

St Andrew's, Chesterton

All-Age Communion

20 April 2025
Easter Sunday

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Please be aware this service is livestreamed. If you or anyone accompanying you does not wish to be visible on camera, remain behind the front row. Those receiving Communion will not be filmed.

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

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.

Prayers of Penitence

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.

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!

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

Lord of all life and power,
who through the mighty resurrection of your Son
overcame the old order of sin and death
to make all things new in him:
grant that we, being dead to sin
and alive to you in Jesus Christ,
may reign with him in glory;
to whom with you and the Holy Spirit
be praise and honour, glory and might,
now and in all eternity.

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, ³⁵ but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. ³⁶ You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ – he is Lord of all. ³⁷ That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: ³⁸ 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. ³⁹ 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; ⁴⁰ but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, ⁴¹ 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. ⁴² 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. ⁴³ 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. 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.

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

Luke 24.1-12

But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, they went to the tomb, taking the spices that they had prepared. ² They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, ³ but when they went in they did not find the body. ⁴ While they were perplexed about this, suddenly two men in dazzling clothes stood beside them. ⁵ The women were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here but has risen. ⁶ Remember how he told you, while he was still in

Galilee, ⁷ that the Son of Man must be handed over to the hands of sinners and be crucified and on the third day rise again." ⁸ Then they remembered his words, ⁹ and returning from the tomb they told all this to the eleven and to all the rest. ¹⁰ Now it was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the other women with them who told this to the apostles. ¹¹ But these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them. ¹² But Peter got up and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; then he went home, amazed at what had happened.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Hymn

Choir only: He comes to us as one unknown,
a breath unseen, unheard;
as though within a heart of stone,
or shrivelled seed in darkness sown,
a pulse of being stirred,
a pulse of being stirred.

He comes when souls in silence lie
and thoughts of day depart;
half-seen upon the inward eye,
a falling star across the sky
of night within the heart,
of night within the heart.

He comes in love as once he came
by flesh and blood and birth;
to bear within our mortal frame
a life, a death, a saving Name,
for every child of earth,
for every child of earth.

All stand and sing:

He comes in truth when faith is grown;
believed, obeyed, adored:
the Christ in all the Scriptures shown,
as yet unseen, but not unknown,
our Saviour and our Lord,
our Saviour and our Lord.

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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

- 1 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!

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.

The president praises God for his mighty acts and all respond

**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 we respond:

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

The Eucharistic Prayer ends with

Amen.

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 three places to receive Communion this morning: stations – one at the Nave altar (which is the only place that offers the option to receive the bread dipped in the wine by the priest), one at the South Aisle altar to kneel, and one at the Font. Gluten free bread is available at both front stations.

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

God of Life, who for our redemption gave your only-
begotten Son to the death of the cross,
and by his glorious resurrection
have delivered us from the power of our enemy:
grant us so to die daily to sin, that we may evermore live
with him in the joy of his risen life; through Jesus Christ
our Lord. **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 – and instructions for the Egg hunt

*Join in with instruments and shakers 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*, no. 218. *A toi la gloire,
O Ressuscité* by Edmond Budry (1854–1932) transl. Richard Birch Hoyle (1875–1939).

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 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.

Organ voluntary: Paean by Herbert Howells (1892-1983).