

St Andrew's, Chesterton Sung Eucharist & Baptism

11 May 2025

The Fourth Sunday of Easter

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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.

Introit: Sanctus by Clemens non papa.

Jacobus Clemens non papa (c.1510-1555)

Gathering Hymn

- 1 God is Love: let heav'n adore him;
God is Love: let earth rejoice;
let creation sing before him,
and exalt him with one voice.
He who laid the earth's foundation,
he who spread the heav'ns above,
he who breathes through all creation,
he is Love, eternal Love.
- 2 God is Love: and he enfoldeth
all the world in one embrace;
with unfailing grasp he holdeth
every child of every race.
And when human hearts are breaking
under sorrow's iron rod,
then they find that selfsame aching
deep within the heart of God.
- 3 God is Love: and though with blindness
sin afflicts the souls of all,
God's eternal loving-kindness
holds and guides us when we fall.
Sin and death and hell shall never
o'er us final triumph gain;
God is Love, so Love for ever
o'er the universe must reign.

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The Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit
be with you

And also with you.

The Service is introduced.

Our Lord Jesus Christ has told us
that to enter the kingdom of heaven
we must be born again of water and the Spirit,
and has given us baptism as the sign and seal of this new
birth.
Here we are washed by the Holy Spirit and made clean.
Here we are clothed with Christ,
dying to sin that we may live his risen life.
As children of God, we have a new dignity
and God calls us to fullness of life.

The Collect

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 9:36-43

Now in Joppa there was a disciple whose name was Tabitha, which in Greek is Dorcas. She was devoted to good works and acts of charity. ³⁷ At that time she became ill and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in a room upstairs. ³⁸ Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, who heard that Peter was there, sent two men to him with the request, 'Please come to us without delay.' ³⁹ So Peter got up and went with them; and when he arrived, they took him to the room upstairs. All the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing tunics and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was with them. ⁴⁰ Peter put all of them outside, and then he knelt down and prayed. He turned to the body and said, 'Tabitha, get up.' Then she opened her eyes, and seeing Peter, she sat up. ⁴¹ He gave her his hand and helped her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he showed her to be alive. ⁴² This became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. ⁴³ Meanwhile he stayed in Joppa for some time with a certain Simon, a tanner.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalms 23

- 1 The Lord's my shepherd, I'll not want.
He makes me lie in pastures green.
He leads me by the still, still waters,
his goodness restores my soul.

*And I will trust in you alone.
And I will trust in you alone,
for your endless mercy follows me,
your goodness will lead me home.*

- 2 He guides my ways in righteousness,
and he anoints my head with oil,
and my cup, it overflows with joy,
I feast on his pure delights.
- 3 And though I walk the darkest path,
I will not fear the evil one,
for you are with me, and your rod and staff
are the comfort I need to know.

Gospel Reading— John 10:22-30

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

Glory to you, O Lord

At that time the festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, ²³ and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon. ²⁴ So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, 'How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly.' ²⁵ Jesus answered, 'I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name testify to me; ²⁶ but you do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep. ²⁷ My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. ²⁸ I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. ²⁹ What my Father has given me is greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father's hand. ³⁰ The Father and I are one.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

The Presentation of the Candidate

Dihia, do you wish to be baptized?

I do.

Faith is the gift of God to his people. In baptism the Lord is adding to our number those whom he is calling.

People of God, will you welcome Dihia and uphold her in her new life in Christ?

With the help of God, we will.

The Paschal Candle is lit.

The Decision

In baptism, God calls us out of darkness into his marvellous light. To follow Christ means dying to sin and rising to new life with him. Therefore, I ask:

Do you reject the devil and all rebellion against God?

I reject them.

Do you renounce the deceit and corruption of evil?

I renounce them.

Do you repent of the sins that separate us from God and neighbour?

I repent of them.

Do you turn to Christ as Saviour?

I turn to Christ.

Do you submit to Christ as Lord?

I submit to Christ.

Do you come to Christ, the way, the truth and the life?

I come to Christ.

Signing with the Cross

Christ claims you for his own.

Receive the sign of the cross.

Do not be ashamed to confess the faith of Christ crucified.

**Fight valiantly as a disciple of Christ
Against sin, the world and the devil,
And remain faithful to Christ
to the end of your life.**

May almighty God deliver you from the powers of darkness, restore in you the image of his glory, and lead you in the light and obedience of Christ. **Amen.**

Prayer over the Water

The ministers and candidate gather at the baptismal font.

The president stands before the water of baptism and prays:

Praise God who made heaven and earth,
who keeps his promise for ever.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give thanks and praise.

We praise you, loving Father,

for the gift of your Son Jesus.

He was baptized in the River Jordan,

where your Spirit came upon him

and revealed him as the Son you love.

He sent his followers

to baptize all who turn to him.

Now, Father, we ask you to bless this water,

that those who are baptized in it

may be cleansed in the water of life,

and, filled with your Spirit,

may know that they are loved as your children,

safe in Christ for ever. **Amen.**

Profession of Faith

Brothers and sisters, I ask you to profess together with Dihia the faith of the Church.

Do you believe and trust in God the Father?

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

Do you believe and trust in his Son Jesus Christ?

**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?

**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.**

Baptism

Dihia, is this your faith?
This is my faith.

Dihia, I baptize you
in the name of the Father,
and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

You have been clothed with Christ.
As many as are baptized into Christ have put on Christ.

May God, who has received you by baptism into his
Church, pour upon you the riches of his grace,
that within the company of Christ's pilgrim people
you may daily be renewed by his anointing Spirit,
and come to the inheritance of the saints in glory.
Amen.

There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism:
Dihia, by one Spirit we are all baptized into one body.
**We welcome you in the fellowship of faith;
we are children of the same heavenly Father;
we welcome you.**

The congregation may greet the newly baptized.

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

We are all one in Christ Jesus.
We belong to him through faith,
heirs of the promise of the Spirit of peace.
The peace of the Lord be always with you
and also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.



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 donations via the machines at the back or this QR code.

Offertory Hymn

1 Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father,
there is no shadow of turning with thee;
thou changest not, thy compassions they fail not,
as thou hast been thou for ever wilt be.

*Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
all I have needed thy hand hath provided,
great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me.*

2 Summer and winter, and spring-time and harvest,
sun, moon and stars in their courses above,
join with all nature in manifold witness
to thy great faithfulness, mercy and love.

Great is thy faithfulness!...

3 Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!

Great is thy faithfulness!...

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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 God's mighty acts and the choir sing:

*Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Hosts.
Heaven and earth are full of thy glory:
Glory be to thee, O Lord most High. Amen.
Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.*

The prayer continues with the words of Institution.

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

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us:
**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done;
on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever.
Amen.**

Breaking of the 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.**

Agnus Dei

*O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have
mercy upon us.
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have
mercy upon us.
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, grant
us Thy peace.*

Giving of Communion

God's holy gifts
for God's holy people.
**Jesus Christ is holy,
Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.**

*The president and people receive communion. Visitors who are
communicant members of their home churches are welcome to
receive communion at St Andrew's. If you would prefer to receive
a blessing instead, please signify this by bringing your order of
service with you.*

*There will be two communion stations – one at the Nave altar
(at which intinction of the bread in the wine is offered by the
priest for those with health concerns), and one at the South Aisle
altar for kneeling – if that is your preference.*

Communion Anthem: When Mary through the garden went.

Words: Mary Coleridge (1861-1907); Music: Charles Villiers Stanford (1852-1924).

Prayer after Communion

**Merciful Father, you gave your Son Jesus Christ
to be the good shepherd,
and in his love for us to lay down his life and rise
again: keep us always under his protection,
and give us grace to follow in his steps;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

Notices

Sending Out Hymn

- 1 I will sing the wondrous story
of the Christ who died for me,
how he left the realms of glory
for the cross on Calvary.
Yes, I'll sing the wondrous story
of the Christ who died for me —
sing it with his saints in glory,
gathered by the crystal sea.
- 2 I was lost but Jesus found me,
found the sheep that went astray,
raised me up and gently led me
back into the narrow way.
Days of darkness still may meet me,
sorrow's path I oft may tread;
but his presence still is with me,
by his guiding hand I'm led.
- 3 He will keep me till the river
rolls its waters at my feet:
then he'll bear me safely over,
made by grace for glory meet.
Yes, I'll sing the wondrous story
of the Christ who died for me —
sing it with his saints in glory,
gathered by the crystal sea.

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The Blessing

Christ the Son of God, perfect in you the image of his
glory and gladden your hearts with the good news of his
kingdom; and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.
Amen.

Giving of a Lighted Candle

God has delivered us from the dominion of darkness
and has given us a place with the saints in light.

You have received the light of Christ;
walk in this light all the days of your life.
**Shine as a light in the world
to the glory of God the Father.**

The Dismissal

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

*We very much hope you have enjoyed joining us for worship
at St Andrew's Chesterton this morning. If you are new or
visiting, please do introduce yourself and stay for
refreshments in the St Andrew's Hall, behind the church.*