

Sheep in wolves clothing

SERVICE ORDER

Sunday Worship, 25th April 2021



The Gathering

Opening Hymn: This Joyful Eastertide - Christian Song with Lyrics

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

All He is risen indeed. Alleluia.

Welcome and introduction

Opening prayer

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.

Confession

Like Mary at the empty tomb, we fail to grasp the wonder of your presence. Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Like the disciples behind locked doors, we are afraid to be seen as your followers. Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Like Thomas in the upper room, we are slow to believe.
Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

Absolution



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

The Collect

Silence is kept.

Risen Christ,
Faithful shepherd of your Father's sheep:
Teach us to hear your voice
And to follow your command,
That all your people may be gathered into one flock,
To the glory of God the Father.

Amen.

New Testament Reading

Acts 4:5-12

The next day their rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, 'By what power or by what name did you do this?' Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, 'Rulers of the people and elders, if we are questioned today because of a



good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead. This Jesus is "the stone that was rejected by you, the builders; it has become the cornerstone." There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved.'

This is the word of the Lord



Thanks be to God

Gospel Reading

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.

Aliciaia.

When the Gospel is announced the reader says

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke Glory to you, O Lord.

John 10:11-18

I am the good shepherd

'I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. For this



reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father.'

At the end

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.



Talk by Rosy Fairhurst

Do you believe and trust in God the Father?

All I believe in God, the Father almighty,

creator of heaven and earth.

Do you believe and trust in his Son Jesus Christ? All 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. Do you believe and trust in the Holy Spirit? All 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.

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 Alleluia! The Peace of the risen Christ be always with you

And also with you. Alleluia!

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

Holy and Anointed One (with lyrics)



The Communion

The Lord is here.

All His Spirit is with us.

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.

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.

Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness; grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit, and according to your holy will, these gifts of bread and wine may be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ;



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.

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.

Great is the mystery of faith:

All Christ has died:

Christ is risen:

Christ will come again.

And so, Father, calling to mind his death on the cross, his perfect sacrifice made once for the sins of the whole world; rejoicing in his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension, and looking for his coming in glory, we celebrate this memorial of our redemption. As we offer you this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, we bring before you this bread and this cup and we thank you for counting us worthy to stand in your presence and serve you. Send the Holy Spirit on your people and gather into one in your kingdom all who share this one bread and one cup, so that we, in the company of Mary, Clement, Augustine, Peter and all the saints, may praise and glorify you for ever, through Jesus Christ our Lord; by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father,



for ever and ever.

All Amen.

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

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

Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.

Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

All Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,
but only say the word, and I shall be healed.

During communion we hear: <u>Requiem: The Lord is my Shepherd - John Rutter,</u> <u>Cambridge Singers, Aurora Orchestra, Thomas Barber</u>

Post Communion Prayer

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.

The Blessing

God, who through the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ Has given us the victory,
Give you joy and peace in your faith;
And the blessing of God Almighty,
The Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit
Be among you and remain with you always.

Amen.

Notices

Go in the peace of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia! Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia

Final Song: The UK Blessing — Churches sing 'The Blessing' over the UK