

# CHRIST CHURCH ST LUCIA

Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> May, 2021

*The 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter*



[https://youtu.be/Usr\\_1h-b3TY](https://youtu.be/Usr_1h-b3TY)

PRELUDE

*Rhosymedre - Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)*

## GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

INTROIT HYMN 376

Tune: CHURCH TRIUMPANT

- 1 I know that my Redeemer lives -  
what joy the blest assurance gives!  
He lives, he lives, who once was dead;  
he lives, my everlasting Head.
- 2 He lives, to bless me with his love:  
he lives, to plead for me above;  
he lives my hungry soul to feed;  
he lives to help in time of need.
- 3 He lives, and grants me daily breath;  
he lives, and I shall conquer death;  
he lives, my mansion to prepare;  
he lives, to lead me safely there.
- 4 He lives, all glory to his name;  
he lives, my Saviour, still the same;  
what joy the blest assurance gives,  
I know that my Redeemer lives!

Samuel Medley (1738-99)

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Christ is risen! Alleluia!

**He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

**Almighty God,  
to whom all hearts are open,  
all desires known,  
and from whom no secrets are hidden:  
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts  
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,  
that we may perfectly love you,  
and worthily magnify your holy name,  
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one; you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.' Jesus said: 'This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: you shall love your neighbour as yourself.'

### **Confession & Absolution**

Christ our Passover Lamb has been offered for us,  
therefore we come to celebrate the festival.

Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith,  
with a sincere and a true heart.

**Merciful God, our maker and our judge,  
we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed,  
and in what we have failed to do:  
we have not loved you with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves;  
we repent, and are sorry for all our sins.  
Father, forgive us.  
Strengthen us to love and obey you in newness of life;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*Kyrie eleison* (said at 7am, sung at 9am)

**Lord, have mercy  
Christ, have mercy  
Lord, have mercy.**

Almighty God,  
who has promised forgiveness  
to all who turn to him in faith:  
pardon you and set you free from all your sins,  
strengthen you in all goodness,  
and keep you in eternal life,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*The Gloria* (said at 7am, sung at 9am)

**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 the Fifth Sunday of Easter*

O God,  
form the minds of your faithful people,  
that we may love what you command  
and desire what you promise,  
so that, amid the many changes of this world,  
our hearts may there be fixed where true joys are to be found;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## **THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD**

### **First Reading**

*Acts 8.26-40*

*Reader: A reading from the Acts of the Apostles*

Then an angel of the Lord said to Philip, 'Get up and go towards the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.' (This is a wilderness road.) So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, 'Go over to this chariot and join it.'

So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, 'Do you understand what you are reading?' He replied, 'How can I, unless someone guides me?' And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this: 'Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter, and like a lamb silent before its shearer, so he does not open his mouth. In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth.'

The eunuch asked Philip, 'About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?' Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, 'Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?'

He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

Hear the word of the Lord,  
**Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm 22.26-32**    (*said at 7am; sung at 9am*)

Chant – George C. Martin

From you springs my praise in the great congregation:  
I will pay my vows in the sight of all that fear you;

The meek shall eat of the sacrifice and be satisfied:  
and those who seek the Lord shall praise him –  
    may their hearts rejoice for ever!

Let all the ends of the earth remember and turn to the Lord:  
and let all the families of the nations worship before him.

For the kingdom is the Lord's:  
and he shall be ruler over the nations.

How can those who sleep in the earth do him homage:  
or those that descend to the dust bow down before him?

But he has saved my life for himself:  
and my posterity shall serve him.

This shall be told of my Lord to a future generation:  
and his righteousness declared to a people yet unborn,  
    that he has done it.

## **Second Reading**

*1 John 4.7-21*

*Reader: A reading from the first letter of John*

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love.

God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins.

Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us. By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit.

And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Saviour of the world. God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. So we have known and believe the love that God has for us.

God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgement, because as he is, so are we in this world.

There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. We love because he first loved us. Those who say, 'I love God', and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

Hear the word of the Lord,  
**Thanks be to God.**

**GRADUAL HYMN 382 (vv.1-3)**

Tune: NOEL NOUVELET

- 1 Now the green blade rises  
from the buried grain,  
wheat that in the dark earth  
many days has lain:  
love lives again,  
that with the dead has been:  
*Love has come again,  
like wheat that springs up green.*

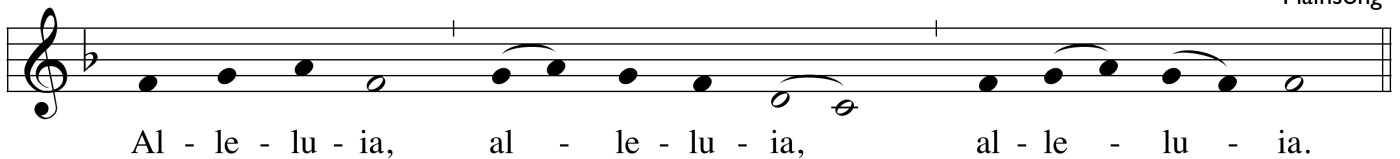
2 In the grave they laid him,  
 love whom hate had slain,  
 thinking that he never  
 would awake again,  
 laid in the earth,  
 like grain that sleeps unseen.  
*Love has come again,  
 like wheat that springs up green.*

3 Up he sprang at Easter,  
 like the risen grain,  
 he who for the three days  
 in the grave had lain,  
 raised from the dead  
 my living Lord is seen:  
*Love has come again, ...*

John Macleod Campbell Crum  
 (1872–1958) *alt.*

*The Gospel Acclamation*

Plainsong



Choir: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

All: **Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

Choir: *Live in me and let me live in you, says the Lord;  
 my branches bear much fruit.*

All: **Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

**The HOLY GOSPEL**

*John 15.1-8*

The Lord be with you,  
**And also with you.**

A reading from the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. John.  
**Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

'I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine-grower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you.

Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing.

Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.

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

**The Sermon:**      The Reverend Bill Crossman

## **The NICENE CREED**

**We believe in one God, the Father, the almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.  
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God, begotten, not made,  
of one being with the Father; through him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary  
and became truly human.  
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead  
and his kingdom will have no end.**



**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

## **THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

*Please pray for: Colin, Jarman, Phillip, Julia, Gwenda, Darrel, † David,  
Sophie, Fr. David, Michelle, Zoe and Merle.*

Let us pray for the world and for the church.

*The prayers are offered during which periods of silence may be kept.*

*The prayers conclude with the Lord's Prayer:*

Rejoicing in God's new creation, let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us,

**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 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.*

### OFFERTORY HYMN 394 (t.99)

Tune: RUSTINGTON

1. Christ is risen! Shout hosanna!  
Celebrate this day of days!  
Christ is risen! Hush in wonder:  
all creation is amazed.  
In the desert all-surrounding,  
see, a spreading tree has grown:  
healing leaves of grace abounding  
bring a taste of love unknown.
2. Christ is risen! Raise your spirits  
from the caverns of despair.  
Walk the gladness in the morning.  
See what love can do and dare.  
Drink the wine of resurrection,  
not a servant, but a friend.  
Jesus is our strong companion.  
Joy and peace shall never end.
3. Christ is risen! Earth and heaven  
nevermore shall be the same.  
Break the bread of new creation  
where the world is still in pain.  
Tell its grim, demonic chorus:  
'Christ is risen! Get you gone!'  
God the First and Last is with us.  
Sing Hosanna everyone!

Brian Arthur Wren (b.1936)

*The Prayer over the gifts*

Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation.  
Through your goodness we have these gifts to share.  
Accept and use our offerings for your glory  
and for the service of your kingdom.  
**Blessed be God for ever.**

## 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  
this 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 which is 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.**

### 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 (said at 7am, sung at 9am)*

**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

The gifts of God for the people of God.

Come let us take this holy sacrament of the body and blood of Christ in  
remembrance that he died for us, and feed on him in our hearts by faith  
with thanksgiving.

*Communicant Christians of other church traditions  
are invited also to receive Communion.*

## MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

ORGAN: *Expressions No.17 (Adoro te devote) - Naji Hakim (b.1955)*

CHOIR MOTET: *O taste and see - Ralph Vaughan Williams (1972-1958)*

*O taste and see how gracious the Lord is:  
blest is the man that trusteth in him.*

**Post-Communion Sentence** *(sung by the choir at 9am)* *John 15.5*

I am the vine and you are the branches says the Lord, alleluia.  
he who lives in me and I in him will bear much fruit. Alleluia, alleluia

Eternal God, giver of life,  
in the breaking of the bread we know the risen Lord.  
May we who celebrate this holy feast  
walk in his risen light and bring new life to all creation.

**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.**

**THANKSGIVING HYMN 96**

Tune: LAUDATE DOMINUM

- 1 Sing praise to the Lord! praise him in the height;  
rejoice in his word, you angels of light;  
all heaven adore him by whom you were made,  
and worship before him in brightness arrayed.
  
- 2 Sing praise to the Lord! praise him upon earth,  
in tuneful accord sing praise for new birth;  
praise him who has brought you his grace from above,  
praise him who has taught you to sing of his love.

- 3 Sing praise to the Lord, all things that give sound;  
each jubilant chord re-echo around;  
Loud organs, his glory tell forth in deep tone,  
and sweet harp, the story of what he has done.
- 4 Sing praise to the Lord! thanksgiving and song  
to him be outpoured all ages along;  
for love in creation, for heaven restored,  
for grace of salvation, sing praise to the Lord!

Henry William Baker 1821 - 77 *alt.*  
*Based on Psalm 148 & Psalm 150*

### THE BLESSING & DISMISSAL

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 amongst you and remain with you always.  
**Amen.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord, Alleluia!  
**In the name of Christ. Alleluia!**

ORGAN POSTLUDE: *Allegro maestoso (Sonata IV in Bb), op.65/4*  
*- Felix Mendelssohn (1809-47)*

*Today's Mass Setting: MATHIAS*

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*Services on **Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> May** (Sixth Sunday of Easter):*

*Holy Eucharist will be celebrated at 7 & 9am.*

*Preacher: The Rev'd. Bill Crossman*

*COVID-19 safe practices are still required before, during and after the services.*

*The Parish Office will be attended from 8.30am to 12pm*

*Monday to Friday.*

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