

Easter Day 2024

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 ...

HYMN - 503 THINE BE THE GLORY

Closing Prayer

Jesus Christ is Lord of all. On the cross, he opened his arms to
the world in love and welcome; his Easter present to all of us is
the gift of new and everlasting life. Let us pray.

Lord of all, as we go out into the world,
may we share your good news with everyone. **Amen.**



Common Worship: Services and Prayers for the Church of England (2000) (including the Psalter as published with Common Worship), material from which is included in this service, is copyright © The Archbishops' Council 2000 and published by Church House Publishing.

Common Worship: Times and Seasons, material from which is included here, is copyright © The Archbishops' Council 2006 and

Welcome

Church lights off - each person has a candle which we light once the service starts - from the baptismal candle spreading backwards from person to person.

Welcome to our celebration of Easter. Our service begins as that first Easter day began: outside in a garden, in the darkness before the dawn. On Friday, Jesus died on the cross. This is the tomb where his body was laid. He was wrapped in linen cloths and a heavy stone was moved across the doorway to seal it shut. But where is it now? What has happened to the stone? Two of Jesus' friends are about to find out – let's hear their story.

Reading

Mark 16:1-8

Hymn - 474 THE DAY OF RESURRECTION

Opening Greeting

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Lights on and candles blown out.

Exploring the Easter Story

HYMN - SOF2020 SEE WHAT A MORNING

Giving of Communion

You will be invited forward. We welcome all those who are baptised and who love and follow the Lord Jesus to share in the bread and wine.

If you are at all uncomfortable with sharing the Common Cup, then it's completely fine to only receive the bread. Please do not feel under any pressure. At Communion, we are invited to feed on Christ in our hearts by faith with thanksgiving, so if we opt to abstain from the wine and receive the bread alone we still obtain the full spiritual benefit of the sacrament.

Even if you do not wish to receive the bread and wine, you are welcome to come forward to receive a prayer of blessing. Please keep your hands by your side to indicate this to the minister.

Prayer After Communion

**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.**

Breaking of the Bread

The president breaks the consecrated 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.**

Draw near with faith. Receive the body of our lord Jesus Christ which he gave for you, and his blood which is shed for you. Eat and drink in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

As we come to receive these holy gifts, we pray together:

**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.**

Affirmation of Faith

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

**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.**

Prayers

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.
And also with you

HYMN - 267 JESUS CHRIST IS RISEN TODAY

Holy Communion

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 our thanks and praise.

It is right to praise you, Father, Lord of all creation;
in your love you made us for yourself.

**When we turned away you did not reject us,
but came to meet us in your Son.**

In Christ you shared our life that we might live in him
and he in us.

**He opened his arms of love upon the cross
and made for all the perfect sacrifice for sin.**

On the night he was betrayed, at supper with his friends
he took bread, and gave you thanks; he broke it and gave it to
them, saying:

Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

**Father, we do this in remembrance of him:
his body is the bread of life.**

At the end of supper, taking the cup of wine, he gave you thanks,
and said:

Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant,
which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins;
do this in remembrance of me.

**Father, we do this in remembrance of him:
his blood is shed for all.**

As we proclaim his death and celebrate his rising in glory,
send your Holy Spirit that this bread and this wine
may be to us the body and blood of your dear Son.

**As we eat and drink these holy gifts
make us one in Christ, our risen Lord.**

With your whole Church throughout the world
we offer you this sacrifice of praise
and lift our voice to join the eternal song of heaven:

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

The Lord's Prayer

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.**