

Easter Communion 5th April 21st 2026

Welcome and Notices:

Acclamation

This is the day when our Lord Jesus Christ passed from death to life. Throughout the world Christians celebrate the awesome power of God, as we hear his word and proclaim all that God has done, and live with him for ever.

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

He is risen indeed. Alleluia.

Praise the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

He has given us new life and hope.

He has raised Jesus from the dead.

God has claimed us as his own.

He has brought us out of darkness.

He has made us light to the world.

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

He is risen indeed. Alleluia.

Song: Alleluia *(1st two verses singers)*

Alleluia, Alleluia,

Alleluia, Alleluia;

Alleluia, Alleluia,

Alleluia, Alleluia;

Christ is risen; Christ is risen;

Christ is risen; Christ is risen;

Christ is risen; Christ is risen;

Christ is risen; Christ is risen;

Jesus is Lord; Jesus is Lord;

Jesus is Lord; Jesus is Lord;

Jesus is Lord; Jesus is Lord;

Jesus is Lord; Jesus is Lord;

Damian Lundy (1944-1997) © 1996 & 1999 Kevin Mayhew Ltd

Gathering Prayer

Faithful one, whose word is life:
come with saving power
to free our praise, inspire our prayer
and shape our lives for the kingdom of your Son,
Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Opening hymn: In the tomb so cold they laid him

In the tomb so cold they laid him,
death its victim claimed.
Powers of hell, they could not hold him;
back to life he came!

(men) Christ is risen!

(women) Christ is risen!

(men) Death has been conquered.

(women) Death has been conquered.

(men) Christ is risen!

(women) Christ is risen!

(all) He shall reign for ever.

Hell had spent its fury on him,
left him crucified.
Yet, by blood, he boldly conquered,
sin and death defied.

(men) Christ is risen!

(women) Christ is risen!

(men) Death has been conquered.

(women) Death has been conquered.

(men) Christ is risen!

(women) Christ is risen!

(all) He shall reign for ever.

Now the fear of death is broken,
love has won the crown.
Prisoners of the darkness listen,
walls are tumbling down.

(men) Christ is risen!
(women) Christ is risen!
(men) Death has been conquered.
(women) Death has been conquered.
(men) Christ is risen!
(women) Christ is risen!
(all) He shall reign for ever.

**Raised from death to heaven ascending,
love's exalted King.
Let his song of joy, unending,
through the nations ring!**

(men) Christ is risen!
(women) Christ is risen!
(men) Death has been conquered.
(women) Death has been conquered.
(men) Christ is risen!
(women) Christ is risen!
(all) He shall reign for ever. (repeat chorus).

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Easter Confession:

Lord and Saviour we are sorry when we fail to claim the victory
that you have won for us.

Lord forgive us
and help us to receive.

Lord and Saviour we are sorry when we fail to receive your
forgiveness and remain ashamed and distant from you.

Lord forgive us
and help us to receive.

Lord and Saviour we are sorry when we fail to give you our
sorrows and live without an experience of your comfort.

Lord forgive us
and help us to receive.

Lord and Saviour we are sorry when we don't believe in your great love for us and seek to find that love in inappropriate ways.

Lord forgive us
and help us to receive.

**We receive God's forgiveness
and all the benefits of his death for us:**

Absolution:

May God who loved the world so much
that he sent his Son to die on the cross for us.
forgive us our sins and restore us friendship with him,
Give us victory over evil and deliverance in suffering.
and fill us with the resurrection presence of Jesus,
Amen

Collect for Easter Sunday

**Lord of all life and power;
who through the mighty resurrection of your son
overcame the old order of sin and death
to make all things new in him.
Grant that we, being dead to sin
and alive to you in Jesus Christ,
may reign with him in glory;
to whom with you and the Holy Spirit
be praise and honour and glory and might
now and in all eternity. Amen**

Hymn: Led like a lamb

**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.***

**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.**

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

**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.**

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

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Reading: Acts 10: 34-43 (Diane)

³⁴ Then Peter began to speak: 'I now realise how true it is that God does not show favouritism ³⁵ but accepts from every nation the one who fears him and does what is right. ³⁶ You know the message God sent to the people of Israel, announcing the good news of peace through Jesus Christ, who is Lord of all. ³⁷ You know what has happened throughout the province of Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John preached – ³⁸ how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and power, and how he went around doing good and healing all who were under the power of the devil, because God was with him.

³⁹ 'We are witnesses of everything he did in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They killed him by hanging him on a cross, ⁴⁰ but God raised him from the dead on the third day and caused him to be

seen. ⁴¹ He was not seen by all the people, but by witnesses whom God had already chosen – by us who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. ⁴² He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one whom God appointed as judge of the living and the dead. ⁴³ All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.’

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Hymn In Christ Alone

**In Christ alone my hope is found
He is my light, my strength, my song
This Cornerstone, this solid ground
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm
What heights of love, what depths of peace
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease
My Comforter, my all in all
Here in the love of Christ I stand.**

**In Christ alone, who took on flesh
Fullness of God in helpless babe
This gift of love and righteousness
Scorned by the ones he came to save
Till on that cross as Jesus died
The wrath of God was satisfied
For every sin on him was laid
Here in the death of Christ I live.**

**There in the ground his body lay
Light of the world by darkness slain
Then bursting forth in glorious day
Up from the grave he rose again
And as he stands in victory
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me
For I am his and he is mine
Bought with the precious blood of Christ.**

**No guilt in life, no fear in death
This is the power of Christ in me**

**From life's first cry to final breath
Jesus commands my destiny
No power of hell, no scheme of man
Can ever pluck me from his hand
Till he returns or calls me home
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand.**

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Gospel Reading: Matthew 28: 1-10 (Julie)

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. *(cf Rev 1 17-18)*

Alleluia

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

Glory to you, O lord.

¹After the Sabbath, at dawn on the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to look at the tomb.

² There was a violent earthquake, for an angel of the Lord came down from heaven and, going to the tomb, rolled back the stone and sat on it. ³ His appearance was like lightning, and his clothes were white as snow. ⁴ The guards were so afraid of him that they shook and became like dead men.

⁵ The angel said to the women, 'Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. ⁶ He is not here; he has risen, just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay. ⁷ Then go quickly and tell his disciples: "He has risen from the dead and is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him." Now I have told you.'

⁸ So the women hurried away from the tomb, afraid yet filled with joy, and ran to tell his disciples. ⁹ Suddenly Jesus met them. 'Greetings,' he said. They came to him, clasped his feet and worshipped him. ¹⁰ Then Jesus said to them, 'Do not be afraid. Go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon – Lindsey

Song: Easter Hallelujah (singers)

A crown of thorns placed on his head,
He knew that he would soon be dead,
He said, 'Did you forget me, Father, did you?'
They nailed him to a wooden cross,
Soon all the world would feel the loss
of Christ the King before his Hallelujah.

Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah!

He hung his head and prepared to die,
Then lifted his face up to the sky,
Said, 'I am coming home now, Father, to you'
A reed which held his final sip
was gently lifted to his lips,
He drank his last and gave his soul to glory.

Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah!

The soldier who had used his sword
to pierce the body of our Lord
said, 'Truly, this was Jesus Christ our Saviour'.
He looked with fear upon his sword,
then turned to face his Christ and Lord,
Fell to his knees, crying 'Hallelujah!'

Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah!

Took from his head the thorny crown
and wrapped him in a linen gown,
Then laid him down to rest inside the tomb.
The holes in his hands, his feet and side,
Now in our hearts we know he died
to save us from ourselves, oh Hallelujah!

Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah!

Three days went by, again they came
To move the stone, to bless the slain

With oil and spice anointing, hallelujah!
But, as they went to move the stone,
They saw that they were not alone,
For Jesus Christ has risen, Hallelujah!

Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah!
Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah!

Kelly Mooney 2011

Creed

Let us declare our faith
in the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**Christ died for our sins
In accordance with the Scriptures;
He was buried;
He was raised to life on the third day
In accordance with the Scriptures;
Afterwards he appeared to his followers,
And to all the apostles:
This we have received,
And this we believe.
Amen.**

Prayers of Intercession: (Susan)

Lord, may we know you
And the power of your resurrection.

**God of mission, who alone brings growth to your church,
send your Holy Spirit to give vision to our planning, wisdom
to our actions and power to our witness. Help our church to
grow in numbers, in spiritual commitment to you and in
service to our local community.**

Merciful Father:
**Accept these prayers
for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ.
Amen.**

Peace

Peace through our Lord Jesus Christ, he is Lord of life and death;
he is Lord of all.

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

Offertory Hymn: Thine be the Glory

**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!*

**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.**

*Thine be the glory,
Risen, conquering Son;
Endless is the victory
Thou o'er death hast won!*

**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:**

***Thine be the glory,
Risen, conquering Son;
Endless is the victory
Thou o'er death hast won!***

Edmond L. Budry (1854–1932)

Offertory Prayer

Yours, Lord, is the greatness,
the power, the glory,
the splendour, and the majesty;
for everything in heaven and on earth is yours.

**All things come from you,
and of your own do we give you.**

Amen

Eucharistic Prayer A

The Lord is here.

His Spirit is with us.

Lift up your hearts

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him 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 is the Lord,
holy is the Lord God almighty!
Holy, holy, holy is the Lord,
holy is the Lord God almighty!
Who was and is, and is to come;
Holy, holy, holy is the Lord.**

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 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.

To you be glory and praise for ever.

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.

To you be glory and praise for ever.

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.

**Lord, by your cross and resurrection
you have set us free.**

You are the Saviour of the world.

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.

To you be glory and praise for ever.

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:

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

Lord's Prayer *(sung)*

**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.**

Prayer of humble access

**We do not presume
to come to this your table, merciful Lord,
trusting in our own righteousness,
but in your manifold and great mercies.
We are not worthy
so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table.
But you are the same Lord
whose nature is always to have mercy.
Grant us therefore, gracious Lord,
so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ
and to drink his blood,
that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body
and our souls washed through his most precious blood,
and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us.
Amen.**

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 and with thanksgiving.

Administration of Communion:

Song during Administration: Christ be with me *(singers)*

Christ be with me, Christ within me,
Christ behind me, Christ before me,
Christ beside me, Christ to guide me
Christ to comfort and restore me.

Christ be with us, Christ with-in us,
Christ behind us, Christ before us,

Christ beside us, Christ to guide us
Christ to comfort and restore us.

(Instrumental interlude)

Christ beneath me, Christ above me,
Christ in quiet, Christ in danger,
Christ in hearts of all that love me,
Christ in care of friend and stranger.

Christ beneath us, Christ above us,
Christ in quiet, Christ in danger,
Christ in hearts of all that love us,
Christ in care of friend and stranger.

Attributed to St Patrick

Instrumental during Administration

Post Communion Prayer

**God of life,
who for our redemption gave your only-begotten Son
to the death of the cross,
and by his glorious resurrection
have delivered us from the power of our enemy:
grant us so to die daily to sin,
that we may evermore live with him in the joy of his risen life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Sharing Time

Final Hymn: Easter Jubilation

**Easter jubilation fills the streets and towns,
celebrations have begun.
Hear the music and the dancing now,
join the laughter and the fun!**

***Oh, raise a joyful shout!
Clap your hands and dance,
let your feelings out.***

***Oh, hear what it's about:
Christ, the Lord has come to set us free.***

**Put aside your sorrows, wipe your tears away,
for a better time will come.
There's a promise of a better day,
join the laughter and the fun!**

***Oh, raise a joyful shout!
Clap your hands and dance,
let your feelings out.
Oh, hear what it's about:
Christ, the Lord has come to set us free.***

La, la, la, la, la, etc.

***Oh, raise a joyful shout!
Clap your hands and dance,
let your feelings out.
Oh, hear what it's about:
Christ, the Lord has come to set us free.***

**Easter jubilation fills the streets and towns,
celebrations have begun.
Hear the music and the dancing now,
join the laughter and the fun!**

***Oh, raise a joyful shout!
Clap your hands and dance,
let your feelings out.
Oh, hear what it's about:
Christ, the Lord has come to set us free! Hoy!***

Mark and Helen Johnson © out of the Ark Music

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 the grave has won a glorious victory,
give you joy as you share the Easter faith.

Amen.

God the Holy Spirit,
whom the risen Lord breathed into his disciples,
empower you and fill you with Christ's peace.

Amen.

and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

Amen

Dismissal

Go in the peace of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

Refreshments and Prayer Ministry