



Midhurst Parish Church
Sunday 4th April 2021, 10:30am
Easter Day Celebration



*This order of service is for you to use as you join in with our service from home via Zoom.
Meeting ID: 342 119 948*

Welcoming the Light of Christ

Christ yesterday and today,

All the beginning and the end,

Alpha and Omega, all time belongs to him, and all ages;

All to him be glory and power, through every age and forever. Amen

This is the day when our Lord Jesus Christ was raised gloriously from the dead, crushing the power of sin and destroying the sting of death. Throughout the world, Christians celebrate the mighty power of God as Christ calls us out of darkness to share in his marvellous light. May we and all Christ's people, shine as lights in the world to the glory of God the Father.

*The Paschal Candle (Easter candle), symbolising Christ the Light of the World, is then carried into the church and the following response is **said three times**:*

The light of Christ

All Thanks be to God

The Paschal Candle is then placed on a stand and the priest says:

Alleluia! Christ is risen

All He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

We sing...

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 that he endured, Alleluia!

our salvation have procured, Alleluia!

now above the sky he's king, Alleluia!

where the angels ever sing, Alleluia!



Lyra Davidica (1708) and others

Welcome from Rev Dave

The Prayers of Penitence

Jesus Christ, risen Master and triumphant Lord, we come to you in sorrow for our sins, and confess to you our weakness and unbelief. We have lived by our own strength, and not by the power of your resurrection. In your mercy, forgive us.

All Lord, hear us and help us.

We have lived by the light of our own eyes, as faithless and not believing. In your mercy, forgive us.

All Lord, hear us and help us.

We have lived for this world alone, and doubted our home in heaven.
In your mercy, forgive us.

All Lord, hear us and help us.

May the God of love and power forgive us and free us from our sins, heal and strengthen us by his Spirit, and raise us to new life in Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

The Gloria

**All 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.
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 Collect

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, glory and might, now and in all eternity.

All Amen.

The First Reading

Then Peter began to speak to them: 'I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.'

Acts 10:34-43

This is the word of the Lord

All Thanks be to God.

The Second Reading

For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. Much more surely then, now that we have been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God. For if while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life. But more than that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

Romans 5:6-11

This is the word of the Lord

All Thanks be to God.

We sing...

**BLESS THE LORD, O MY SOUL, O my soul,
Worship his holy name,
Sing like never before, O my soul
I'll worship Your holy name.**

**The sun comes up, it's new day dawning-
It's time to sing Your song again.**

Whatever may pass and whatever lies before me.

Let me be singing when the evening comes.

Bless the Lord...

You're rich in love and You're slow to anger,

Your name is great and Your heart is kind;

For all Your goodness I will keep on singing.

Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find.

Bless the Lord...

And on the day when my strength is failing

The end draws near and my time has come;

Still my soul will sing Your praise unending.

Ten thousand years and then for evermore.

Bless the Lord...

Matt Redman © 2011 Thankyou Music

The Gospel reading

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.

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, 'They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him.' Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went towards the tomb. The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, and the cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. Then the disciples returned to their homes.

But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. They said to her, 'Woman, why are you weeping?' She said to them, 'They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him.' When she had said this, she turned round and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, 'Woman, why are you weeping? For whom are you looking?' Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, 'Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away.' Jesus said to her, 'Mary!' She turned and said to him in Hebrew, 'Rabbouni!' (which means Teacher). Jesus said to her, 'Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, "I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God." ' Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, 'I have seen the Lord'; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

John 20:1-18

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All Praise to you, O Christ.

The Sermon

The Renewal of Baptismal Vows

As we celebrate the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ from the dead, we remember that through the paschal mystery we have died and have been buried with him in Baptism, so that we may rise with him to a new life within the family of his church. Now that we have completed our observance of Lent, we renew the promises made at our Baptisms, affirming our allegiance to Christ and our rejection of all that is evil. Therefore I ask these questions:

Do you reject the devil and all rebellion against God?

All I reject them.

Do you renounce the deceit and corruption of evil?

All I renounce them.

Do you repent of the sins that separate us from God and neighbour?

All I repent of them.

Do you turn to Christ as Saviour?

All I turn to Christ.

Do you submit to Christ as Lord?

All I submit to Christ.

Do you come to Christ, the way, the truth and the life?

All I come to Christ.

Brothers and sisters I now ask you to make the profession of Christian Faith into which you were baptised and in which you live and grow.

Do you believe and trust in God the Father, source of all being and life, the one for whom we exist?

All We believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in God the Son, who took our human nature, died for us and rose again?

All We believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit, who gives life to the people of God and makes Christ known in the world?

All We believe and trust in him.

This is the faith of the Church.

All This is our faith. We believe and trust in one God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

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

All Amen.

The Prayers

The following response may be used.

...we pray to the Father.

All Hear our prayer.

Our Prayer for Growth

All 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, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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.

We share the peace, using sign language.

Prayer at the Preparation of the Table

Creator of all, you wash away our sins, you give us new birth by the Spirit,
and redeem us in the blood of Christ. As we celebrate the resurrection, renew your gift of life within us. We
ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the risen Lord.

All Amen.

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:

All Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might:
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna, hosanna, 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.

All 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.

All 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.

All Christ has died: Christ is risen: Christ will come again.

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.

All 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:

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

The Lord's Prayer

**All 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 sins 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.**

The Breaking of the 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.**

The Invitation to Communion

This is the table of the Lord. It has been made ready for those who love him and who want to love him more. So, come, you who have much faith and you who have little; you who have been here often and you who have not been for a long time; you who have tried to follow and you who have failed. Come, not because I invite you: it is our Lord. It is his will that those who want him should meet him here.

We say the Agnus Dei

**All 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.**

We sing...

GIVE THANKS TO THE LORD, OUR GOD AND KING

His love endures forever
For He is good, He is above all things
His love endures forever
Sing praise, sing praise

With a mighty hand and outstretched arm
His love endures forever
For the life that's been reborn
His love endures forever
Sing praise, sing praise
sing praise, sing praise

*Forever God is faithful
Forever God is strong
Forever God is with us
Forever*

From the rising to the setting sun
His love endures forever
And by the grace of God we will carry on
His love endures forever
Sing praise, sing praise
sing praise, sing praise

Forever God is faithful...

Chris Tomlin ©2001 Sixsteps Music

**YOU LAID ASIDE YOUR MAJESTY, gave up everything for me.
Suffered at the hands of those You had created.
You took away my guilt and shame,
When You died and rose again.
Now today You reign,
And heaven and earth exalt You.**

*I really want to worship You my Lord,
You have won my heart and I am Yours.
Forever and ever, I will love You.
You are the only one who died for me,
Gave Your life to set me free.
So I lift my voice to You in adoration.*

Noel Richards © 1985 Thankyou Music

Prayers 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.

All Amen

All 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.

We sing...

**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.*

E.L. Budry (1854-1932) tr. R.B. Hoyle (1875-1939)

The Blessing

God the Father, by whose love Christ was raised from the dead,
open to you who believe the gates of everlasting life.

All Amen.

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

All 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.

All Amen.

And the blessing of God almighty the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be with you and with those you love, this day and evermore.

All Amen.

The Dismissal

We go into the world to walk in God's light, to rejoice in God's love,
and to reflect God's glory.

Go in the peace of Christ. Alleluia, Alleluia!

All Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia!

Wishing you all a very Happy Easter!

**Please join us next Sunday in church (book tickets on the website)
or online for a Service of the Word at 10:30am**

Giving

If you would like to make a donation to our church today you can scan this QR code with your smart phone camera to **make a donation online**.

You can find out more about
regular giving on our website
www.midhurstparishchurch.net

