Likewise, every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit. <sup>18</sup> A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, and a bad tree cannot bear good fruit. <sup>19</sup> Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. <sup>20</sup> Thus, by their fruit you will recognise them.

<sup>21</sup> 'Not everyone who says to me, "Lord, Lord," will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. <sup>22</sup> Many will say to me on that day, "Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name and in your name drive out demons and in your name perform many miracles?" <sup>23</sup> Then I will tell them plainly, "I never knew you. Away from me, you evildoers!"

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, O Christ.

## Sermon – Revd Philip Sudell

*The Discipleship Agenda*

*Small is the gate*

## 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

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.**

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

**Love's redeeming work is done;** 150  
fought the fight, the battle won:  
lo, our Sun's eclipse is o'er,  
lo, he sets in blood no more.

Vain the stone, the watch, the seal;  
Christ has burst the gates of hell;  
death in vain forbids his rise;  
Christ has opened paradise.

Lives again our glorious King;  
where, O death, is now thy sting?  
dying once, he all doth save;  
where thy victory, O grave?

Soar we now where Christ has led,  
following our exalted Head;  
made like him, like him we rise;  
ours the cross, the grave, the skies.

Hail the Lord of earth and heaven!  
Praise to thee by both be given:  
thee we greet triumphant now;  
hail, the Resurrection Thou!.

Charles Wesley

## 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, 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.**

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

Alleluia! Alleluia!

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Hearts to heaven and voices raise;  
sing to God a hymn of gladness,  
sing to God a hymn of praise:  
he who on the cross a victim  
for the world's salvation bled,  
Jesus Christ, the King of glory,  
now is risen from the dead.



Christ is risen, Christ the first-fruits  
of the holy harvest field,  
which will all its full abundance  
at his second coming yield;  
then the golden ears of harvest  
will their heads before him wave,  
ripened by his glorious sunshine,  
from the furrows of the grave.

Christ is risen, we are risen;  
shed upon us heavenly grace,  
rain, and dew, and gleams of glory  
from the brightness of thy face;  
that we, with our hearts in heaven,  
here on earth may fruitful be,  
and by angel-hands be gathered,  
and be ever, Lord, with thee.

Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Glory be to God on high;  
Alleluia to the Saviour,  
who has gained the victory;  
Alleluia to the Spirit,  
fount of love and sanctity;  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
to the Triune Majesty!

Christopher Wordsworth

## Blessing

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 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

## Readings for next Sunday

4th May – Third Sunday of Easter

Acts 9:1-20

Psalm 30

Revelation 5:11-14

Matthew 7:24-29

CCLI: 777478

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