

Christ Church: Holy Communion Service 21st April 2024

Welcome and gathering worship

The Lord be with you; **and also with you.**

This is the day that the Lord has made; **We will rejoice and be glad in it**

Worship songs

WE HAVE COME INTO THIS PLACE

And gathered in His name to worship Him,

We have come into this place

And gathered in His name to worship Him,

We have come into this place

And gathered in His name

To worship Christ the Lord,

Worship Him, Christ the Lord.

So forget about yourself

And concentrate on Him and worship Him,

So forget about yourself

And concentrate on Him and worship Him,

So forget about yourself

And concentrate on Him

And worship Christ the Lord,

Worship Him, Christ the Lord.

He is all my righteousness,

I stand complete in Him and worship Him,

He is all my righteousness,

I stand complete in Him and worship Him,

He is all my righteousness,

I stand complete in Him

And worship Christ the Lord,

Worship Him, Christ the Lord.

Let us lift up holy hands

And magnify His name and worship Him,

Let us lift up holy hands

And magnify His name and worship Him,

Let us lift up holy hands
And magnify His name
And worship Christ the Lord,
Worship Him, Christ the Lord.

HE IS LORD, He is Lord,
He is risen from the dead
And He is Lord.
Every knee shall bow,
Every tongue confess
That Jesus Christ is Lord.

HIS NAME IS WONDERFUL

His name is wonderful,
Jesus, my Lord.
He is the mighty King,
Master of everything
His name is wonderful,
Jesus, my Lord.

He's the great Shepherd,
the Rock of all ages
Almighty God is He.
Bow down before Him
Love and adore Him
His name is wonderful,
Jesus, my Lord.

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

We prepare our hearts and confess our sins

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.

In your mercy, forgive us.

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

In your mercy, forgive us.

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

In your mercy, forgive us.

Prayer of forgiveness

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.**

Collect prayer for today

Risen Christ, faithful Shepherd of your Father's sheep: teach us to hear your voice and follow your command, that all your people may be gathered into one flock to the glory of God the Father. Amen

New Testament Reading

Acts 4:5-12. This is the word of the Lord; **Thanks be to God**

Gradual Hymn

JESUS, NAME ABOVE ALL NAMES,
Beautiful Saviour, Glorious Lord;
Emmanuel, God is with us,
Blessèd Redeemer, Living Word.

Gospel acclamation

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.

Gospel Reading

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John 10:11-18

Glory to you, O Lord.

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

Sermon

Hymn

THE LORD'S MY SHEPHERD, I'll not want.

He makes me lie in pastures green.

He leads me by the still, still waters,

His goodness restores my soul.

And I will trust in You alone.

And I will trust in You alone,

For Your endless mercy follows me,

Your goodness will lead me home.

(Descant)

I will trust, I will trust in You.

I will trust, I will trust in You.

Endless mercy follows me,

Goodness will lead me home.

He guides my ways in righteousness,

And He anoints my head with oil,

And my cup, it overflows with joy,

I feast on His pure delights.

And though I walk the darkest path,

I will not fear the evil one,

For You are with me, and Your rod and staff

Are the comfort I need to know.

Our belief

Let us declare our faith in God:

We believe in God the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named.

We believe in God the Son, who lives in our hearts through faith, and fills us with his love.

We believe in God the Holy Spirit, who strengthens us with power from on high.

We believe in one God; Father, Son and Holy Spirit. 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

To crown all things there must be love. Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts.

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

Offertory Hymn

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.

Worthy, worthy, worthy is ... (etc.)

Jesus, Jesus, Jesus is ... (etc.)

Glory, glory, glory to ... (etc.)

The Communion

Wise and gracious God, you spread a table before us; nourish your people with the word of life and the bread of heaven. **Amen.**

The Lord is here; **His Spirit is with us.**

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.**

It is right to praise you, Father, Lord of all creation; in your love you made us for yourself. When we turned away you did not reject us, but came to meet us in your Son.

You embraced us as your children and welcomed us to sit and eat with you.

In Christ you shared our life that we might live in him and he in us.

He opened his arms of love upon the cross and made for all the perfect sacrifice for sin.

On the night he was betrayed, at supper with his friends he took bread, and gave you thanks; he broke it and gave it to them, saying: Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.

Father, we do this in remembrance of him: his body is the bread of life.

At the end of supper, taking the cup of wine, he gave you thanks, and said: Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins; do this in remembrance of me.

Father, we do this in remembrance of him: his blood is shed for all.

As we proclaim his death and celebrate his rising in glory, send your Holy Spirit that this bread and this wine may be to us the body and blood of your dear Son. **As we eat and drink these holy gifts make us one in Christ, our risen Lord.**

With your whole Church throughout the world we offer you this sacrifice of praise and lift our voice to join the eternal song of heaven:

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

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.**

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 church where people are ready to pray with you.

Prayer after communion

Merciful Father,

You gave your Son Jesus Christ to be the Good Shepherd, and in his love for us to lay down his life and raise again: Keep us always under his protection and give us grace to follow in his steps; Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Our children share what they have learnt

Notices and Banns

Closing hymn

THE SPIRIT LIVES TO SET US FREE,

Walk, walk in the light;
He binds us all in unity,
Walk, walk in the light.

*Walk in the light,
Walk in the light,
Walk in the light,
Walk in the light of the Lord.*

Jesus promised life to all,
Walk, walk in the light;
The dead were wakened by His call,
Walk, walk in the light.

He died in pain on Calvary,
Walk, walk in the light;
To save the lost like you and me,
Walk, walk in the light.

We know His death was not the end,
Walk, walk in the light;
He gave His Spirit to be our friend,
Walk, walk in the light.

By Jesus' love our wounds are healed,
Walk, walk in the light;
The Father's kindness is revealed,
Walk, walk in the light.

The Spirit lives in you and me,
Walk, walk in the light;
His light will shine for all to see,
Walk, walk in the light.

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

He is risen indeed. Alleluia.

Praise the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

He has given us new life and hope.

He has raised Jesus from the dead.

God has claimed us as his own.

He has brought us out of darkness.

He has made us light to the world.

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

He is risen indeed. Alleluia.

Let us bless one another as we leave this building to live Christ's life in the world