

# St Matthew's – All Age Easter Communion

**10.45am Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024**

Service Leader & Preacher: Rev Jim Trood

**Happy Easter** - Welcome to St Matthew's. Please join us for tea or coffee after this service.

Today's service is an All Age Communion service. At the appropriate point in the service, and following the wardens' directions, please come forward to receive a blessing or communion. If it is your normal practice to receive bread and wine, you are welcome to receive it at St Matthew's. Some of our children have also been admitted to communion before confirmation and will receive the bread and the wine. For hygiene reasons we do not "dip" the bread in the wine but if you prefer just to receive the bread, that is perfectly acceptable.

Please place any financial gifts in the bags which will be passed around during our offertory song. If you prefer you may use the contactless machine at the back of church or donate via the church website.

## Hymn

**Thine be the glory**, risen, conquering Son  
Endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won  
Angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away  
Kept the folded grave-clothes where thy body lay.

*Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son  
Endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won.*

Lo! Jesus meets us, risen from the tomb  
Lovingly he greets us, scatters fear and gloom  
Let the Church with gladness hymns of triumph sing  
For her Lord now liveth; death hath lost its sting.

No more we doubt thee, glorious Prince of life  
Life is nought without thee; aid us in our strife  
Make us more than conquerors through thy deathless love  
Bring us safe through Jordan to thy home above.



## **Easter Shout**

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  
by raising Jesus from the dead.**

Alleluia. Christ is risen.  
**He is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

## **Welcome & Notices**



## **Song**

**See what a morning** gloriously bright  
With the dawning of hope in Jerusalem  
Folded the grave-clothes tomb filled with light  
As the angels announce Christ is risen  
See God's salvation plan wrought in love  
Borne in pain paid in sacrifice  
Fulfilled in Christ the Man for He lives  
Christ is risen from the dead

See Mary weeping where is He laid  
As in sorrow she turns from the empty tomb  
Hears a voice speaking calling her name  
It's the Master the Lord raised to life again  
The voice that spans the years  
Speaking life stirring hope bringing peace to us  
Will sound till He appears  
For He lives Christ is risen from the dead

One with the Father Ancient of Days  
Through the Spirit who clothes faith with certainty  
Honour and blessing glory and praise  
To the King crowned with pow'r and authority  
And we are raised with Him  
Death is dead love has won Christ has conquered  
And we shall reign with Him  
For He lives Christ is risen from the dead

## Saying Sorry

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.

**Lord, hear us and help us.**

We have lived by the light of our own eyes,  
as faithless and not believing.  
In your mercy, forgive us.

**Lord, hear us and help us.**

We have lived for this world alone,  
and doubted our home in heaven.  
In your mercy, forgive us.

**Lord, hear us and help us.**

## God Forgives

May the God of love and power  
forgive you and free you from your sins,  
heal and strengthen you by his Spirit,  
and raise you to new life in Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## The Easter story in 60 seconds

### Sung Worship

**Lord I lift your name on high**  
Lord I love to sing your praises  
I'm so glad you're in my life  
I'm so glad you came to save us.



You came from heaven to earth to show the way  
From the earth to the cross my debt to pay  
From the cross to the grave  
From the grave to the sky  
Lord I lift your name on high.

## **Who O Lord could save themselves**

Their own soul could heal  
Our shame was deeper than the sea  
Your grace is deeper still  
(REPEAT)



And You alone can rescue  
You alone can save  
You alone can lift us from the grave  
You came down to find us led us out of death  
To You alone belongs the highest praise

You O Lord have made a way  
The great divide You healed  
For when our hearts were far away  
Your love went further still  
Yes Your love goes further still

### *Bridge*

We lift up our eyes  
Lift up our eyes  
You're the giver of life  
We lift up our eyes  
Lift up our eyes  
You're the giver of life  
(REPEAT)

## Prayers



### **Collect** (Easter Day)

God of glory,  
by the raising of your Son  
you have broken the chains of death and hell:  
fill your Church with faith and hope;  
for a new day has dawned  
and the way to life stands open  
in our Saviour Jesus Christ.

**Amen.**

## **Bible Reading** Mark 16: 1-8

*[Please stand]*

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark,  
Chapter 16, Verses 1 to 8.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**



**16** When the Sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices so that they might go to anoint Jesus' body. <sup>2</sup>Very early on the first day of the week, just after sunrise, they were on their way to the tomb <sup>3</sup>and they asked each other, 'Who will roll the stone away from the entrance of the tomb?'

<sup>4</sup>But when they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had been rolled away. <sup>5</sup>As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man dressed in a white robe sitting on the right side, and they were alarmed.

<sup>6</sup>'Don't be alarmed,' he said. 'You are looking for Jesus the Nazarene, who was crucified. He has risen! He is not here. See the place where they laid him. <sup>7</sup>But go, tell his disciples and Peter, "He is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him, just as he told you."'"

<sup>8</sup>Trembling and bewildered, the women went out and fled from the tomb. They said nothing to anyone, because they were afraid.

*(At the end)*

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Talk** (Rev Jim)



## **Affirmation of Faith**

*(getting quieter)*

Equal with God:

**Jesus is Lord**

Emptied himself:

**Jesus is Lord**

Came as a slave:

**Jesus is Lord**

Found as a man:

**Jesus is Lord**

Humbly obeyed:

**Jesus is Lord**

Went to his death:

**Jesus is Lord**

Death on a cross:

**Jesus is Lord**

*(getting louder)*

God raised him up:

**Jesus is Lord**

Gave him the name:

**Jesus is Lord**

Higher than all:

**Jesus is Lord**

Every knee bow:

**Jesus is Lord**

All tongues confess:

**Jesus is Lord**

## **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 Lord be always with you,  
**And also with you.**

## Offertory Song

**There is a redeemer**

Jesus, God's own Son,  
Precious lamb of God, Messiah,  
Holy one.



Thank you, O my Father,  
For giving us your Son,  
And leaving your Spirit  
Till the work on earth is done.

Jesus my redeemer,  
Name above all names,  
Precious lamb of God, Messiah,  
O for sinners slain.

When I stand in glory  
I will see his face.  
And there I'll serve my King for ever,  
In that holy place.

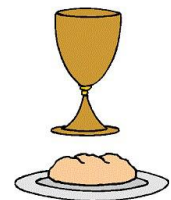
## Offertory Prayer



## Communion (Eucharistic Prayer – adapted for Easter)

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.**

Lord of all life, you created the universe, where all living things  
reflect your glory. You give us this great and beautiful earth, to  
discover and to cherish.



You give us happy times and things to celebrate. In these we taste your kingdom, a feast for all your children. You made us all, each wonderfully different, to join with the angels and sing your praise:

**How great is our God, sing with me,  
How great is our God  
and all will see how great,  
How great is our God *(repeat)***

We thank you, loving Father, because, when we turned away, you sent Jesus, your Son. He gave his life for us on the cross and shows us the way to live.

Send your Holy Spirit that these gifts of bread and wine may be for us Christ's body and his blood.

On the night before he died, when darkness had fallen, Jesus took bread. He gave thanks, broke it, and shared it with his disciples, saying: 'This is my body, given for you. Do this to remember me.'

After they had eaten, he took the cup of wine, gave thanks, and shared it with his disciples, saying: 'This is my blood, poured out for you and for many, for the forgiveness of sins.'

So Father, with this bread and this cup we celebrate his love, his death, his risen life. As you feed us with these gifts, send your Holy Spirit, and change us more and more to be like Jesus our Saviour.

Help us, Father, to love one another, as we look forward to that day when suffering is ended, and all creation is gathered in your loving arms.

And now with all your saints we give you glory, through Jesus Christ, in the strength of the Spirit, today and for 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.**



Every time we eat this bread  
and drink this cup,  
**we proclaim the Lord's death  
until he comes.**

God's holy gifts for God's holy people.  
**Jesus Christ is holy,  
Jesus Christ is Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father.**

***Communion is distributed.***

***Please note – dipping the wafer in the wine is not allowed.***

***Prayer ministry is available.***

## **Songs during Communion**

**There is no greater love**  
Than how you died for us  
So we may walk with you;  
There is no greater love.



There is no greater cost  
Than dying on a cross  
Drawing our hearts to you;  
There is no greater cost

Jesus we give you praise,  
Glorify your name,  
For your love has overcome the darkness.  
Jesus we give you praise,  
Glorify your name,  
For your love has overcome the grave!

**Here is bread, here is wine**  
Christ is with us, he is with us  
Break the bread, drink the wine  
Christ is with us here



Here is grace, here is peace  
Christ is with us, he is with us  
Know his grace, find his peace  
Feast on Jesus here

In this bread there is healing  
In this cup there's life forever  
In this moment, by the Spirit  
Christ is with us here

Here we are, joined in one  
Christ is with us, he is with us  
We'll proclaim, till he comes  
Jesus crucified

## **Jesus Christ, I think upon Your sacrifice:**

You became nothing, poured out to death.  
Many times I've wondered at Your gift of life,  
And I'm in that place once again,  
I'm in that place once again.



And once again I look upon the cross where You died:  
I'm humbled by Your mercy and I'm broken inside,  
Once again I thank You,  
Once again I pour out my life.

Now You are exalted to the highest place -  
King of the heavens, where one day I'll bow,  
But for now, I marvel at this saving grace,  
And I'm full of praise once again,  
I'm full of praise once again.

### *Bridge*

Thank you for the cross.  
Thank you for the cross.  
Thank you for the cross, my friend. *(repeat)*

## **Post Communion Prayer**

Father of all,  
we thank you that you have shared this feast of your kingdom  
with all peoples  
and have united all races  
in your Son Jesus Christ:  
may the unity we have known here  
give us a joyful anticipation of the fullness of life  
to which you call us;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
**Amen.**



## **Song**

### **The greatest day in history**

Death is beaten You have rescued me  
Sing it out Jesus is alive  
The empty cross the empty grave  
Life eternal You have won the day  
Shout it out Jesus is alive, He's alive



And oh happy day happy day  
You washed my sin away  
Oh happy day happy day  
I'll never be the same  
Forever I am changed

When I stand in that place  
Free at last meeting face to face  
I am Yours Jesus You are mine  
Endless joy perfect peace  
Earthly pain finally will cease  
Celebrate Jesus is alive, He's alive

#### *Bridge*

Oh what a glorious day  
What a glorious way  
That You have saved me  
And oh what a glorious day  
What a glorious name

## **Closing Words and Blessing**

May Christ,  
who out of defeat brings new hope and a new future,  
fill you with his new life;  
And the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always.  
**Amen.**



Go in the peace of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.  
**Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**