

CHARLTON
ST LUKE AND ST THOMAS

Eucharist for Eastertide



WELCOME

Everyone is welcome at St Luke's and St Thomas's for the celebration of our parish Eucharist. Here we

- gather and prepare to worship God
- confess the ways in which we have let God down
- receive God's forgiveness
- listen to Scripture and to God's word being broken open for us
- affirm what we believe
- pray for the church, the world, our community, those in need and the departed
- share Christ's Peace and make our offerings
- celebrate Holy Communion
- receive the bread and wine
- lift our voices to offer praise and thanksgiving
- pause in silence and stillness where God's presence is often felt most powerfully
- receive the blessing and are sent out to love and serve God

We hope that everyone who comes will encounter God here and leave with a desire to walk faithfully with Jesus, guided by the Spirit.

Children and young people are very precious to God and we are striving to reflect that truth in our church communities. In both our churches there are special arrangements for children. Please ask if you want to know more.

We want those taking part in our service to reflect our church communities. If you would like to read, sing, intercede, be a welcomer or serve at the altar, then please make that known to one of the clergy.

Jesus's love knows no bounds, and he has asked us to share the Good News outside our church circles. We want to grow our congregations; that means all of us having a 'culture of invitation' – being prepared to speak well of our church family and invite others to 'come and see'. St Luke's and St Thomas's are committed to all those who don't know God's great love for them – this is why we have a Mission Action Plan. More details about our vision, our mission, our values and priorities can be found in church.

EASTERTIDE

The great fifty days of Eastertide form a single festival period in which the Church celebrates the gloriously risen Christ. The lit paschal candle stands prominently in church for all the Eastertide services, and the Alleluia appears frequently in liturgical speech and song. On the fortieth day we celebrate Christ's Ascension. He commissions his disciples to continue his work, he promises the gift of the Holy Spirit, and then he is no longer among them in the flesh. The Ascension is therefore closely connected with the theme of mission. The arrival of the promised gift of the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost completes and crowns the Easter festival.

The liturgical colour is white or gold.

EASTERTIDE EUCHARIST

Easter Sunday only

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.

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.’ *(Matthew 28.5, 6)*

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,
and a light in the tomb may be lit.*

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.**

*A hymn follows, and the service continues with the Prayers of
Penitence (overleaf).*

Sundays in Eastertide after Easter Sunday

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

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

Please sit.

Old Testament Reading

At the end of the reading ...

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

New Testament Reading

At the end of the reading ...

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

Please stand.

Gradual Hymn

Gospel Reading

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 *N*.

All **Glory to you, O Lord.**

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

(Easter Sunday only; subsequent Sundays in Eastertide continue with the Affirmation of Faith, p. 12)

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.**

PTO

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.**

President Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ was baptized in the river Jordan, we thank you for the gift of water to cleanse us and revive us.
We thank you that through the waters of the Red Sea you led your people out of slavery to freedom in the promised land.
We thank you that through the deep waters of death you brought your Son, and raised him to life in triumph.

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.

Affirmation of Faith

(except Easter Sunday)

President Let us declare our faith in the Resurrection
of our Lord Jesus Christ.

All **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.**

Intercessions

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

*Please sit. Prayers are offered for the Church of Christ;
Creation, human society, the Sovereign, and those in authority;
the local community; those who suffer; and the communion of
saints. After each prayer ...*

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

Please stand.

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.

The peace of the risen Christ
be always with you

All **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.**

*The president and people receive communion.
Authorized words of distribution are used
and the communicant responds **Amen.***

Communion Hymn

Prayer after Communion

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

Notices

Final Prayer

*Minister of
the Word
All*

We say together ...

**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.**

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.

*You are very welcome to stay for refreshments
after the service. If you would like to introduce yourself
or find out more about this church and its mission,
please speak to one of the clergy or welcomers.*

*Please leave this booklet behind,
but take the weekly bulletin with you.*

ST THOMAS

Thomas, also called 'Didymus', which means 'the twin', was one of the twelve apostles of Jesus according to all four Gospels, but it is in John that his significance is revealed. Thomas is heard encouraging the other disciples to go to Judaea with Jesus, and he asks the question that led Jesus to describe himself as the Way, the Truth and the Life. Probably most famously however, Thomas was the apostle who doubted reports of the resurrection of Jesus, causing Christ to show him the marks in his hands, feet and side. Thomas then proclaims the words that have been described as the great climax to John's Gospel by saying to Jesus: 'My Lord and my God!' Traditionally, Thomas is believed to have travelled widely to preach the Gospel, reaching as far as present-day southern India. He is often regarded as the patron saint of India, where, tradition has it, he was martyred.

There has been Christian worship at St Thomas's, Old Charlton, since 1850.

ST LUKE

Luke was a dear friend of St Paul, and is mentioned by him three times in his Letters. Paul describes him as 'the beloved physician' and as his only companion in prison. Luke is believed to be the author of two books of the New Testament: the Gospel of Luke and the Acts of the Apostles. Luke's narrative of the life of Christ starts with the Nativity and goes through to his Death and Resurrection. Luke is commonly thought to have been a Gentile. He certainly makes clear that the good news of salvation is for all, regardless of sex, social position or nationality.

Without Luke we would not have the parables of the Good Samaritan, the Rich Farmer, the Prodigal Son, or the Rich Man and Lazarus. Traditionally, Luke wrote his Gospel in Greece and died at the age of 84.

There has been Christian worship on the site of St Luke with Holy Trinity, Charlton, since the early twelfth century.

ST RICHARD

Richard de Wych was born in 1197 and worked hard on his father's estate before going on to study at Oxford, Paris and Italy as a church lawyer. When he returned to England, he eventually became Bishop of Chichester. Richard was seen as a model diocesan bishop, moving round his diocese on foot, visiting and caring for his clergy and people, and being available to all who needed his ministry. He insisted that the sacraments be administered without payment and with a proper dignity. On a recruitment campaign for the Crusades, he fell ill at Dover and died there on 3 April 1253. His mortal remains were moved to Chichester. This famous prayer is attributed to him:

Thanks be to thee, my Lord Jesus Christ for all the benefits thou hast given me, for all the pains and insults thou hast borne for me. O most merciful Redeemer, friend and brother, may I know thee more clearly, love thee more dearly, follow thee more nearly. Amen.

There has been Christian worship on the site of St Richard's Church Centre since the late nineteenth century. St Luke's PCC is currently exploring possibilities for developing mission and a new Christian congregation there.



THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND