



15th May 2022

Fifth Sunday of Easter

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

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

In baptism we died with Christ,
so that as Christ was raised from the
dead, we might walk in newness of life.
Let us receive new life in him as we
confess our sins in penitence and faith.

cf Romans 6.4

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

**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

A period of silent prayer

Risen Christ,
your wounds declare your love for the
world and the wonder of your risen life:
give us compassion and courage
to risk ourselves for those we serve,
to the glory 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 11.1-18

The apostles and the believers who were in Judea heard that the Gentiles had also accepted the word of God.² So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticised him,³ saying, ‘Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?’⁴ Then Peter began to explain it to them, step by step, saying,⁵ ‘I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. There was something like a large sheet coming down from heaven, being lowered by its four corners; and it came close to me.⁶ As I looked at it closely I saw four-footed animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air.⁷ I also heard a voice saying to me, ‘Get up, Peter; kill and eat.’⁸ But I replied, ‘By no means, Lord; for nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth.’⁹ But a second time the voice answered from heaven, ‘What God has made clean, you must not call profane.’¹⁰ This happened three times; then everything was pulled up again to heaven.¹¹ At that very moment three men, sent to me from Caesarea, arrived at the house where we were.¹² The Spirit told me to go with them and not to make a distinction between them and us. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man’s house.¹³ He told

us how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saying, "Send to Joppa and bring Simon, who is called Peter; ¹⁴he will give you a message by which you and your entire household will be saved." ¹⁵And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as it had upon us at the beginning. ¹⁶And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said, "John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit." ¹⁷If then God gave them the same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could hinder God?" ¹⁸When they heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God, saying, "Then God has given even to the Gentiles the repentance that leads to life."

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Second Reading

Revelation 21.1-6

I, John, saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. ²And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. ³And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,

'See, the home of God is among mortals.

He will dwell with them;
they will be his peoples,
and God himself will be with
them;

⁴he will wipe every tear from
their eyes.

Death will be no more;
mourning and crying and pain will
be no more,

for the first things have passed
away.'

⁵And the one who was seated on the throne said, 'See, I am making all things new.' Also he said, 'Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true.' ⁶Then he said to me, 'It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life.'

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Let us stand to greet the Gospel of
Christ

The Gospel

Alleluia, alleluia 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.

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 13.31-35

During the supper, when Judas had gone out, Jesus said, 'Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. ³²If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. ³³Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, "Where I am going, you cannot come." ³⁴I give you a new commandment, that you love one

another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. ³⁵By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.'

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

As a royal priesthood, let us pray to the Father through Christ who ever lives to intercede for us.

Reveal your kingdom among the nations; may peace abound and justice flourish.

Especially we pray for...
Your name be hallowed.

Your kingdom come.

Send down upon us the gift of the Spirit and renew your Church with power from on high.

Especially we pray for...
Your name be hallowed.

Your kingdom come.

Deliver the oppressed, strengthen the weak, heal and restore your creation.

Especially we pray for...
Your name be hallowed.

Your kingdom come.

Rejoicing in the fellowship of the Church on earth, we join our prayers with all the saints in glory.

Especially we remember...
Your name be hallowed.

Your kingdom come.

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

**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 (E)

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, 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, women and
children 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 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.

We praise and bless you, loving Father,
through Jesus Christ, our Lord;
and as we obey his command,
send your Holy Spirit,
that broken bread and wine outpoured
may be for us the body and blood of
your dear Son.

On the night before he died he had
supper with his friends
and, taking bread, he praised you.
He broke the bread,
gave it to them and said:
Take, eat; this is my body which is given
for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

When supper was ended he took the
cup of wine.
Again he praised you,
gave it to them and said:
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.

So, Father, we remember all that Jesus
did, in him we plead with confidence his
sacrifice made once for all upon the
cross.

Bringing before you the bread of life
and cup of salvation,
we proclaim his death and resurrection
until he comes in glory.

Praise to you Lord Jesus:

**Dying you destroyed our death,
rising you restored our life:
Lord Jesus, come in glory.**

Lord of all life,
help us to work together for that day

when your kingdom comes
and justice and mercy will be seen in all
the earth.

Look with favour on your people,
gather us in your loving arms and bring
us with St Matthew and all the saints to
feast at your table in heaven.

**Through Christ, and with
Christ, and in Christ, in the
unity of the Holy Spirit, all
honour and glory are yours,
O loving Father,
for ever and ever.
Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Raised again with Christ in the power
of the Spirit, we say:

**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

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.**

Agnus Dei

**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.**

Giving of Communion

Alleluia. Christ our passover
is sacrificed for us.

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

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

Prayer after Communion

Silence is kept.

Eternal God,
whose Son Jesus Christ is the way, the
truth, and the life:
grant us to walk in his way,
to rejoice in his truth,
and to share his risen life;
who is alive and reigns,
now and for ever.

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

¶ Dismissal

The Blessing

God the Father,
by whose glory Christ was raised from
the dead, strengthen you to walk with
him in his risen life;
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.

We are raised to new life with Christ.
Go in his peace. Alleluia, alleluia.

Thanks be to God.

Alleluia, alleluia.

Please take this service sheet with you.



[Jesus said] “John baptized with water,
but you will be baptized with the Holy
Spirit.”

Acts 11.16b

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