

EASTER DAY COMMUNION - Order of Service

We gather to worship God

Leader: Alleluia. Christ is risen.

All: He is risen indeed. Alleluia.

Welcome and Notices

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 Christ 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!
Let earth the song begin!
Let the round world keep triumph,
and all that is therein!
Let all things seen and unseen
their notes in gladness blend,
for Christ the Lord hath risen,
our joy that hath no end.

We Say Sorry to God

Leader: We have forgotten the glory of your risen presence.
Lord, have mercy.

All: Lord, have mercy.

Leader: We have turned our faces from those in need.
Christ, have mercy.

All: Christ, have mercy.

Leader: We have not lived in faith, hope and love.
Lord, have mercy.

All: Lord, have mercy.

We share a moment of quiet to recall our need for forgiveness.

Leader: May the Father forgive us
by the death of his Son
and strengthen us
to live in the power of the Spirit
all our days.

All: Amen.

We Listen to God's Word

Leader: 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.

All: Amen

Reading John 20:1-21

Talk

We Declare Our Faith

Leader: Let us declare our faith in God

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

We Bring Our Prayers to God

We Share God's Peace

Leader: 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

WHAT IS OUR HOPE IN LIFE AND DEATH,

Christ alone, Christ alone

What is our only confidence that our souls to him belong

Who holds our days within his hand,

what comes apart from his command

And what will keep us to the end,

the love of Christ in which we stand

O sing hallelujah, our hope springs eternal

O sing hallelujah, now and ever we confess

Christ our hope in life and death

What truth can calm the troubled soul,

God is good, God is good

Where is his grace and goodness known,

in our great Redeemer's blood

Who holds our faith when fears arise,

who stands above the stormy trial

Who sends the waves that bring us nigh

Unto the shore, the rock of Christ

Unto the grave, what shall we sing,

Christ, he lives Christ, he lives

And what reward will heaven bring

Everlasting life with him

There we will rise to meet the Lord,

then sin and death will be destroyed

And we will feast in endless joy,

when Christ is ours forevermore

O sing hallelujah, our hope springs eternal

O sing hallelujah Now and ever we confess

Christ our hope in life and death

O sing hallelujah

Our hope springs eternal

O sing hallelujah, now and ever we confess

Christ our hope in life and death, now and ever we confess

Christ our hope in life and death

We Celebrate Holy Communion

The Eucharistic Prayer

Leader: The Lord is here

All: His Spirit is with us.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give thanks and praise.

Leader: Lord of all life, you created the universe, where all living things reflect your glory. You give us this great and beautiful earth to discover and to cherish. You give us the fish in the sea, the birds of the air, and every plant and tree; the life that sleeps in the winter earth, and awakens again in the spring.

You made us all, each wonderfully different, to join with the angels and sing your praise:

**All: Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Leader: We thank you, loving Father because, when we turned away, you sent Jesus, your Son. He gave his life for us on the cross and shows us the way to live. Send your Holy Spirit that these gifts of bread and wine may be for us Christ's body and his blood.

On the night before he died, when darkness had fallen, Jesus took bread. He gave thanks, broke it, and shared it with his disciples, saying: 'This is my body, given for you. Do this to remember me.'

After they had eaten, he took the cup of wine, gave thanks, and shared it with his disciples, saying: 'This is my blood, poured out for you and for many, for the forgiveness of sins.'

So Father, with this bread and this cup we celebrate his love, his death, his risen life. As you feed us with these gifts, send your Holy Spirit, and change us more and more to be like Jesus our Saviour. Help us, Father, to love one another, as we look forward to that day when suffering is ended, and all creation is gathered in your loving arms. And now with all your saints we give you glory, through Jesus Christ, in the strength of the Spirit, today and for ever.

All: Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Leader: As our Saviour taught us, so we pray

**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 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

The president breaks the consecrated bread.

Leader: 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.

All: Most merciful Lord,
your love compels us to come in.
Our hands were unclean,
our hearts were unprepared;
we were not fit
even to eat the crumbs from under your table.
But you, Lord, are the God of our salvation,
and share your bread with sinners.
So cleanse and feed us
with the precious body and blood of your Son,
that he may live in us and we in him;
and that we, with the whole company of Christ,
may sit and eat in your kingdom.
Amen.

The Book of Common Prayer teaches us that if we offer ourselves in penitence and faith, giving thanks for the redemption won by Christ crucified, we may truly 'eat and drink the Body and Blood of our Saviour Christ', although we cannot receive the sacrament physically in ourselves. Making a Spiritual Communion is particularly fitting for those who cannot receive the sacrament at the great feasts of the Church, and it fulfils our duty set out in the church canons of receiving Holy Communion 'regularly, and especially at the festivals of Christmas, Easter and Whitsun or Pentecost' (Canon B 15).

The Church to which we belong is not defined by the walls of a building but by the Body of Christ in which we are united with one another. In making our communion spiritually, we join with Christians everywhere to be nourished by the one who tells us, 'I am the Bread of Life'.

Giving of Communion

Prayer After Communion

All: **Father of all,
we give you thanks and praise,
that when we were still far off
you met us in your Son
and brought us home.
Dying and living,
he declared your love,
gave us grace,
and opened the gate of glory.
May we who share Christ's body
live his risen life;
we who drink his cup
bring life to others;
we whom the Spirit lights
give light to the world.
Keep us firm in the hope
you have set before us,
so we and all your children
shall be free, and the whole earth
live to praise your name;
through Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

We Ask For God's Blessing

Leader: **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 always.**

All: **Amen**

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;
Lead us in Thy triumph
To Thy home above.

We Go In God's Strength

Leader: Mary told Peter,

All: Jesus is alive.

Leader: Peter told the disciples

All: Jesus is alive.

Leader: The disciples told their families

All: Jesus is alive.

Leader: We can tell our families, we can tell our neighbours

All: Jesus is alive.

Leader: It's Easter morning Jesus is with us

All: Jesus is alive!

Leader: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All: In the name of Christ, Amen.