

# St Andrew's, Chesterton

## All-Age Communion

31 March 2024  
Easter Sunday

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### Welcoming the Risen Christ

*The ministers and choir gather at the back of the church.*

Christ yesterday and today,  
**the beginning and the end,**  
Alpha and Omega,  
all time belongs to him, and all ages;  
**to him be glory and power,**  
**through every age and for ever. Amen.**

*A minister brings in the lit Easter Candle*

*Flags and ribbons are waved during the Alleluias; after the final Alleluia, bells ring, a fanfare is played and all make a joyful noise!*

Alleluia. Christ is risen!  
**He is risen indeed! Alleluia, alleluia, ALLELUIA!**

### Hymn

*The Easter Candle leads a procession to the Easter Garden.*

- 1 Jesus Christ is risen today, *Alleluia*,  
our triumphant holy day, *Alleluia*,  
who did once, upon the cross, *Alleluia*,  
suffer to redeem our loss. *Alleluia*.
- 2 Hymns of praise then let us sing *Alleluia*,  
unto Christ, our heavenly King, *Alleluia*,  
who endured the cross and grave, *Alleluia*,  
sinners to redeem and save. *Alleluia*.
- 3 But the pains that he endured *Alleluia*,  
our salvation have procure; *Alleluia*,  
now above the sky he's King, *Alleluia*,  
where the angels ever sing *Alleluia*.

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### At the Easter Garden

*The service is introduced*

This is the day when our Lord Jesus Christ was raised gloriously from the dead, crushing the power of sin and destroying the sting of death. Throughout the world Christians celebrate the mighty power of God as Christ calls us out of darkness to share in his marvellous light. May we, and all Christ's people, shine as lights in the world to the glory of God the Father.

*The minister holding the Candle says*

The light of Christ.  
**Thanks be to God.**

Alleluia. Christ is risen.  
**He is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

Praise the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ:  
**he has given us new life and hope**  
**by raising Jesus from the dead.**

God has claimed us as his own:  
**he has made us light to the world.**

Alleluia. Christ is risen.  
**He is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

### 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.**

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.**

### Gloria in Excelsis

*Gloria [clap clap], gloria [clap clap], in excelsis Deo*  
*Gloria [clap clap], gloria [clap clap], in excelsis Deo*

Lord God, heavenly King,  
peace you bring to us,  
we worship you, we give you thanks,  
we sing our song of praise:  
*Gloria [clap clap], etc.*

Jesus, Saviour of all,  
Lord God, Lamb of God,  
you take away our sins, O Lord,  
have mercy on us all:  
*Gloria [clap clap], etc.*

At the Father's right hand,  
Lord, receive our prayer,  
for you alone are the Holy One  
and you alone are Lord:  
*Gloria [clap clap], etc.*

Glory, Father and Son,  
glory, Holy Spirit,  
to you we raise our hands up high,  
we glorify your name:  
*Gloria [clap clap], etc.*

*Instruments and shakers are put away until the final hymn.*

## The Collect

**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. Amen.**

## First Reading—Acts 10.34-43

Peter began to speak to those assembled in the house of Cornelius. 'I truly understand that God shows no partiality, <sup>35</sup> but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. <sup>36</sup> You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ – he is Lord of all. <sup>37</sup> That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: <sup>38</sup> how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. <sup>39</sup> We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; <sup>40</sup> but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, <sup>41</sup> not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. <sup>42</sup> He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. <sup>43</sup> All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.'

This is the word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## Gospel Reading

**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, alleluia!**

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

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*Mark 16.1-8*

When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. <sup>2</sup> And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. <sup>3</sup> They had been saying to one another, 'Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?' <sup>4</sup> When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. <sup>5</sup> As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. <sup>6</sup> But he said to them, 'Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there

is the place they laid him. <sup>7</sup> But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you.' <sup>8</sup> So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

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

## Sermon

### Minims song

### The Creed

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 of Intercession

*These responses may be used*

Lord, in your mercy  
**hear our prayer.**

*And at the end*

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

### 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.**



A collection for the ministry and mission of St Andrew's will be taken at this point of the service. Thank you to all who give to the life of our church in so many ways.

It is also possible to make electronic donations via the machines at the back or this QR code here.

### Offertory Hymn

- In Christ alone my hope is found,  
he is my light, my strength, my song;  
this Cornerstone, this solid Ground,  
firm through the fiercest drought and storm.  
What heights of love, what depths of peace,  
when fears are stilled, when strivings cease!  
My Comforter, my All in All,  
here in the love of Christ I stand.

- 2 In Christ alone! — who took on flesh,  
fullness of God in helpless babe!  
This gift of love and righteousness,  
scorned by the ones he came to save:  
till on that cross as Jesus died,  
the love of God was magnified —  
for every sin on him was laid;  
here in the death of Christ I live.
- 3 There in the ground his body lay,  
light of the world by darkness slain:  
Then bursting forth in glorious day  
up from the grave he rose again!  
And as he stands in victory  
sin's curse has lost its grip on me,  
for I am his and he is mine —  
bought with the precious blood of Christ.
- 4 No guilt in life, no fear in death,  
this is the power of Christ in me;  
from life's first cry to final breath,  
Jesus commands my destiny.  
No power of hell, no scheme of man,  
can ever pluck me from his hand;  
till he returns or calls me home,  
here in the power of Christ I'll stand!

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## Prayer at the Preparation of the Table

Be present, be present,  
Lord Jesus Christ,  
our risen high priest;  
make yourself known in the breaking of bread.  
**Amen.**

## The Eucharistic Prayer

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.**

We give you thanks and praise  
for the gospel we have received.  
Christ died for our sins. Alleluia.  
**He is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

Death comes to all through Adam,  
and sin reigns for a time.  
New life without end comes through Christ,  
and he reigns for ever. Alleluia.  
**He is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

Death, where is your victory?  
Death, where is your sting?  
Death is swallowed up in victory,  
the victory you give us in Christ. Alleluia.  
**He is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

We have been crucified with Christ,  
and live his risen life,  
to praise you for ever with angels and archangels:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of power and God of might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest. (x2)**

**Blessed is he, blessed is he,  
blessed is he who comes in the name, he who  
comes in the name of the Lord,  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest. (x2)**

*The president recalls the Last Supper, and this acclamation is used*

Great is the mystery of faith:  
**Christ has died:  
Christ is risen:  
Christ will come again.**

*The Eucharistic Prayer ends with*

**Amen.**

*We kneel and keep a moment's silence*

## The Lord's Prayer

Rejoicing in God's new creation,  
let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

**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

Jesus says, I am the bread of life,  
whoever eats this bread will live for ever.  
**Lord, our hearts hunger for you;  
give us this bread always.**

## Agnus Dei

**Jesus, Lamb of God, Jesus, Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world:  
have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, Lamb of God, Jesus, Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world:  
have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, Lamb of God, Jesus, Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world:  
grant us your peace, grant us your peace.**

## Giving of Communion

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.  
**Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

*The president and people receive communion. Visitors who are communicant members of their home churches are welcome to receive the bread and wine at St Andrew's. If you have not been prepared for communion or would prefer to receive a blessing instead, please still come forward with your hands by your side.*

*There will be two places to receive Communion this morning: from the central nave and in the South aisle. If you come forward in the Nave, in front of the altar, you will receive the bread dipped in the wine. If you come forward in the South aisle you will receive the bread then the wine from the common cup. You may also receive only the bread, if that is your preference.*

## Songs during Communion

1. Now the green blade rises from the buried grain,  
wheat that in the dark earth many days has lain ;  
love lives again, that with the dead has been :  
*Love is come again, like wheat that springs up green.*
2. In the grave they laid him, Love whom men had  
slain,  
thinking that he never would awake again,  
laid in the earth like grain that sleeps unseen :  
*Love is come again, like wheat that springs up green.*
3. Forth he came at Easter, like the risen grain,  
he that for the three days in the grave had lain,  
back from the dead my risen Lord is seen :  
*Love is come again, like wheat that springs up green.*
4. When our hearts are wintry, grieving, or in pain,  
then your touch can call us back to life again,  
field of our hearts that dead and bare have been :  
*Love is come again, like wheat that springs up green.*

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1. All heaven declares the glory of the risen Lord.  
Who can compare with the beauty of the Lord ?  
Forever he will be the Lamb upon the throne ;  
I gladly bow the knee and worship him alone.
2. I will proclaim the glory of the risen Lord,  
who once was slain to reconcile the world to  
God.  
Forever you will be the Lamb upon the throne ;  
I gladly bow the knee and worship you alone.

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## 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.**

## Notices – and instructions for the Egg hunt!

*Instruments and shakers may be taken up for joining in the chorus of our final hymn:*

## Sending Out Hymn

- 1 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.*
- 2 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.*
- 3 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 ;  
bring us safe through Jordan to thy home above:  
  
*Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son,  
endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won.*

Reproduced from *Ancient & Modern Electronic Words Edition*, number 218. *A toi la gloire, O Ressuscité* by Edmond Budry (1854–1932) translated by Richard Birch Hoyle (1875–1939).

## Blessing

God the Father, by whose love Christ was raised from  
the dead,  
open to you who believe the gates of everlasting life.  
**Amen.**

God the Son, who in bursting from the grave has won a  
glorious victory,  
give you joy as you share the Easter faith.  
**Amen.**

God the Holy Spirit, who filled the disciples with the life  
of the risen Lord,  
empower you and fill you with Christ's peace.  
**Amen.**

And the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always.  
**Amen.**

With the risen life of Christ within you,  
go in the peace of Christ. Alleluia, Alleluia.  
**Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.**