

St Matthew's Church, Chichester Road, Croydon

24th April 2022

Second Sunday of Easter



*Christ
is
Risen!*



We welcome you to St Matthew's Church this morning and pray you are blessed as we worship the risen Lord together.

If you are with us for the first time please fill in one of our Welcome Cards. Thank you.

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

Don't forget to silence your mobile!

Our Celebrant is Revd Simon Foster.
Our Preacher is Alison Radford.

¶ The Gathering

♪ Hymn ♪

The day of resurrection!
Earth tell it out abroad;
The Passover of gladness,
The Passover of God;
From death to life eternal,
From earth unto the sky,
Our God hath brought us over
With hymns of victory.

Our hearts be pure from evil,
That we may see aright
The Lord in rays eternal
Of resurrection-light;
And listening to his accents,
May hear so calm and plain
His own 'All Hail', and hearing,
May raise the victor strain.

Now let the heavens be joyful,
And earth her song begin,
The round world keep high triumph,
And all that is therein:
Let all things seen and unseen
Their notes of gladness blend,
For Christ the Lord is risen,
Our joy that hath no end.

St John of Damascus (c. 675-750)

Translated by John Mason Neale (1818-1866).

Grace, mercy and peace
from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ
be with you

and also with you.

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

We remain standing to pray together

**Almighty God,
to whom all hearts are open,
all desires known,
and from whom no secrets
are hidden:
cleanse the thoughts of our
hearts by the inspiration of your
Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your
holy name;
through Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

Please be seated

The Confession and Absolution

Invitation to confession

Christ died to sin once for all, and now he lives to God. Let us renew our resolve to have done with all that is evil and confess our sins in penitence and faith.

cf Romans 6.10

Lord Jesus, you raise us to new life.
Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, you forgive us our sins.
Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, you feed us with the living bread.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

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.

Please stand

Gloria in Excelsis

**All glory be to God on high!
And peace to His people on the
earth.**

**Lord God, almighty God and
Father,
we give you thanks for your
glory.**

**Lamb of God, only Son of the
Father,
you sit at the right hand of God,
you take away the sins of the
world,**

**have mercy on us, receive our
prayer.**

**For you alone are the holy one,
for you only are the Lord most
high,
Jesus Christ with the Holy
Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father.
Amen.**

The Collect

A period of silent prayer

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.
Amen.

¶ The Liturgy of the Word

Let us prepare ourselves for the Word
of God as it comes to us in the reading
of Holy Scripture.

Our hearts and minds are open.

Please be seated

First Reading

Acts 5.27-32

When the temple police had brought
the apostles, they made them stand
before the council. The high priest
questioned them, saying, ²⁸'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.' ²⁹But
Peter and the apostles answered, 'We

must obey God rather than any human authority. ³⁰The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree. ³¹God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Saviour that he might give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. ³²And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him.'

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Second Reading

Revelation 1.4-8

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, ⁵and 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, ⁶and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.

⁷Look! 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.

⁸'I am the Alpha and the Omega', says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand

♪ Song ♪

*Alleluia, alleluia,
give thanks to the risen Lord.
Alleluia, alleluia, give praise to His name.*

Jesus is Lord of all the earth:
He is the King of creation:

Spread the good news o'er all the
earth:

Jesus has died and has risen:

We have been crucified with Christ:
now we shall live for ever:

God has proclaimed the just reward:
life for the world, alleluia!

Come, let us praise the living God,
joyfully sing to our Saviour:

*Donald Fishel (b. 1950) © 1973 Word of God Music
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The Gospel

Alleluia, alleluia alleluia.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Jesus said, 'I am the resurrection
and the life.

Those who believe in me, even though
they die, will live, and everyone who lives
and believes in me will never die.'

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

John 20.19-31

When it was evening on the first day of
the week, and the doors of the house
where the disciples had met were locked
for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and
stood among them and said, 'Peace be
with you.' ²⁰After he said this, he showed
them his hands and his side. Then the

disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.' ²²When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.'

²⁴But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵So the other disciples told him, 'We have seen the Lord.' But he said to them, 'Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.'

²⁶A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' ²⁷Then he said to Thomas, 'Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.' ²⁸Thomas answered him, 'My Lord and my God!' ²⁹Jesus said to him, 'Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.'

³⁰Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. ³¹But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated

The Sermon

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

The Creed

**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.**

Please be seated

Prayers of Intercession

We pray to Jesus who is present with us to eternity.

Jesus, light of the world,
bring the light and peace of your gospel
to the nations...

Jesus, Lord of life,
in your mercy, hear us.

Jesus, bread of life,
give food to the hungry...
and nourish us all with your word.

Jesus, Lord of life,
in your mercy, hear us.

Jesus, our way, our truth, our life,
be with us and all who follow you in the
way...

Deepen our appreciation of your truth
and fill us with your life.

Jesus, Lord of life,
in your mercy, hear us.

Jesus, Good Shepherd who gave your life
for the sheep, recover the straggler,
bind up the injured,
strengthen the sick
and lead the healthy and strong to new
pastures...

Jesus, Lord of life,

in your mercy, hear us.

Jesus, the resurrection and the life,
we give you thanks for all who have lived
and believed in you...

Raise us with them to eternal life.

Jesus, Lord of life,

in your mercy, hear us,

accept our prayers,

and be with us always.

Amen.

¶ **The Liturgy of the Sacrament**

Please stand

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.

cf John 20.19

The peace of the Lord be always
with you

and also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign
of God's peace.

♪ **Hymn** ♪

Alleluia! Alleluia!

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 (1807-1885)

**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.**

The 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 thanks
and praise.**

It is indeed right,
it is our duty and our joy,
at all times and in all places
to give you thanks and praise,
holy Father, heavenly King,
almighty and eternal God,
through Jesus Christ your Son our
Lord.

For he is your living Word;
through him you have created all things
from the beginning,
and formed us in your own image.

**To you be glory and praise for
ever.**

Through him you have freed us from the
slavery of sin,
giving him to be born of a woman and to
die upon the cross;
you raised him from the dead
and exalted him to your
right hand on high.

**To you be glory and praise for
ever.**

Through him you have sent upon us
your holy and life-giving Spirit,
and made us a people for your own
possession.

**To you be glory and praise for
ever.**

And now we give you thanks
because through him you have given us
eternal life and delivered us from the
bondage of sin and the fear of death into
the glorious liberty of the children of
God.

**To you be glory and praise for
ever.**

Therefore with angels and archangels,
and with all the company of heaven,
we proclaim your great and glorious
name, for ever praising you and singing:

**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.

**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.

Jesus Christ is 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 for ever and
ever.**

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Rejoicing in God's new creation, as our
Saviour taught us, so 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.
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 the Bread

Every time we eat this bread
and drink this cup,
**we proclaim the Lord's death
until he comes.**

Agnus Dei

**Jesus, Lamb of God:
have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, bearer of our sins:
have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, Redeemer of the world:
give us your peace.**

Invitation to Communion

Alleluia. Christ our passover
is sacrificed for us.

**Therefore let us keep the feast.
Alleluia.**

**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.**

Communicant members of any Christian Church are invited to receive Holy Communion. If you wish to receive a blessing please bow your head.

Hymn

Now is eternal life,
if ris'n with Christ we stand,
in Him to life reborn,
and held within His hand;
no more we fear death's ancient dread,
in Christ arisen from the dead.

Man long in bondage lay,
brooding o'er life's brief span;
was it, O God, for naught,
for naught, Thou madest man?
Thou art our hope, our vital breath;
shall hope undying end in death?

And God, the living God,
stooped down to man's estate;
by death destroying death,
Christ opened wide life's gate.
He lives, who died; He reigns on high;
who lives in Him shall never die.

Unfathomed love divine,
reign Thou within my heart;

from Thee nor depth nor height,
nor life nor death can part;
my life is hid in God with Thee,
now and through all eternity.

Thee will I love and serve
now in time's passing day;
Thy hand shall hold me fast
when time is done away,
in God's unknown eternal spheres
to serve Him through eternal years.

*George Wallace Briggs (1875-1959)
© Oxford University Press*

Prayer after Communion

Silence is kept.

Lord God our Father,
through our Saviour Jesus Christ
you have assured your children of
eternal life and in baptism have made us
one with him:

deliver us from the death of sin
and raise us to new life in your love,
in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
by the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ.

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 ♪

Jesus lives! thy terrors now
can, O death, no more appal us;
Jesus lives! by this we know
thou, O grave, canst not enthrall us.
Alleluia!

Jesus lives! henceforth is death
but the gate of life immortal;
this shall calm our trembling breath,
when we pass its gloomy portal.
Alleluia!

Jesus lives! for us He died;
then, alone to Jesus living,
pure in heart may we abide,
glory to our Saviour giving.
Alleluia!

Jesus lives! our hearts know well
naught from us His love shall sever;
life nor death nor powers of hell
tear us from His keeping ever.
Alleluia!

Jesus lives! to Him the throne
over all the world is given:
may we go where He is gone,
rest and reign with Him in heaven.
Alleluia!

Christian F. Gellert (1715-1769)
trans. Frances E. Cox (1812-1897)

¶ Dismissal

The Blessing

The God of peace,
who brought again from the dead our
Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the
sheep, through the blood of the eternal
covenant, make you perfect in every
good work to do his will,
working in you that which is well-
pleasing in his sight;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,

be upon you and remain with you and all
those whom you love and all those for
whom you pray this day and
for evermore.

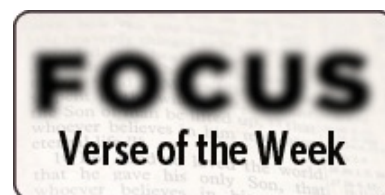
Amen.

With the power that raised Jesus from
the dead at work within you, go in the
peace of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.

Thanks be to God.

Alleluia, alleluia.

Please take this service sheet with you.



Thomas answered Jesus, 'My Lord and
my God!' ²⁹Jesus said to him, 'Have you
believed because you have seen me?
Blessed are those who have not seen
and yet have come to believe.'

John 20.28-29.

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