

EASTER EUCHARIST

The ministers go in silence to the main entrance, one of them carrying the unlit Easter candle. All the lights in the building are switched off. This acclamation may be used.

President Christ yesterday and today,
All **the beginning and the end,**

President Alpha and Omega,
all time belongs to him,
and all ages;
All **to him be glory and power,
through every age and for ever. Amen.**

The Easter Candle may be marked at this point.

President This is the day when our Lord Jesus Christ
passed from death to life.
Throughout the world Christians celebrate
the awesome power of God.
As we hear his word and proclaim all that
God has done, we can be confident
that we shall share his victory over death
and live with him for ever.

A minister lights the Easter candle, saying

President May the light of Christ, rising in glory, banish all darkness
from our hearts and minds.

The minister carrying the candle raises it and sings

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

When the minister carrying the candle arrives at the front of the church it is placed on a stand in the midst of the building, and all other candles in the church are now lit. The congregation is standing.

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

A joyful fanfare may be played, bells rung, cymbals clashed, noise made, lights switched on.

Introit Hymn - Jesus Christ is risen today

President In the name of the Father, and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.
All **Amen.**

The Greeting

President The Lord be with you
All **and also with you.**

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

The president may repeat the acclamation, getting louder each time. The president then welcomes the people and sets out the eucharistic theme.

Prayers of Penitence

Minister of the Word Christ our Passover lamb has been sacrificed for us.
Let us therefore rejoice by putting away all malice and evil and confessing our sins with a sincere and true heart.

Silence is kept.

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

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

Minister of the Word Like Thomas in the upper room, we are slow to believe.
Lord, have mercy.
All **Lord, have mercy.**

Absolution

President 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.
All **Amen.**

Gloria in Excelsis

All **Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are
seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.
For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

The Collect

President Let us pray that we may reign
with the risen Christ in glory.

The president then leads the Collect, to which the congregation responds **Amen.**

Liturgy of the Word

Old Testament Reading – read by May

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Then Peter began to speak to them: 'I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: 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. 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; but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, 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. 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. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.'

At the end of the reading ...

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

MAY – Now Jenny will read the New testament lesson

New Testament Reading – read by Jenny

A reading from Paul's first letter to the Corinthians

If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.

But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died. For since death came through a human being, the resurrection of the dead has also come through a human being; for as all die in Adam, so all will be made alive in Christ. But each in his own order: Christ the first fruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. Then comes the end, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father, after he has destroyed every ruler and every authority and power. For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. The last enemy to be destroyed is death.

At the end of the reading ...

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

Gradual Hymn - Alleluia, alleluia, give thanks to the risen Lord

Gospel Reading – read by Jane / Tim

Reader 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.

All **Alleluia.**

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

But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, they came to the tomb, taking the spices that they had prepared. They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they went in, they did not find the body. While they were perplexed about this, suddenly two men in dazzling clothes stood beside them. 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. Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, that the Son of Man must be handed over to sinners, and be crucified, and on the third day rise again.' Then they remembered his words, and returning from the tomb, they told all this to the eleven and to all the rest. Now it was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the other women with them who told this to the apostles. But these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them. 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.

At the end of the Gospel ..

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

Sermon

Please sit. After the sermon, there is a short silence.

Renewal of Baptismal Vows

The ministers gather at the font and the people turn to face it. The Easter candle leads the procession. The president addresses the congregation.

President As we celebrate the Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ from the dead, we remember that through the paschal mystery we have died and been buried with him in baptism. In baptism, God calls us out of darkness into his marvellous light. To follow Christ means dying to sin and rising to new life in him. Therefore I ask:
Do you reject the devil and all rebellion against God?

All **I reject them.**

President Do you renounce the deceit and corruption of evil?

All **I renounce them.**

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

All **I repent of them.**

President Do you turn to Christ as Saviour?

All **I turn to Christ.**

President Do you submit to Christ as Lord?

All **I submit to Christ.**

President Do you come to Christ, the Way, the Truth and the Life?

All **I come to Christ.**

President May God, who has given you the desire to follow Christ, give you

the strength to continue in the Way.

Prayer over the Water

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

President Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
All **It is right to give thanks and praise.**

Bless this water, that your servants who are washed in it
may be made one with Christ in his death and in his Resurrection,
to be cleansed and delivered from all sin.

Send your Holy Spirit upon them, bring them to new birth in the
household of faith, and raise them with Christ
to full and eternal life; for all might, majesty,
authority, and power are yours, now and for ever.

All **Amen.**

Profession of Faith

President Brothers and sisters, I ask you to profess the faith of the Church.
Do you believe and trust in God the Father?

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

President 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.**

President 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.**

The waters of baptism are sprinkled over the people.

President Almighty God, we thank you for our fellowship
in the household of faith with all who have been baptized in your
name. Keep us faithful to our baptism, and so make us ready for
that day when the whole creation shall be made perfect in your
Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ.

All **Amen**

President May Christ dwell in your hearts through faith, that you may be
rooted and grounded in love and bring forth the fruit of the
Spirit.

All **Amen.**

The ministers return to their places.

Intercessions

President In joy and hope let us pray to the Father.

Please sit. Prayers are offered

Intercessor Lord, in your mercy
 hear our prayer.

(or)

 Lord, hear us.
 Lord, graciously hear us.

After the final prayer ...

Intercessor God of mercy,
 hear our prayer
 and make us one in heart and mind
 to serve you with joy forever.
 Amen.

Liturgy of the Eucharist

The Peace

President 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.

All The peace of the risen Christ be always with you
 and also with you. Alleluia.

President Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

All may exchange a sign of peace, greeting one another with these words
Christ is risen.

Offertory Hymn - Jesus lives! thy terrors now

Preparation of the Table

The gifts of the people are gathered and presented.

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

All **Amen.**

The Eucharistic Prayer

President The Lord is here.
All **His Spirit is with us.**

President Lift up your hearts.
All **We lift them to the Lord.**
President Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
All **It is right to give thanks and praise.**

President It is indeed right, it is our duty and our joy,
at all times and in all places to give you thanks and praise,
holy Father, heavenly King, almighty and eternal God,
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.
For he is your living Word; through him you have created all
things from the beginning,
and formed us in your own image.
All **To you be glory and praise for ever.**

President Through him you have freed us from the slavery of sin, giving
him to be born
of a woman and to die upon the cross;
you raised him from the dead and exalted him to your right
hand on high.
All **To you be glory and praise for ever.**

President Through him you have sent upon us your holy and life-giving
Spirit, and made us
a people for your own possession.
All **To you be glory and praise for ever.**

President And now we give you thanks because in his
victory over the grave a new age has dawned,
the long reign of sin is ended,
a broken world is being renewed and
humanity is once again made whole.
Therefore with angels and archangels,
and with all the company of heaven,
we proclaim your great and glorious name,
for ever praising you and *saying*:
All **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.**

President Accept our praises, heavenly Father,
through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ,
and as we follow his example and obey his
command, grant that by the power of your
Holy Spirit these gifts of bread and wine
may be to us his body and his blood;
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.
All **To you be glory and praise for ever.**

President 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.

All **To you be glory and praise for ever.**

President Therefore, heavenly Father, we remember his offering of
himself made once for all upon the cross;
we proclaim his mighty Resurrection and glorious Ascension;
we look for the coming of your kingdom, and with this bread
and this cup we make the memorial of Christ your Son our
Lord. Christ is the bread of life:

All **When we eat this bread and drink this cup,
we proclaim your death, Lord Jesus,
until you come in glory.**

President Accept through him, our great high priest, this our sacrifice of
thanks and praise, and as we eat and drink these holy gifts
in the presence of your divine majesty, renew us by your
Spirit, inspire us with your love, and unite us in the body
of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **To you be glory and praise for ever.**

President Through him, and with him, and in him, in the
unity of the Holy Spirit, with all who stand
before you in earth and heaven, we worship
you, Father almighty, in songs of everlasting
praise:

All **Blessing and honour and glory and power
be yours for ever and ever. Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

President Rejoicing in God's new creation,
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

The president breaks the consecrated bread.

President Jesus says, I am the bread of life,
whoever eats of this bread will live for ever.

All **Lord, our hearts hunger for you;
give us this bread always.**

Agnus Dei

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

(or)

**Jesus, Lamb of God,
have mercy on us.
Jesus, bearer of our sins,
have mercy on us.
Jesus, redeemer of the world,
grant us peace.**

Invitation to Communion

President Alleluia. Christ our Passover
is sacrificed for us.

All **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

Communion Hymn - Love's redeeming work is done

Prayer after Communion

*Silence is kept. The Post Communion or another suitable prayer is said.
All respond Amen.*

Notices – given by Liz

Final Prayer

*Minister of
the Word* We say together ...

All

**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.

HYMN - Thine be the glory

We move outside for the blessing of the garden

Prayers at the Easter Garden

Minister of the Word The angel said to the women,
'Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified.
He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said.'

President Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation,
the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.
To you be glory now and for ever.
In your great mercy you have given us a new birth into a living hope
through the Resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.
By your blessing, may we who have prepared this garden in celebration
of his victory be strengthened in faith, know the power of his presence,
and rejoice in the hope of eternal glory.

Blessed be God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
All **Blessed be God for ever.**

The stone may be rolled away from the entrance to the tomb

President Risen Lord Jesus, as Mary Magdalene met you in the garden
on the morning of your Resurrection, so may we meet you today and
every day: speak to us as you spoke to her;
reveal yourself as the living Lord; renew our hope and kindle our joy;
and send us to share the good news with others.

All **Amen.**

Blessing and Sending Out

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

President 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.

All **Amen.**

President Go in the peace of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.
All **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

Our worship is over: our service begins.

