

St Matthew's – All Age Easter Communion

10.45am Sunday 31st 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**



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**



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
- Who O Lord could save themselves



Prayers



Collect

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



[Please stand]

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

(At the end)

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

Talk



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



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

Offertory Prayer



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.'

Communion

The Lord is here.

His Spirit is with us.



Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

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.'

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give thanks and praise.

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.

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)**

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.**

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.

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
- Here is bread, here is wine
- Jesus Christ, I think upon Your sacrifice:



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



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.