

**CHARLTON BENEFICE  
EASTER EUCHARIST 2023**

*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**

*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

*JIM*              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.*

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

*All*                **Lord, have mercy.**

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

*All*                **Christ, have mercy.**

*JIM*              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 Akic**

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 ...*

<i>Reader</i>	This is the word of the Lord.
<i>All</i>	<b>Thanks be to God.</b>

#### **New Testament Reading – read by Maiker**

A reading from Paul's letter to the Colossians

So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God.

Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth, for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God.

When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

This is the word of the Lord  
Thanks be to God

*At the end of the reading ...*

<i>Reader</i>	This is the word of the Lord.
<i>All</i>	<b>Thanks be to God.</b>

#### **Gradual Hymn**

#### **Gospel Reading – read by Liz**

*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 John.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

Alleluia, alleluia, I am the first and the last, says the Lord, and the living one. I was dead, and behold I am alive forever more.

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

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, 'They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him.'

Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went towards the tomb. The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in.

Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, and the cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. Then the disciples returned to their homes.

But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb.

As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet.

They said to her, 'Woman, why are you weeping?' She said to them, 'They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him.'

When she had said this, she turned round and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, 'Woman, why are you weeping? For whom are you looking?' Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, 'Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away.'

Jesus said to her, 'Mary!' She turned and said to him in Hebrew, 'Rabbouni!' (which means Teacher). Jesus said to her, 'Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, "I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God." '

Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, 'I have seen the Lord'; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

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

*At the end of the Gospel ..*

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

### **Sermon - Liz**

*Please sit. After the sermon, we move to the font for the baptism, using a separate service sheet*

### **Intercessions – led by Miriam**

*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**

#### **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**

### **Prayer after Communion**

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

### **Notices**

### **Final Prayer**

*JIM*              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

*We move outside for the blessing of the garden*  
**Prayers at the Easter Garden**

*JIM* 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.*