



The Parish Eucharist for Easter Day (10am)



Welcome to St Peter's Church!

On this Easter Day we celebrate the joyful good news of Christ's resurrection. Three days after being crucified, Jesus' tomb was found to be empty. Life has triumphed over death. At dawn, we gathered for the first service of Easter, and lit a candle from a fire. This was brought into the church still in darkness, as a depiction of new life and light. We relight this candle in our service this morning; we bless an Easter garden; and we renew the promises that we made at our baptisms. This is a day when we profess that love is unstoppable, and that light is not extinguished even through the darkest of nights.

Please join in saying the words in **bold print**.

If you are new, we are delighted to see you! Please do make yourself known to one of the sidespeople.

At the time of communion everyone is warmly invited to come to the altar to receive communion or a blessing. All who have previously taken communion are most welcome to receive it here. If you need a gluten-free wafer, please tell one of the sidespeople.

We usually keep the third Sunday of the month at 10am as a service for all ages. On other Sundays, children are invited to the St Peter's Rooms behind the church for activities suitable for their age group. They return to church in time for communion or a blessing. Of course if you prefer to stay in the main church with your children, you are most welcome to do so. A selection of toys is available in the children's area straight ahead from the main church door.

Setting: Rizza

An anthem is sung outside church.

Welcome and Greeting

Please stand and turn to face the back of the church.

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

Amen.

The Lord is here.

His Spirit is with us.

The Service of Light

Christ yesterday and today,
the beginning and the end,

Alpha and Omega,
all time belongs to him,
and all ages;
**to him be glory and power,
through every age and for ever. Amen.**

The Paschal Candle, first lit at the dawn service, is lit once again.

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

The Deacon carries the Paschal Candle down the aisle, pausing three times to sing:

The Light of Christ
Thanks be to God.

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

He is risen indeed. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Hymn

During this hymn the lights and the candles are lit.

The Collect

Let us pray that we may reign with the risen Christ in glory.

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. **Amen.**

Hymn

Liturgy of the Word

Gospel Reading

(please turn to face the Gospel reader)

Alleluia, 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, alleluia.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to N:

Glory to you, O Lord.

At the end of the Gospel reading:

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Blessing of the Easter Garden

(please be seated)

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation.
To you be glory now and for ever.

By your blessing
may this Easter garden remind us
that Jesus was prepared to suffer for us,
but rose again to new life for us.
May it be a sign to us that he is always with us
and promises us eternal life with him,
in the name of the Father,
and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Sermon

Renewal of Baptismal Vows

(please stand)

As we celebrate the resurrection
of our Lord Jesus Christ from the dead,
we remember that through the paschal mystery
we have died and been buried with him in baptism.
In baptism, God calls us out of darkness into his marvellous light.
To follow Christ means dying to sin and rising to new life with him.
Therefore I ask:

Do you turn to Christ?

I turn to Christ.

Do you repent of your sins?

I repent of my sins.

Do you renounce evil?

I renounce evil.

Brothers and sisters, I ask you to profess the faith of the Church.

Do you believe and trust in God the Father?

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe and trust in his Son Jesus Christ?

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

Do you believe and trust in 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.**

The congregation is sprinkled with Holy Water, blessed at the dawn service.

Almighty God,
we thank you for our fellowship in the household of faith
with all those who have been baptized in your name.
Keep us faithful to our baptism
and so make us ready for that day
when the whole creation
shall be made perfect in your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

May Christ dwell in your hearts through faith,
that you may be rooted and grounded in love
and bring forth the fruit of the Spirit.
Amen.

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, Christ is risen,
He is risen indeed. Alleluia.

The peace of the Lord be always with you
and also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

Hymn

If you would you like to donate to the mission and ministry of the church, a collection plate can be found on a stand opposite the entrance to the church.

Offering Bread and Wine

Lord of life,
with joy we offer you our sacrifice of praise.
As we are fed with the bread of heaven,
may we know your resurrection power;
through Christ our risen Lord.
Amen.

Eucharistic Prayer

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 thanks and praise.

Almighty God, good Father to us all,
your face is turned towards your world.
In love you gave us Jesus your Son
to rescue us from sin and death.
Your Word goes out to call us home
to the city where angels sing your praise.
We join with them in heaven's song:

Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of pow'r and God of might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.

**Hosanna in the highest;
hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest;
hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he, blessed is he,
blessed is he who comes in the name,
he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.
hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest;
hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.**

Father of all, we give you thanks for every gift that comes from heaven.

To the darkness Jesus came as your light.
With signs of faith and words of hope
he touched untouchables with love and washed the guilty clean.
This is his story.

**This is our song:
Hosanna in the highest.**

The crowds came out to see your Son,
yet at the end they turned on him.
On the night he was betrayed
he came to table with his friends
to celebrate the freedom of your people.
This is his story.

**This is our song:
Hosanna in the highest.**

Jesus blessed you, Father, for the food;
he took bread, gave thanks, broke it and said:
This is my body, given for you all.

Jesus then gave thanks for the wine;
he took the cup, gave it and said:
This is my blood, shed for you all for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this in remembrance of me.
This is our story.

This is our song:
Hosanna in the highest.

Therefore, Father, with this bread and this cup
we celebrate the cross
on which he died to set us free.
Defying death he rose again
and is alive with you to plead for us and all the world.
This is our story.

This is our song:
Hosanna in the highest.

Send your Spirit on us now
that by these gifts we may feed on Christ with opened eyes and
hearts on fire.
May we and all who share this food
offer ourselves to live for you
and be welcomed at your feast in heaven where all creation
worships you,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit:

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

The Lord's Prayer

(please be seated or kneel)

Rejoicing in God's new creation,
let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us:

**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 the Bread

Jesus says, I am the bread of life,
whoever eats this bread will live for ever.

**Lord, our hearts hunger for you;
give us this bread always.**

**Jesus, Lamb of God, Jesus, Lamb of God,
you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.
Jesus, Lamb of God, Jesus, Lamb of God,
you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.
Jesus, Lamb of God, Jesus, Lamb of God,
you take away the sins of the world:
grant us your peace grant us your peace.**

Invitation to Communion

Everyone is invited to the altar to receive communion or a prayer of blessing. All who usually take communion are most welcome to receive it here.

Alleluia. Christ our passover is sacrificed for us.
Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Anthem

Hymn

Prayer after Communion

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.

Almighty God,
we thank you for feeding us
with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ.
Through him we offer you our souls and bodies
to be a living sacrifice.
Send us out
in the power of your Spirit
to live and work
to your praise and glory. Amen.

Notices

Hymn

(please stand)

The Blessing

Alleluia, Christ is risen,
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.
Amen.

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

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

With the risen life of Christ within you,
go in the peace of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia!
Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!

*We hope you will be able to stay for coffee (served in the Parish Room).
The children are invited to take part in an Easter egg hunt. Please ensure that
all children are accompanied by an adult.*

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