



Easter Day Eucharist and Baptism Renewal

31st March 2024

The Lighting of the Paschal (Easter) Candle

We stand as the presiding priest introduces the celebration with the following words

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ, on this most holy day, when our Saviour Jesus Christ passed from death to life, we gather with all the Church throughout the world; through light and word, through water, bread and wine, we celebrate the new life that Christ shares with us.

The Paschal Candle is lit as the Presider prays

Redeeming God, source of life and light, you made this most holy day to shine with the brightness of your one true light; bless this new flame, and grant that we who are warmed by the celebration of this Easter feast, may share in the everlasting festival of your radiance, through Jesus Christ, the light of the world.

Amen.

The presiding priest lifts high the lit Easter Candle, saying

May the light of Christ, rising in glory, banish all darkness from our hearts and minds.

Christ our light.

Thanks be to God.

The procession is lead by the Easter Candle as we sing

Jesus Christ is risen today

CP147 - Tune: EASTER HYMN

Jesus Christ is risen today, Alleluia, our triumphant holy day; alleluia, who did once upon the cross; alleluia, suffer to redeem our loss; alleluia! Hymns of praise then let us sing; Alleluia, unto Christ our heavenly king; alleluia, who endured the cross and grave; alleluia, sinners to redeem and save: alleluia!

But the pains which he endured; Alleluia, our salvation have procured; alleluia, now above the sky he's King; alleluia, where the angels ever sing: alleluia!

When the Paschal Candle is placed on its stand, the Presider continues:

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

This is the day that the Lord has made.

Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

The Presider may greet the people informally before continuing

The risen Christ meets us at the tomb, and turns our tears to joy. For your love and goodness we give you thanks, O God.

Christ comes through our locked doors, and turns our fear to courage.
For your love and goodness
we give you thanks, O God.

Christ comes to daily life and work, and turns our failure to new vision. For your love and goodness we give you thanks, O God.

Christ breaks the bread, and turns our despair to hope. For your love and goodness we give you thanks, O God. As we rejoice in the gift of Christ's risen presence with us, together we say ...

The Gloria

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's 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 peace of Christ rule in our hearts. The word of Christ dwell in us richly.

Collect for Easter Day:

Living Christ, you are risen from the dead!

Love reigns!

You are life stronger than death;
raise our eyes to see you
as the new day dawns;
for the glory of your holy name.

Amen.

Reading: Isaiah 25: 6-9

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 118: 1-2, 14-24 (ANZPB)

- We give thanks to you O Lord for you are gracious: and your love endures for ever.
- Let the house of Israel say:'God's love endures for ever.'
- The Lord is my strength and my defence: and has become my deliverer.
- There are shouts of joy and deliverance in the tents of the righteous:
 the right hand of the Lord does mighty things.
- The right hand of the Lord raises up: the right hand of the Lord does mighty things.
- I shall not die but live: and proclaim what the Lord has done.
- The Lord indeed has punished me: but did not give me over to death.
- Open to me the gates of the temple: that I may enter and give thanks to the Lord.
- This is the gate of the Lord: through which the righteous shall enter.
- I will thank you because you have answered me: and you have become my deliverer.
- The stone which the builders rejected: has become the head of the corner.
- This is the Lord's doing: and it is marvellous in our eyes.
- This is the day which the Lord has made: let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Reading: Acts 10: 34-43

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.

Thanks be to God.

Hymn: Christ is risen! Shout Hosanna!

Together in Song #394 - Words: Brian Wren © 2022 Hope Publishing Tune: **ODE TO JOY** [Beethoven] TiS#152

- Christ is risen! Shout Hosanna!
 Celebrate this day of days!
 Christ is risen! Hush in wonder:
 all creation is amazed.
 In the desert all-surrounding,
 see, a spreading tree has grown:
 healing leaves of grace abounding
 bring a taste of love unknown.
- Christ is risen! Raise your spirits from the caverns of despair.
 Walk with gladness in the morning.
 See what love can do and dare.
 Drink the wine of resurrection, not a servant, but a friend.
 Jesus is our strong companion.
 Joy and peace shall never end.
- Christ is risen! Earth and heaven nevermore shall be the same.

 Break the bread of new creation where the world is still in pain.

 Tell its grim, demonic chorus:

 'Christ is risen! Get you gone!'

 God the First and Last is with us.

 Sing Hosanna everyone!

Alleluia, 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, alleluia!

Gospel: Mark 16: 1-8

The Holy Gospel according to Mark, chapter sixteen,

beginning at the first verse. Alleluia!

Praise and glory to God. Alleluia!

After the reading: This is the Gospel of Christ. Alleluia!

Praise to Christ, the Word. Alleluia!

The Sermon

A silence and/or music for reflection may follow.

A Renewal of Baptism

Presider: I invite you (to stand) to affirm your commitment to Christ

and your rejection of all that is evil.

Do you believe in God the Father?

I believe in God the Father almighty,

creator of heaven and earth.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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,

is seated at the right hand of the Father,

and will come again to judge the living and the dead.

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

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.

Those who are baptised are called to worship and serve God. From the beginning, believers have continued in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers.

Will you commit yourself to this life? I will, with God's help.

Will you forgive others as you are forgiven? I will, with God's help.

Will you seek to love your neighbour as yourself, and strive for peace and justice?

I will, with God's help.

Will you accept the cost of following Jesus Christ in your daily life and work?

I will, with God's help.

With the whole Church will you proclaim by word and action the Good News of God in Christ?

I will, with God's help.

If water is to be used, the following thanksgiving for water is said. The water may be in the font or in a special vessel.

Let us give thanks to God. It is right to offer thanks and praise.

We thank you God for your love in all creation, especially for your gift of water to sustain, refresh and cleanse all life.

We thank you that through the waters of baptism you cleanse us, renew us by your Spirit and raise us to new life.

In the new covenant we are made members of your Church and share in your eternal kingdom.

We pray that all who have passed through the waters of baptism may continue for ever in the risen life of Christ. Through Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all praise and thanks be yours, Redeemer God, now and for ever. **Amen**.

As the Presider sprinkles the congregation with water, we sing:

In Christ we died; with Christ we live

Words: Norman Goreham © Jubilate Hymns Tune: **ST PETER** (A.R. Reinagle) - CP338

- In Christ we died; with Christ we live from sin made truly free, our claim with all who follow him: "Not I, but Christ in me!"
- The grain of wheat into the ground must fall alone and die, before it can attain new life and grow and multiply.
- They crucified the Lord of life, then in the tomb he lay, until the resurrection news rang out on Easter Day.
- At this baptismal font, the rite proclaims that we have died, yet live no more in Christ's dark tomb, but risen at his side!
- In Christ we died; with Christ we live, from sin made truly free; our claim with all who follow him:
 "Not I, but Christ in me!"

The renewal of baptism is concluded with the following prayer.

God our creator, the rock of our salvation, we thank you for our new birth by water and the Holy Spirit, for the forgiveness of our sins, and for our fellowship in the household of faith with all those who have been baptised in your name; keep us faithful to the calling of our baptism, now and for ever. Amen.

The Prayers of the People

Let us pray for the church and for the world, giving thanks for God's goodness.

Risen God, in your mercy - **Hear our prayer.**

('Let Us Pray' - Janet Nelson)

God our hope, may your blessing empower our thanksgivings and our prayer;

for we put our trust in you the living God, risking disappointment, risking failure, working and waiting expectantly. Amen.

The Ministry of the Sacrament

We stand

The Peace

The peace of Christ be always with you. And also with you.

As the Offertory Hymn is sung, the altar is prepared with the bread and wine and the offerings of the people are collected and presented.

Offertory Hymn: Light's glittering morning fills the skies

Jubilate Hymns version of 'Aurora lucis rutilat' translated by John Mason Neale (1818 - 1866) © Jubilate Hymns Ltd - CP149 - tune: **EASTER SONG**

- Light's glittering morning fills the sky, heaven thunders out its victor-cry;
 Alleluia, alleluia!
 earth shouts her Easter triumph high, and groaning hell makes wild reply.
 Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
- For Christ the Lord, the mighty king, closes with death and draws its sting; Alleluia, alleluia! he tramples down the powers of night, brings out his ransomed saints to light. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
- His rocky tomb the threefold guard of watch and stone and seal had barred, Alleluia, alleluia! but now in royal triumph high he comes from death to victory! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
- Hell's gates are broken down at last, our days of mourning now are past;
 Alleluia, alleluia!
 'Weep not,' an angel voice has said,
 'Jesus is risen from the dead!'
 Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
- O Lord of all, with us abide in this our joyful Eastertide;
 Alleluia, alleluia!
 from every weapon death can wield your own redeemed for ever shield Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

All praise be yours, O risen Lord, from death to endless life restored;
Alleluia, alleluia!
to Father, Son and Spirit be all power and praise eternally!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

The Preparation of the Gifts

Blessed are you, God of all creation; through your goodness we have these gifts to share. Accept and use our offerings for your glory and for the service of your kingdom. Blessed be God for ever.

The Great Thanksgiving

Christ is risen!

in all its forms.

He is risen indeed.

Lift your hearts to heaven where Christ in glory reigns.

Let us give thanks to God. It is right to offer thanks and praise.

It is the joy of our salvation,
God of the universe,
to give you thanks through Jesus Christ.
You said, 'Let there be light';
there was light.
Your light shines on in our darkness.
For you the earth has brought forth life

You have created us to hear your Word, to do your will and to be fulfilled in your love. It is right to thank you.

You sent your Son to be for us the way we need to follow and the truth we need to know. You sent your Son to give his life to release us from our sin.
His cross has taken our guilt away.

Christ is risen from the dead.
Love is come again:
Christ is sovereign over space and time.

You send your Holy Spirit to strengthen and to guide, to warn and to revive your Church.

Therefore, with all your witnesses who surround us on every side, countless as heaven's stars, we praise you for our creation and our calling, with loving and with joyful hearts:

Holy God, holy and merciful, holy and just, glory and goodness come from you. Glory to you most high and gracious God.

Blessed are you, most holy, in your Son, who washed his disciples' feet.
'I am among you,' he said, 'as one who serves.'

On that night before he died he took bread and gave you thanks. He broke it, gave it to his disciples, and said: Take, eat, this is my body which is given for you; do this to remember me.

After supper, he took the cup, and gave you thanks. He gave it to them and said:
Drink this. It is my blood of the new covenant, shed for you, shed for all, to forgive sin; do this to remember me.

Therefore with this bread and wine we recall your goodness to us.

God of the past and present, we your people remember your Son.

We thank you for his cross and rising again, we take courage from his ascension; we look for his coming in glory and in him we give ourselves to you.

Send your Holy Spirit, that we who receive Christ's body may indeed be the body of Christ, and we who share his cup draw strength from the one true vine.

Called to follow Christ, help us to reconcile and unite. Called to suffer, give us hope in our calling.

For you, the heavenly one, make all things new; you are the beginning and the end, the last and the first.

Praise, glory and love be yours, this and every day, from us and all people, here and everywhere. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

The risen Christ is in our midst, so with Christ 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.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours
now and for ever. Amen.

Christ's body was broken for us on the cross.

Christ is the bread of life.

His blood was shed for our forgiveness.

Christ is risen from the dead.

The Invitation

Come God's people, come to receive Christ's heavenly food.

Communion will be served at standing stations at the Sanctuary steps - all are welcome to receive the bread and wine at communion, (however please note that intinction, ie dipping the wafer into the wine chalice, is **NOT** permitted); although you are welcome to receive the bread only if you prefer, or to come forward for a blessing only.

If you need communion served to you in your seat, please indicate to the servers.

Prayer after Communion:

Lord God, you made this day bright with the radiance of the risen Christ; may we who have been raised with him in baptism reflect the light of his glory, and live with him for ever.

Hear this prayer for your love's sake.

Amen.

Christ, you are risen with the sun;
you are light in our darkness, warmth in our cold.
You are peace and hope and joy
for you went willingly to death.
You turned defeat and failure to victory for all.
You live eternally, and with you live the millions,
living and dead, who trust in you. Amen.

The Blessing

May Christ, who by death has destroyed death, give you all courage and joy in believing; And the blessing of God our Creator, Redeemer, and Giver of Life be with you always.

Amen.

Closing Hymn:

Good Christians all, rejoice and sing!

SG404 / CP145 - Words: Cyril Alington © Hymns Ancient & Modern

Tune: Vulpius

- Good Christians all, rejoice and sing!

 Now is the triumph of our king;

 to all the world glad news we bring:

 "Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!"
- The Lord of life is risen today; death's mighty stone is rolled away; let every tongue rejoice and say: "Alleluia! Alleluia!"
- We praise in songs of victory that Love, that Life, which cannot die, and sing with hearts uplifted high: "Alleluia! Alleluia!"
- Your name we bless, O risen Lord, and sing today with one accord the life laid down, the life restored: "Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!"

The Dismissal of the Community:

Go now to love and serve the Lord. Go in peace. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Amen. We go in the name of Christ. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Acknowledgements:

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