

A Service for the Easter Season

With a Celebration of Holy Communion



Preparation

This is the day that the Lord has made.

All Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Opening prayer

Blessed are you, Lord God,

By whose power our Lord Jesus Christ is raised from the dead.

In your presence is life and life eternal.

In your power death is conquered

And the gate to eternal life is opened.

In your presence is the fulness of joy.

All Amen

Prayers of Confession

All Almighty God, our heavenly Father,

we have sinned against you,

through our own fault,

in thought, and word, and deed,

and in what we have left undone.

We are heartily sorry,

and repent of all our sins.

For your Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake,

forgive us all that is past;

and grant that we may serve you in newness of life

to the glory of your name.

Amen.

May almighty God have mercy on us,

forgive us our sins,

and bring us to everlasting life,

through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

Collect

Risen Christ,
by the lakeside you renewed your call to your disciples:
help your Church to obey your command
and draw the nations to the fire of your love,
to the glory of God the Father.

Amen

We hear the first reading.

I Peter.3.13-22

We hear the Gospel Reading

John.14.15-21

You make yourself known to us, and you are present in our lives
even though we do not always recognise your presence.

For all that you are,

we thank you, loving God.

You do not leave us orphaned,

but embrace us with Fatherly love that encourages and comforts
us.

For all that you are,

we thank you, loving God.

You ensure that we are not alone

by filling us with your Spirit of truth, that inspires and empowers
us.

For all that you are,

we thank you, loving God.

Thank you, Father, for your presence,
your love and your encouragement.

Amen.

The Sermon

Prayers of Intercession

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.**

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.

cf John 20.19

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

The Communion

The Eucharistic Prayer

Lift up your hearts.

All We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All It is right to give thanks and praise.

Almighty God, good Father to us all,
your face is turned towards your world.

In love you gave us Jesus your Son
to rescue us from sin and death.

Your Word goes out to call us home
to the city where angels sing your praise.

We join with them in heaven's song:

All Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.

Father of all, we give you thanks
for every gift that comes from heaven.

To the darkness Jesus came as your light.

With signs of faith and words of hope

he touched untouchables with love and washed the guilty clean.

This is his story.

**All This is our song:
Hosanna in the highest.**

The crowds came out to see your Son,
yet at the end they turned on him.

On the night he was betrayed
he came to table with his friends

to celebrate the freedom of your people.

This is his story.

**All This is our song:
Hosanna in the highest.**

Jesus blessed you, Father, for the food;
he took bread, gave thanks, broke it and said:

This is my body, given for you all.

Jesus then gave thanks for the wine;

he took the cup, gave it and said:

This is my blood, shed for you all
for the forgiveness of sins.

Do this in remembrance of me.

This is our story.

**All This is our song:
Hosanna in the highest.**

Therefore, Father, with this bread and this cup
we celebrate the cross

on which he died to set us free.

Defying death he rose again

and is alive with you to plead for us and all the world.

This is our story.

**All This is our song:
Hosanna in the highest.**

Send your Spirit on us now
that by these gifts we may feed on Christ
with opened eyes and hearts on fire.

May we and all who share this food
offer ourselves to live for you
and be welcomed at your feast in heaven
where all creation worships you,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit:

All Blessing and honour and glory and power

**be yours for ever and ever.
Amen.**

Breaking of the Bread

The president breaks the consecrated bread.

We break this bread
to share in the body of Christ.

All **Though we are many, we are one body,
because we all share in one bread.**

Giving of Communion

Prayer after Communion

**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.**

Blessing

God the Father,
by whose glory Christ was raised from the dead,
strengthen you to walk with him in his risen life;
and the blessing of God almighty,

the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

All **Amen.**

Go in the peace of Christ. Alleluia, Alleluia.

All **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.**