

**THE PARISH EUCHARIST**  
**Second Sunday of Easter**

## Welcome to St John's for this Service.

During these 50 days of Easter we rejoice in the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. Throughout the world Christians celebrate the awesome power of God. As we hear his word and proclaim all that God has done, we can be confident that we shall share his victory over death and know eternal life in him.

During these days of uncertainty, anxiety, and, for many, darkness we pray that the light of the risen Christ may bring peace, comfort, reassurance, and guidance.

You might like to light a candle before the Service and place it on a table to remind you of the light of the risen Christ shining among us.

We hope you will be able to join in with the Hymns and everything that is in **bold** type. Whether this is your first time in St John's, or you are a regular member of the congregation, you are most welcome. All the music for today's service, including the Mass setting can be found at <https://stjohnsboxmoor.org.uk/easter-2-resources/>

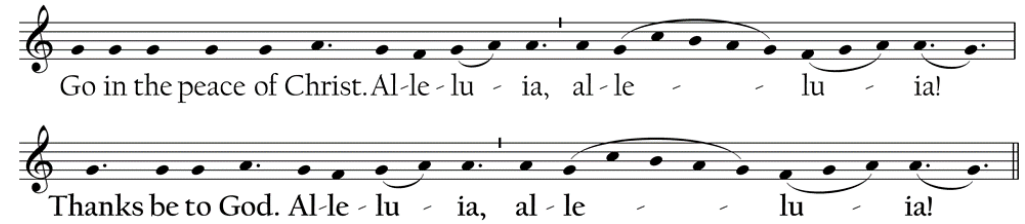
The posture directions in this order of service are optional. Please stand, sit, or kneel as you prefer. A collection is normally received during the service. Due to the restrictions this is not possible. You might like to set aside your gift and bring it when the restrictions have lifted. UK tax payers are encouraged to complete a GiftAid envelope to enhance the value of your giving.

During these 50 days of Easter, if you are passing St John's on your daily walk,  
you might like to place flowers on the large cross outside church  
- perhaps in memory of a loved one.

Let us show the community which we love and serve  
that Christ and his Church are alive and kicking!

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## The Dismissal



***Our worship has ended; let our service begin.  
Thanks be to God!***

During these days of Easter you might like to place flowers  
on the large cross outside Church  
- perhaps in memory of a loved one.

*All remain seated or kneeling to say*

### **The Prayer after Communion**

**Almighty God,  
we thank you for feeding us  
with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ.  
Through him we offer you our souls and bodies to be a living sacrifice.  
Send us out in the power of your Spirit  
to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen.**

## **THE GATHERING**

*A period of quiet prayer precedes the service.*

### **A Hymn is sung**

The day of resurrection!  
earth, tell it out abroad;  
the Passover of gladness,  
the Passover of God;  
from death to life eternal,  
from earth unto the sky,  
our God hath brought us over  
with hymns of victory.

Our hearts be pure from evil,  
that we may see aright  
the Lord in rays eternal  
of resurrection-light;  
and, listening to his accents,  
may hear so calm and plain  
his own 'All hail,' and, hearing,  
may raise the victor strain.

Now let the heavens be joyful,  
and earth her song begin,  
the round world keep high triumph,  
and all that is therein;  
let all things seen and unseen  
their notes of gladness blend,  
for Christ the Lord is risen,  
our joy that hath no end.

*Ellacombe 75 AMNS*

## **THE DISMISSAL**

### **The Blessing**

Alleluia! Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**He is risen indeed. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

The God of peace,  
who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus,  
that great shepherd of the sheep,  
through the blood of the eternal covenant,  
make you perfect in every good work to do his will,  
working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight;  
and the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always.

**Amen.**

*All sing*

### **The Final Hymn**

Now is eternal life,  
if ris'n with Christ we stand,  
in him to life reborn,  
and holden in his hand;  
no more we fear death's ancient dread,  
in Christ arisen from the dead.

Man long in bondage lay,  
brooding o'er life's brief span;  
was it, O God, for naught,  
for naught, thou madest man?  
Thou art our hope, our vital breath;  
shall hope undying end in death?

And God, the living God,  
stooped down to man's estate;  
by death destroying death,  
Christ opened wide life's gate.  
He lives, who died; he reigns on high;  
who lives in him shall never die.

Unfathomed love divine,  
reign thou within my heart;  
from thee nor depth nor height,  
nor life nor death can part;  
my life is hid in God with thee,  
now and through all eternity.

*Christchurch 402 AMNS*

### **The Greeting**

In the name of the Father,  
and of the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

Alleluia! Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**He is risen indeed. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

All kneel or remain seated for

### Prayer of Preparation

As the Lord welcomes us into his presence, we pray together:

**Almighty God,  
to whom all hearts are open,  
all desires known,  
and from whom no secrets are hidden:  
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts  
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,  
that we may perfectly love you,  
and worthily magnify your holy name;  
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

### Prayers of Penitence

Christ our passover lamb has been sacrificed for us.  
Let us therefore rejoice by putting away all malice and evil  
and confessing our sins with a sincere and true heart.

*1 Corinthians 5:7,8*

**Almighty God, our heavenly Father,  
we have sinned against you  
and against our neighbour  
in thought and word and deed,  
through negligence, through weakness,  
through our own deliberate fault.  
We are truly sorry  
and repent of all our sins.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
who died for us,  
forgive us all that is past  
and grant that we may serve you in newness of life  
to the glory of your name. Amen.**

### Absolution

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.**

### A Prayer to receive Spiritual Communion

**In union, O Lord, with the faithful at every Altar of thy Church  
where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated,  
I desire to offer you praise and thanksgiving.  
I present to you my soul and body  
with the earnest wish that I may always be united to you.  
And since I cannot now receive you sacramentally,  
I beseech you to come spiritually into my heart.  
I unite myself with you, and embrace you with all the affections of my soul.  
Let nothing ever separate you from me.  
May I live and die in your love. Amen.**

### Communion Hymn

Be still, for the presence of the Lord,  
the Holy One, is here;  
come, bow before him  
now with reverence and fear:  
in him no sin is found  
we stand on holy ground.  
Be still, for the presence of the Lord,  
the Holy One, is here.

Be still, for the glory of the Lord  
is shining all around;  
he burns with holy fire,  
with splendour he is crowned:  
how awesome is the sight -  
our radiant King of light!  
Be still, for the glory of the Lord  
is shining all around.

Be still, for the power of the Lord  
is moving in this place:  
he comes to cleanse and heal,  
to minister his grace.  
No work too hard for him,  
in faith receive from him.  
Be still, for the power of the Lord  
is moving in this place.

*Be Still 358 AM*

### The Anthem

This joyful Eastertide,  
away with sin and sorrow!  
My Love, the Crucified,  
hath sprung to life this morrow.

*Had Christ, that once was slain,  
ne'er burst his three-day prison,  
our faith had been in vain:  
but now hath Christ arisen.*

My flesh in hope shall rest,  
and for a season slumber:  
till trump from east to west  
shall wake the dead in number.

Death's flood hath lost his chill,  
since Jesus crossed the river:  
Lover of souls, from ill  
my passing soul deliver.

*arr Charles Wood (1866–1926)*

*All sit and kneel to say*

### **The Lord's Prayer**

As our Saviour has taught us,  
so we are bold to 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.**

Let us pray with confidence as our  
Saviour has taught us:

**Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name;  
thy kingdom come;  
thy will be done;  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass  
against us.  
And lead us not into temptation;  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
the power and the glory,  
for ever and ever. Amen.**

### **The Breaking of the Bread**

Alleluia! Alleluia! Christ our passover is sacrificed for us.  
**Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia. Alleluia!**

### **The Giving of Communion**

Jesus is the Lamb of God  
who takes away the sin of the world.  
Blessed are those  
who are called to his supper.  
**Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,  
but only say the word,  
and I shall be healed.**

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

*All remain kneeling or seated. All sing, after the Choir have sung it through once,*

### **Agnus Dei**

♪ **Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: grant us peace.**

*All stand to give praise to God for the resurrection of his Son, as we sing*

### **The Gloria**

♪ **Glory to God, Glory to God,  
Glory to God in the highest. (\* Repeated as a refrain)**  
**Glory to God in the Highest, and peace to his people on earth.  
Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,  
we worship you, we give you thanks,  
we praise you for your glory. \***  
**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,  
Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world:  
have mercy on us;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:  
receive our prayer. \***  
**For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father. \***  
[Amen.]

### **The Collect**

*Following a moment of quiet, a special Prayer for the Day is said.*

Almighty Father,  
you have given your only Son to die for our sins  
and to rise again for our justification:  
grant us so to put away the leaven of malice and wickedness  
that we may always serve you  
in pureness of living and truth;  
through the merits of the same your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

**Amen.**



## THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

### Bible Readings

*All sit for the Reading(s). At the end the reader may say:*

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them: 'Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. You that are Israelites, listen to what I have to say: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with deeds of power, wonders, and signs that God did through him among you, as you yourselves know— this man, handed over to you according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of those outside the law. But God raised him up, having freed him from death, because it was impossible for him to be held in its power. For David says concerning him,

"I saw the Lord always before me,  
for he is at my right hand so that I will not be shaken;  
therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced;  
moreover, my flesh will live in hope.  
For you will not abandon my soul to Hades,  
or let your Holy One experience corruption.  
You have made known to me the ways of life;  
you will make me full of gladness with your presence."

'Fellow Israelites, I may say to you confidently of our ancestor David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. Since he was a prophet, he knew that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would put one of his descendants on his throne. Foreseeing this, David spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, saying,

"He was not abandoned to Hades,  
nor did his flesh experience corruption."

This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are witnesses.

*Acts 2: 14, 22–32*

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

A reading from the first letter of St Peter.

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. In

♪ **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.**

We praise and bless you, loving Father,  
through Jesus Christ, our Lord;  
and as we obey his command,  
send your Holy Spirit,  
that broken bread and wine outpoured  
may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

On the night before he died he had supper with his friends  
and, taking bread, he praised you.

He broke the bread, gave it to them, and said:

Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;  
do this in remembrance of me.

When supper was ended he took the cup of wine.

Again he praised you, gave it to them, and said:

Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant,  
which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.  
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

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

Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation,  
we proclaim his death and resurrection until he comes in glory.

Great is the mystery of faith:    or    Praise to you, Lord Jesus:  
**Christ has died:**                                **Dying you destroyed our death,**  
**Christ is risen:**                                **rising you restored our life:**  
**Christ will come again.**                       **Lord Jesus, come in glory.**

Lord of all life, help us to work together for that day  
when your kingdom comes and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth.  
Look with favour on your people,  
gather us in your loving arms  
and bring us with [N and] all the saints to feast at your table in heaven.  
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 LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

### The Peace

Alleluia! Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**He is risen indeed. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

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!

*St John 20: 19–20*

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

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

*All may exchange a sign of peace.*

### The Preparation of the Table

Be present, be present, Lord Jesus Christ, our risen high priest;  
make yourself known to us in the breaking of bread. **Amen.**

### The Eucharistic Prayer

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.**

*These or similar words are said or sung:*

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,  
always and everywhere to give you thanks,  
almighty and eternal Father,  
and in these days of Easter to celebrate with joyful hearts  
the memory of your wonderful works.  
For by the mystery of his passion  
Jesus Christ, your risen Son,  
has conquered the powers of death and hell  
and restored in men and women the image of your glory.  
He has placed them once more in paradise  
and opened to them the gate of life eternal.  
And so, in the joy of this Passover,  
earth and heaven resound with gladness,  
while angels and archangels  
and the powers of all creation  
sing for ever the hymn of your glory.



this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, so that the genuineness of your faith—being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honour when Jesus Christ is revealed. Although you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

*1 St Peter 1: 3–9*

*All stand to sing*

### The Gradual Hymn

The Lord is risen indeed:  
now is his work performed;  
now is the mighty captive freed,  
and death's strong castle stormed.

The Lord is risen indeed:  
he lives, to die no more;  
he lives, the sinner's cause to plead,  
whose curse and shame he bore.

The Lord is risen indeed:  
then hell has lost his prey;  
with him is risen the ransomed seed  
to reign in endless day.

The Lord is risen indeed:  
attending angels, hear!  
up to the courts of heaven with speed  
the joyful tidings bear.

Then take your golden lyres,  
and strike each cheerful chord;  
join, all ye bright celestial choirs,  
to sing our risen Lord.

*St Michael 84 AMNS*

### The Gospel

*All turn to where the Gospel is proclaimed.*

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.

*cf Revelation 1.17,18*

**Alleluia!**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St John.

♪ **Glory to you, O Lord.**

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.' When he had said this, he breathed on them and said

to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.'

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, 'We have seen the Lord.'

But he said to them, 'Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.'

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' Then he said to Thomas, 'Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.' Thomas answered him, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him, 'Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.'

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

*St John 20: 19–end*

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

♪ **Praise to you, O Christ.**

### *The Sermon*

*All stand to say*

### **The Creed**

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.**

*All sit or kneel for*

### **The Prayers of Intercession**

Father, we thank you for the Resurrection of your Son. As the Apostles proclaimed the Good News of the Resurrection, inspire, we pray, the Church to make that same Good News known to all people. We pray especially for the

witness of your Church here in this Parish: come with power among us and confirm our faith.

Lord in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

Father, break through, we pray, the barriers that close our human hearts against your love; where there is fear bring hope, where there is doubt bring faith, where there is hatred bring love. Let all people understand their true inheritance through grace.

Lord in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

Father, by the power of your Spirit, make us your witnesses to others, bringing news of the Risen Christ to our families and friends, our neighbours and colleagues despite the social restrictions in place at this time. May the peace of your presence spread through our community.

Lord in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

Father, have mercy on all who cannot grasp the reality of your love for them: for all who have wandered away from you, for all whose faith is being tested at this time. Give confidence to those who are constrained by doubt and fear and bring them your joy in believing.

Lord in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

Father, may the light of the Risen Christ's presence bring comfort and strength to the sick, the weak, and the dying. We pray for all named on our Newsletter, for all who are sick in hospital, and for all who care for them. And we give thanks for those who have been restored to health and wholeness.

Lord in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

Father, we give thanks for those who held the faith through the trials of this world and have received their salvation, resting in the peace where wounds are healed and all doubts dispelled. We remember those who have died recently and named in our Newsletter; for those who died alone or unprepared; for those whose anniversary of death occurs at this time.

Lord in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

In a moment of quiet let us bring our own prayers and praises before the throne of heavenly grace.

*A time of quiet is kept.*

Confident that we do not pray alone, but in communion with all the saints and martyrs, we offer these our prayers saying, merciful Father,

**accept these prayers  
for the sake of your Son,  
our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**