

Welcome to Christ Church

Sunday 14th April 2024
The Third Sunday of Easter

We gather to worship

God of peace and justice

Come and stand among us today.

God of peace and justice

Bring Your healing and wholeness as we gather.

Remaining seated, we sing

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY IS THE LORD,

Holy is the Lord God Almighty.

Holy, holy, holy is the Lord,

Holy is the Lord God Almighty,

Who was and is and is to come,

Holy, holy, holy is the Lord.

Holy and Loving God, we praise you for calling us to be your people and gathering us together in the name of your only begotten Son.

Your mercy, your grace, your tenderness are only exceeded by your power and your glory and your love.

We sing

WORTHY, WORTHY, WORTHY IS THE LORD,

Worthy is the Lord God Almighty.

Worthy, worthy, worthy is the Lord,

Worthy is the Lord God Almighty,

Who was and is and is to come,

Worthy, worthy, worthy is the Lord.

May we hear your holy word as you intend us to hear it, and may we glorify Christ Jesus, your living Word, in all that we say and do, both now, and forever and ever.

We sing

GLORY, GLORY, GLORY TO THE LORD,

Glory to the Lord God Almighty.

Glory, glory, glory to the Lord,

Glory to the Lord God Almighty,

Who was and is and is to come,

Glory, glory, glory to the Lord.

Our young people and leaders leave for their own activities and time of worship.

Time to reflect and to say sorry

Lord, Jesus, You come to us when we are weak, Lord have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

You show us your love when we need it, Christ have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

You are with us everywhere we go, Lord have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Loving God, we cannot always make sense of Your purposes. But that doesn't mean You aren't at work.

The way may be hidden, the path may appear dark, but sometimes when You seem far off You are at Your most near.

Teach us, we pray, never to despair, however bleak it may seem.

When injustice seems all around and peace far off, help us to hear Your words of promise.

Forgive us when our journey is not humble, or faithful, or just.

Forgive us when we do not take heed of Your words.

Forgive us when we do not notice Your presence.

Forgive us when we don't recognise You working in our midst,

Forgive us when we fail to give glory to Your name.

Forgive us we pray!

A moment of silence for personal prayer

A prayer of Gratitude

Loving God, how thankful we are that You hear us when we call out to You.

When troubles come, You give us strength.

When our distress seems never-ending, You are our quiet centre.

When injustice rages, You offer Your peace.

When nights seem endless, You still our frightened hearts.

When we feel weak and lame, You raise us up to new life in You.

You put gladness in our hearts, You give us a hope and a future.

Song

HOW GREAT THE CHASM that lay between us

How high the mountain I could not climb

In desperation, I turned to heaven

And spoke Your name into the night

Then through the darkness, Your loving-kindness

Tore through the shadows of my soul

The work is finished, the end is written

Jesus Christ, my living hope

Who could imagine so great a mercy?

What heart could fathom such boundless grace?

The God of ages stepped down from glory

To wear my sin and bear my shame

The cross has spoken, I am forgiven

The King of kings calls me His own

Beautiful Savior, I'm Yours forever

Jesus Christ, my living hope

Hallelujah, praise the One who set me free

Hallelujah, death has lost its grip on me

You have broken every chain

There's salvation in Your name

*Jesus Christ, my living hope
Hallelujah, praise the One who set me free
Hallelujah, death has lost its grip on me
You have broken every chain
There's salvation in Your name
Jesus Christ, my living hope*

Then came the morning that sealed the promise
Your buried body began to breathe
Out of the silence, the Roaring Lion
Declared the grave has no claim on me
Then came the morning that sealed the promise
Your buried body began to breathe
Out of the silence, the Roaring Lion
Declared the grave has no claim on me
Jesus, Yours is the victory, whoa!

*Hallelujah, praise the One who set me free
Hallelujah, death has lost its grip on me
You have broken every chain
There's salvation in Your name
Jesus Christ, my living hope*

*Hallelujah, praise the One who set me free
Hallelujah, death has lost its grip on me
You have broken every chain
There's salvation in Your name
Jesus Christ, my living hope*

Jesus Christ, my living hope
Oh God, You are my living hope

This time tomorrow

First Reading

Luke 24:36b-48 (Jesus with the disciples after the return from Emmaus)

Ending with: This is the Word of the Lord.

Songs

BLESS THE LORD, MY SOUL,

And bless God's holy name.

Bless the Lord, my soul,

Who leads me into life.

BREATHE ON ME, Spirit of Jesus.

Breathe on me, Holy Spirit of God.

Fill me again, Spirit of Jesus.

Fill me again, Holy Spirit of God.

Change my heart, Spirit of Jesus.

Change my heart, Holy Spirit of God.

Bring peace to the world, Spirit of Jesus.

Bring peace to the world, Holy Spirit of God.

Second Reading

Acts 3:12-17 (Peter just after the healing at the Beautiful Gate).

Ending with: This is the Word of the Lord.

Sermon

Hymn

LORD OF ALL HOPEFULNESS,

Lord of all joy,

Whose trust, ever child-like,

No cares could destroy;

Be there at our waking,

And give us, we pray,

Your bliss in our hearts, Lord,

At the break of the day,
Lord of all eagerness, Lord of all faith,
Whose strong hands were skilled
At the plane and the lathe;
Be there at our labours,
And give us, we pray,
Your strength in our hearts, Lord,
At the noon of the day.

Lord of all kindness, Lord of all grace,
Your hands swift to welcome,
Your arms to embrace;
Be there at our homing,
And give us, we pray,
Your love in our hearts, Lord,
At the eve of the day.

Lord of all gentleness, Lord of all calm,
Whose voice is contentment,
Whose presence is balm;
Be there at our sleeping,
And give us, we pray,
Your peace in our hearts, Lord,
At the end of the day.

***Intercessions**, including the Church's Prayer for the Day*

Almighty Father, who in your great mercy gladdened the disciples with the sight of the risen Lord: give us such knowledge of his presence with us, that we may be strengthened and sustained by his risen life and serve you continually in righteousness and truth; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

And concluding with The Lord's Prayer

**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.**

Christ Church in action – our notices

Banns reading

Song

REJOICE! Rejoice!

Christ is in you,

The hope of glory

In our hearts.

He lives! He lives!

His breath is in you,

Arise a mighty army,

We arise.

Now is the time for us
To march upon the land,
Into our hands
He will give the ground we claim.
He rides in majesty
To lead us into victory,
The world shall see
That Christ is Lord!

God is at work in us
His purpose to perform,
Building a kingdom

Of power not of words,
Where things impossible,
By faith shall be made possible;
Let's give the glory
To Him now.

Though we are weak, His grace
Is everything we need;
We're made of clay
But this treasure is within.
He turns our weaknesses
Into His opportunities,
So that the glory
Goes to Him.

We go out as Christ's disciples

As we leave this place, may we keep in step with You, walking humbly, seeking justice, living faithfully, bringing Your peace and wholeness to a broken and unjust world.

So may God the Father, by whose glory Christ was raised from the dead, strengthen us to walk with him in his risen life.

Amen. Alleluia! Alleluia!