

**THE PARISH EUCHARIST**  
**Third 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/suspended-services-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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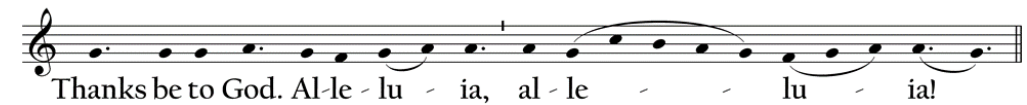
While we his soldiers praise our King,  
his mercy we implore,  
within his palace bright to bring  
and keep us evermore.

All glory to the Father be,  
all glory to the Son,  
all glory, Holy Ghost, to thee,  
while endless ages run.

Alleluia. Amen.

*St Fulbert 73 AMNS*

## 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.

Neither might the gates of death, nor the tomb's dark portal, (Alleluia!)  
nor the watchers, nor the seal, hold Thee as a mortal: (Alleluia!)  
but today amidst the twelve, Thou didst stand, bestowing (Alleluia!)  
that Thy peace which evermore passeth human knowing. (Alleluia!)

*R S Thatcher (1888–1957)*

*Words by St John Damascene, translated by J M Neale*

*All 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 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

Ye choirs of new Jerusalem  
your sweetest notes employ,  
the paschal victory to hymn  
in strains of holy joy.

For Judah's Lion bursts his chains,  
crushing the serpent's head;  
and cries aloud through death's domains  
to wake the imprisoned dead.

Devouring depths of hell their prey  
at his command restore;  
his ransomed hosts pursue their way  
where Jesus goes before.

Triumphant in his glory now  
to him all power is given;  
to him in one communion bow  
all saints in earth and heaven.

*A period of quiet prayer precedes the service.*

### 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!**

### A Hymn is sung

The strife is o'er, the battle done;  
now is the Victor's triumph won;  
O let the song of praise be sung:  
Alleluia!

Death's mightiest powers have done their worst,  
and Jesus hath his foes dispersed;  
let shouts of praise and joy outburst:  
Alleluia!

On the third morn he rose again  
glorious in majesty to reign;  
O let us swell the joyful strain:  
Alleluia!

Lord, by the stripes which wounded thee  
from death's dread sting thy servants free,  
that we may live, and sing to thee  
Alleluia!

*Gelobt sei Gott 78 AMNS*

*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**

How deep the Father's love for us, how vast beyond all measure, that he should give his only Son to make a wretch his treasure. How great the pain of searing loss; the Father turns his face away, as wounds which mar the chosen One bring many souls to glory.	Behold the man upon a cross, my sin upon his shoulders; ashamed, I hear my mocking voice call out among the scoffers. It was my sin that held him there until it was accomplished; his dying breath has brought me life - I know that 'it is finished.'
--	--

I will not boast in anything,  
no gifts, no power, no wisdom;  
but I will boast in Jesus Christ,  
his death and resurrection.  
Why should I gain from his reward?  
I cannot give an answer;  
but this I know with all my heart,  
his wounds have paid my ransom.

*144 AM*

### **The Anthem**

Come, ye faithful, raise the strain of triumphant gladness;  
God has brought his Israel into joy from sadness;  
'tis the Spring of Souls today, Christ hath burst his prison,  
and from three days sleep in death as a Sun hath risen.

Now the Queen of seasons bright with the day of splendour,  
with the royal feast of feasts, comes its joy to render;  
comes to glad Jerusalem, who with true affection  
welcomes in unwearied strains Jesu's Resurrection.

*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,  
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 the same 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.**



## THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

*All sit for the*

### Bible Readings

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd: 'Let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified.' Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, 'Brothers, what should we do?' Peter said to them, 'Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him.' And he testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, 'Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.' So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added.

*Acts 2: 14a, 36–41*

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

A reading from the first letter of St Peter.

If you invoke as Father the one who judges all people impartially according to their deeds, live in reverent fear during the time of your exile. You know that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold, but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish. He was destined before the foundation of the world, but was revealed at the end of the ages for your sake. Through him you have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are set on God. Now that you have purified your souls by your obedience to the truth so that you have genuine mutual love, love one another deeply from the heart. You have been born anew, not of perishable but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God.

*1 St Peter 1: 17–23*

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

♪ **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:
<b>Christ has died:</b>		<b>Dying you destroyed our death,</b>
<b>Christ is risen:</b>		<b>rising you restored our life:</b>
<b>Christ will come again.</b>		<b>Lord Jesus, come in glory.</b>

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.



*All stand to sing*

### The Gradual Hymn

Jesus lives! thy terrors now  
can, O Death, no more appal us;  
Jesus lives! by this we know  
thou, O grave, canst not enthrall us.  
*Alleluia!*

Jesus lives! henceforth is death  
but the gate of life immortal;  
this shall calm our trembling breath,  
when we pass its gloomy portal.

Jesus lives! for us he died;  
then, alone to Jesus living,  
pure in heart may we abide,  
glory to our Saviour giving.

Jesus lives! our hearts know well  
nought from us his love shall sever;  
life, nor death, nor powers of hell  
tear us from his keeping ever.

Jesus lives! to him the throne  
over all the world is given;  
may we go where he is gone,  
rest and reign with him in heaven.

*St Albinus 82 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 Luke

♪ **Glory to you, O Lord.**

On that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. And he said to them, ‘What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?’ They stood still, looking sad. Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, ‘Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?’ He asked them, ‘What things?’ They replied, ‘The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the



tomb early this morning, and when they did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but they did not see him.' Then he said to them, 'Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?' Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.

As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. But they urged him strongly, saying, 'Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over.' So he went in to stay with them. When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. They said to each other, 'Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?' That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. They were saying, 'The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!' Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

*St Luke 24: 13–35*

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 continue to rejoice in the resurrection of your Son and the life and forgiveness he brings. Help us in these days of National Emergency to be resolute in faith, active in service, and joyful in witness.

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

We pray that your Church, his body here on earth, may be faithful in sharing and living his risen life in every community. We pray especially for your blessing on our witness to the peoples of this Parish. May we bring life, light, and love to this community.

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

Father, as the eyes, hearts, and minds of the disciples were opened when the risen Christ was made known through the breaking of the bread, open our eyes to recognise Christ in the broken bread on the Altar, in the pages of Scripture, and in the lives of those around us. May the Lord set our hearts on fire with love for him. Although we are unable to receive him in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar at this time may our risen Lord still come to hearts and give us peace, strength, and encouragement.

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, have mercy on all whose days on earth are now over and who now rest in Christ. We remember with thanksgiving those who have died recently and are named on our Newsletter; for those who died alone or unprepared; for those whose anniversary of death occurs at this time. May they all share in the glory of your eternal city where death is no more.

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.**