

CHRIST CHURCH ST LUCIA

Easter Day



4th April 2021

6am



<https://youtu.be/eLQnpe5tLcY>

THE SERVICE OF LIGHT

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ, on this most holy night, when our Lord Jesus Christ passed from death to life, the Church invites her children throughout the world to come together in vigil and prayer.

This is the Passover of the Lord.

We remember his death and resurrection by hearing his word and celebrating his mysteries, confident that we shall share his victory over death and live with him for ever in God.

In darkness, the new fire is kindled, and blessed:

Eternal God, who made this most holy night to shine with the brightness of your one true light: set us aflame with the fire of your love, and bring us to the radiance of your heavenly glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Easter Candle is marked with the traditional markings – the Cross, the Alpha and Omega, and the year.

Christ yesterday and today,
the beginning and the end, Alpha and Omega,
all time belongs to him, and all ages;
to him be glory and power, through every age and for ever. **Amen.**

The nails are inserted.

By his holy and glorious wounds
may Christ our Lord guard us and keep us.

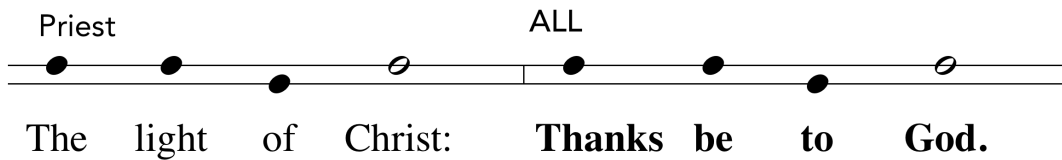
The Easter Candle is lit from the new fire.

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

PROCESSION INTO THE CHURCH

The Paschal candle is carried into the Church, and the people follow.

The procession pauses three times: in each case this acclamation is sung:



The light from the Paschal candle, which represents the Risen Christ, is gradually passed throughout the congregation.

At the end of the procession, the Paschal candle is placed in its stand and the Exultet is sung by all.

The Easter Proclamation

Tune: WOODLANDS (TIS 161)

**Sing choirs of heaven! Let saints and angels sing!
Around God's throne exult in harmony!
Now Jesus Christ is risen from the grave!
Salute your king in glorious symphony!**

**Sing choirs of earth! Behold your light has come!
The glory of the Lord shines radiantly!
Lift up your hearts, for Christ has conquered death!
The night is past; the day of light is here!**

**Sing Church of God! Exalt with joy outpoured!
The gospel trumpets tell of victory won!
Your Saviour lives: he's with you evermore!
Let all God's people shout the loud Amen!**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

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 MINISTRY OF THE WORD

Dear friends our solemn vigil is almost at its end.

Let us now listen attentively to the word of God, recalling how God saved his people throughout history and, in the fullness of time, sent his own Son to be our Redeemer.

Through this Easter celebration, may God bring to perfection the saving work he has already begun in us.

All sit.

Old Testament Reading

Exodus 14. 15 - 15.1

Reader: A reading from the Book of Exodus.

Then the Lord said to Moses, 'Why do you cry out to me? Tell the Israelites to go forward. But you lift up your staff, and stretch out your hand over the sea and divide it, that the Israelites may go into the sea on dry ground. Then I will harden the hearts of the Egyptians so that they will go in after them; and so I will gain glory for myself over Pharaoh and all his army, his chariots, and his chariot drivers. And the Egyptians shall know that I am the Lord, when I have gained glory for myself over Pharaoh, his chariots, and his chariot drivers.'

The angel of God who was going before the Israelite army moved and went behind them; and the pillar of cloud moved from in front of them and took its place behind them. It came between the army of Egypt and the army of Israel.

And so the cloud was there with the darkness, and it lit up the night; one did not come near the other all night.

Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The Lord drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night, and turned the sea into dry land; and the waters were divided. The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. The Egyptians pursued, and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and chariot drivers.

At the morning watch the Lord in the pillar of fire and cloud looked down upon the Egyptian army, and threw the Egyptian army into panic.

He clogged their chariot wheels so that they turned with difficulty. The Egyptians said, 'Let us flee from the Israelites, for the Lord is fighting for them against Egypt.'

Then the Lord said to Moses, 'Stretch out your hand over the sea, so that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and chariot drivers.' So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea returned to its normal depth. As the Egyptians fled before it, the Lord tossed the Egyptians into the sea.

The waters returned and covered the chariots and the chariot drivers, the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea; not one of them remained. But the work that the Lord did against the Egyptians. So the people feared the Lord and Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left.

Thus the Lord saved Israel that day from the Egyptians; and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. Israel saw the great believed in the Lord and in his servant Moses. Then Moses and the Israelites sang this song to the Lord: "I will sing to the Lord, for he has triumphed gloriously; horse and rider he has thrown into the sea."

The reader stays for a silence.

For the word of the Lord,
Thanks be to God.

All stand.

The Easter Acclamation

Alleluia, Christ is risen.

He is risen indeed, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

*Candles are put out and the lights are turned on
during the ringing of bells and fanfare.*

The Gloria is sung by all.

Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to God's 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 for Easter

Eternal giver of life and light,
this holy night shines with the radiance of the risen Christ:
renew your Church with the Spirit given to us in baptism,
that we may worship you in sincerity and truth,
and shine as a light in the world;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who is alive and lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

All sit.

New Testament Reading

Romans 6. 3-11

Reader: A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life.

For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, and we might no longer be enslaved to sin. For whoever has died is freed from sin.

But if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him.

The death he died, he died to sin, once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

For the word of the Lord,
Thanks be to God.

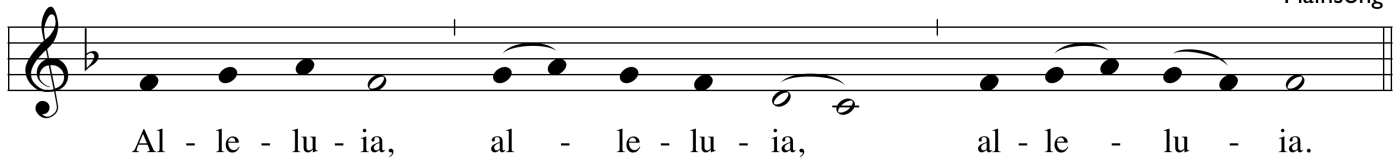
HYMN *The Night is past* Tune: SOLEMNIS HAEC FESTIVITAS

- 1 The night is past, our light has come:
the Lord his victory has won!
All we who sense his presence now,
in spirit and in truth must bow.**
- 2 When soldiers bowed, but raged instead,
their crown of thorns then pierced Christ's head.
That crown, though once a mockery,
now hails our Lord's great victory.**
- 3 Come Christians sing, with heart and voice,
and in the Prince of Peace rejoice!
Commit ourselves afresh today
to walk with him along our way.**
- 4 All praise to God the Father be,
All praise eternal Son, to thee,
Whom with the Spirit we adore
For ever and for evermore.**

J.S. Mainstone (*March 2006*)

The Gospel Acclamation

Plainsong



Choir: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

All: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Choir: *Christ, our Passover, has been sacrificed for us,
let us celebrate the feast.*

All: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel Reading

Matthew 28. 1-10

A reading from the Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to St Matthew.

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.

After the Sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb.

And suddenly there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men.

But 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. Come, see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples, "He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him." This is my message for you.'

So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. Suddenly Jesus met them and said, 'Greetings!' And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshipped him. Then Jesus said to them, 'Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord,
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

*Organ Acclamation: Christ lag in Todesbanden, BWV 625 - J.S.Bach
(Christ lay in the bonds of death)*

The Sermon: The Reverend Bill Crossman

A silence for reflection follows the sermon.

The Pascal Candle is carried to the font during the singing of the Anthem:

Anthem: *This joyful Eastertide – arr. Philip Ledger (1937-2012)*

This joyful Eastertide, away with care and sorrow!

My Love, the Crucified, hath sprung to life this morrow.

*Had Christ, that once was slain, ne'er burst his three-day prison,
our faith had been in vain: but now is Christ arisen, arisen, arisen, arisen.*

My flesh in hope shall rest, and for a season slumber:

till trump from east to west shall wake the dead in number. *Refrain*

Death's flood hath lost his chill, since Jesus crossed the river:

Lover of souls, from ill my passing soul deliver. *Refrain*

THE RENEWAL OF BAPTISMAL VOWS

All stand

The congregation is asked to turn and face the font

The Decision

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 with him. Therefore I ask:

Do you turn to Christ?

I turn to Christ.

Do you repent of your sins?

I repent of my sins.

Do you reject selfish living and all that is false and unjust?

I reject them all.

Do you renounce Satan and all evil?

I renounce all that is evil.

The Prayer Over The Water

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ was baptised in the River Jordan, we thank you for the gift of water to cleanse and revive us; we thank you that you delivered your people from slavery and led them through the water of the Red Sea to freedom in the Promised Land; we thank you that you brought your Son through the deep waters of death and raised him to life in triumph.

Pour out your Holy Spirit in blessing and sanctify this water for the mystical washing away of sin,
and for the sealing of vows renewed.

For all glory and majesty are yours, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The waters of baptism are now sprinkled over the people.

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. **Amen.**

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. **Amen.**

The Profession of Faith

Let us now proclaim the Christian faith into which we were baptised, and in which we live and grow.

Do you believe and trust in God the Father, who made the world?

I believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in his Son Jesus Christ,
who redeemed humanity?

I believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in the Holy Spirit,
who gives life to the people of God?

I believe and trust in him.

The clergy and sanctuary party now return to the Sanctuary.

THE GREETING OF 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!

The peace of the Risen Christ be always with you.

And also with you.

Alleluia!

We all exchange a COVID safe sign of peace.

THE EASTER EUCHARIST

OFFERTORY HYMN 365 (t.AHB 282)

Tune: WÜRTTEMBERG

- 1 Christ the Lord is risen again;
Christ has broken every chain;
hark! the angels shout for joy,
singing evermore on high:
*Hallelujah!***

- 2 He who gave for us his life,
who for us endured the strife,
is our paschal Lamb today;
we too sing for joy, and say:
Hallelujah!
- 3 He who bore all pain and loss
comfortless upon the cross
lives in glory now on high,
pleads for us, and hears our cry:
Hallelujah!
- 5 Now he bids us tell abroad
how the lost may be restored,
how the penitent forgiven,
how we too may enter heaven:
Hallelujah!
- 6 Christ, our paschal Lamb indeed,
Christ, your ransomed people feed.
At the end of earthly strife
raise us, Lord, to endless life.
Hallelujah!

Michael Weisse 1488-1534 tr.
Catherine Winkworth 1827-78 alt.

Prayer over the Gifts

Yours, Lord, is the greatness, the power,
the glory, the splendour, and the majesty;
for everything in heaven and on earth is yours.
all things come from you, and of your own do we give you.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

All glory and honour be yours always and everywhere,
mighty Creator, everliving God.

We give you thanks and praise for your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ,
who by the power of your Spirit
was born of Mary and lived as one of us.

By his death on the cross,
he offered the one true sacrifice for sin,
and obtained an eternal deliverance for his people.

And now we give you thanks that you raised him to life triumphant,
and exalted him in glory.

By his victory over death, the reign of sin is ended,
a new day has dawned, a broken world is restored
and we are made whole once more.

Therefore with angels and archangels,
and with all the company of heaven,
we proclaim your great and glorious name,
for ever praising you and singing:

**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.

Merciful God, we thank you for these gifts of your creation, this bread
and wine, and we pray that by your Word and Holy Spirit,
we who eat and drink them
may be partakers of Christ's body and blood.

On the night he was betrayed Jesus took bread;
and when he had given you thanks
he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying,
'Take, eat. This is my body given for you.
Do this in remembrance of me.'

After supper, he took the cup, and again giving you thanks
he gave it to his disciples, saying, 'Drink from this, all of you.
This is my blood of the new covenant
shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me'.

In faith we acclaim you, O Christ:

**Christ has died;
Christ is risen;
Christ will come again.**

Therefore we do as our Saviour has commanded:
proclaiming his offering of himself made once for all upon the cross,
his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension,
and looking for his coming again,
we celebrate, with this bread and this cup,
his one perfect and sufficient sacrifice for the sins of the whole world.
Renew us by your Holy Spirit, unite us in the body of your Son,
and bring us with all your people into the joy of your eternal kingdom;
through Jesus Christ our Lord, with whom and in whom,
in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
we worship you, Father, in songs of never-ending praise.

**Blessing and honour and glory and power
are yours for ever and ever. Amen.**

As our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are confident to pray,

**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.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours
now and for ever. Amen.**

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

**As this broken bread was once many grains,
which have been gathered together and made one bread:
so may your Church be gathered
from the ends of the earth into your kingdom.**

Agnus Dei (sung by all)

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

THE COMMUNION

**Alleluia, Alleluia!
Christ our Passover Lamb is sacrificed for us.
Alleluia, Alleluia!
Let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

*The congregation comes forward immediately for Communion.
Communicant Christians of other church traditions
are invited also to receive Communion.*

COMMUNION MOTET

Most Glorious Lord of Life - William Harris (1883-1973)

Most glorious Lord of life, that on this day
didst make thy triumph over death and sin,
and having harrowed hell,
didst bring away captivity thence captive, us to win.

This joyous day, dear Lord, with joy begin,
and grant that we for whom thou diddest die,
being with thy dear blood clean washed from sin,
may live for ever in felicity.

And that thy love we weighing worthily,
may likewise love thee for the same again;
and for thy sake, for thy sake, that all like dear didst buy,
with love may one another entertain.

So let us love, dear Love, like as we ought;
love is the lesson which the Lord us taught.

Post-Communion Sentence *(sung by the choir)*

Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us, Alleluia:
Let us celebrate the feast with the unleavened bread of sincerity
and truth, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Eternal God, you have brought us life
and hope through these Easter mysteries.

Fill us with your Spirit
and unite us in your peace and love.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

**Most loving God,
you send us into the world you love.
Give us grace to go thankfully and with courage
in the power of your Spirit.**

- 1 Christ the Lord is risen today:
Halleluja!
Let the whole creation say:
Halleluja!
Raise your joys and triumphs high:
Halleluja!
Sing, O heavens, and earth reply:
Halleluja!
- 2 Love's redeeming work is done;
fought the fight, the battle won;
vain the stone, the watch, the seal:
Christ has burst the gates of hell.
- 3 Lives again our glorious king;
where, O death, is now your sting?
Once he died our souls to save;
Where your victory, O grave?
- 4 Soar we now where Christ has led,
following our exalted Head;
made like him, like him we rise:
ours the cross, the grave, the skies.

Charles Wesley (1707-88) alt.

THE BLESSING & DISMISSAL

The blessing of the Living God,
who brings light out of darkness be upon you now and forever. **Amen.**

The blessing of the risen Christ, who sends you as apostles into all the
world be upon you now and for ever. **Amen.**

The blessing of the Holy Spirit, who fills the church with joy and praise,
be upon you now and forever. **Amen.**

The blessing of our God, the holy and glorious Trinity,
be upon you and remain with you now, and forever.
Amen.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

In the name of Christ. Alleluia! Alleluia!

POSTLUDE: *Incantation pour un jour Saint - Jean Langlais (1907-1991)*

Mass Setting: Rutter

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