

**Holy Communion, 9.30am at Christ Church, 23 April 2023:
Third Sunday of Easter**

Welcome and gathering worship

Jesus Christ is risen from the dead; **Alleluia**
He has defeated the powers of death; **Alleluia**
Jesus turns our sorrow into dancing; **Alleluia**
He has the words of eternal life; **Alleluia**

Flames – *We pray for our children and their leaders as they go out.*

Song: See what a morning

We say sorry to God and one another

I love the Lord, for he heard my voice; he heard my cry for mercy. Because he turned his ear to me, I will call on him as long as I live. (*Psalms 116 vv 1,2*)

When the Lord comes, he will bring to light the things now hidden in darkness, and will disclose the purposes of the heart. Therefore in the light of Christ let us confess our sins.

We keep a short time of silence

Jesus Christ, risen Master and triumphant Lord, we come to you in sorrow for our sins, and confess to you our weakness and unbelief.

We have lived by our own strength, and not by the power of your resurrection.

We have lived by the light of our own eyes, as faithless and not believing.

We have lived for this world alone, and doubted our home in heaven.

In your mercy, forgive us. Lord, hear us and help us.

Prayer of forgiveness

For it is the God who said, “Let light shine out of darkness”, who has shone in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord, **Amen.**

The Lord is gracious and righteous; our God is full of compassion. The Lord protects the unwary; when I was brought low, he saved me. Return to your rest, my soul, for the Lord has been good to you. (Psalm 116 vv 5-7)

Praise Song: Praise to the Holiest in the height

Collect

Risen Christ, you filled your disciples with boldness and fresh hope: strengthen us to proclaim your risen life and fill us with your peace, to the glory of God the Father. Amen.

New Testament Reading

Acts 2:14a, 36-41

This is the word of the Lord; **Thanks be to God**

Song: Hosanna, hosanna

Gospel Reading

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. Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke; **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Luke 24:13-35

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

Sermon

Our belief

We say together in faith:

Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God almighty, who was, and is, and is to come.

We believe in God the Father, who created all things:

for by his will they were created and have their being.

We believe in God the Son, who was slain:

for with his blood, he purchased us for God, from every tribe and language, from every people and nation.

We believe in God the Holy Spirit:

the Spirit and the Bride say, 'Come!' Even so, come, Lord Jesus! Amen.

Prayers of intercession

(at the end) **Merciful Father, accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen**

The Peace

The two disciples told what had happened on the road to Emmaus, and how Jesus had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread. Alleluia.

The peace of the Lord be always with you; **and also with you.**

Offertory Hymn: O Perfect Love

The Communion

Father, by your Holy Spirit you keep the Church in unity and truth. As we break bread together, may we be one with Christ in faith and hope and love, now and for ever. **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.**

...while angels and archangels and the powers of all creation sing for ever the hymn of your glory:

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.

...So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did, in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice made once for all upon the cross.

Jesus Christ is Lord: **Lord, by your cross and resurrection you have set us free.**

You are the Saviour of the world.

...Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour taught us, so we 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. 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

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

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

Draw near with faith. Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ which he gave for you, eat and drink in remembrance that he died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

We share bread and wine together

During the sharing of communion there will be an opportunity for prayer for healing. If you would like prayer or a simple blessing then please move to the 'prayer place' to the left of the Holy Table where people are ready to pray with you.

Prayer after communion

Living God, your Son made himself known to his disciples in the breaking of bread:

**open the eyes of our faith, that we may see him in all his redeeming work; who is alive and reigns, now and for ever.
Amen**

Notices

Closing hymn: In Christ Alone

The Blessing and 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, rest upon you and remain with you and with all those you love and care for, this day and for ever. **Amen**

He is not here. He is risen. Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia.

In the name of Christ, Amen. Alleluia, alleluia.