



## PATRONAL FESTIVAL EUCCHARIST

SUNDAY 10 MAY 2020  
9.30am

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

Today, although we are unable to celebrate together in our Parish Church dedicated to God's glory in the name of St John the Evangelist, we give thanks to God for all who have built, adorned, and worshipped in our church before us. For the first time in 8 weeks the Eucharist will once again be offered at the High Altar.

During the Eucharist we continue to rejoice in the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead and in the example and contribution St John has made on the life of the Church, our own lives, and the life of this community. As we hear God's word and proclaim all that God has done, we can be confident that we shall share Christ's 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!

***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.

## THE DISMISSAL

### The Blessing

Alleluia! Alleluia! Christ is risen.

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

Grace from the eternal Father be with you;  
Grace from the Word made flesh be with you;  
Grace from the Spirit of truth be with you;  
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

O praise ye the Lord!  
praise him in the height;  
rejoice in his word,  
ye angels of light;  
ye heavens adore him  
by whom ye were made,  
and worship before him,  
in brightness arrayed.

O praise ye the Lord!  
praise him upon earth,  
in tuneful accord,  
ye sons of new birth;  
praise him who has brought you  
his grace from above,  
praise him who has taught you  
to sing of his love.

O praise ye the Lord!  
all things that give sound;  
each jubilant chord,  
re-echo around;  
loud organs, his glory  
forth tell in deep tone,  
and, sweet harp, the story  
of what he has done.

O praise ye the Lord!  
thanksgiving and song  
to him be outpoured  
all ages along:  
for love in creation,  
for heaven restored,  
for grace of salvation,  
O praise ye the Lord! Amen, Amen.

*Laudate Dominum 427 NEH*

### The Dismissal



## THE GATHERING

*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

Hark! the sound of holy voices,  
chanting at the crystal sea,  
alleluia, alleluia,  
alleluia, Lord, to thee:  
Multitude, which none can number,  
like the stars in glory stands,  
clothed in white apparel, holding  
palms of victory in their hands.

Patriarch and holy prophet,  
who prepared the way of Christ,  
King, apostle, saint, confessor,  
martyr and evangelist,  
saintly maiden, godly matron,  
widows who have watched to prayer,  
joined in holy concert, singing  
to the Lord of all, are there.

Now they reign in heavenly glory,  
now they walk in golden light,  
now they drink, as from a river,  
holy bliss and infinite;  
love and peace they taste for ever,  
and all truth and knowledge see  
in the beatific vision  
of the blessed Trinity.

God of God, the One-begotten,  
Light of Light, Emmanuel,  
in whose body joined together  
all the saints for ever dwell;  
pour upon us of thy fullness,  
that we may for evermore  
God the Father, God the Son and  
God the Holy Ghost adore. Amen.

*Deerhurst 226 NEH*

### **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**

Hear what St John says:

“If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.  
If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just, and will forgive us our sins,  
and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.”

Therefore, in the light of the Risen Christ, let us confess our sins.

*1 St John 1: 8–9*

**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.**

Alleluia, bread of angels,  
thou on earth our food, our stay;  
alleluia, here the sinful  
flee to thee from day to day:  
Intercessor, Friend of sinners,  
earth's Redeemer, plead for me,  
where the songs of all the sinless  
sweep across the crystal sea.

Alleluia, King eternal,  
thee the Lord of lords we own;  
alleluia, born of Mary,  
earth thy footstool, heaven thy throne:  
thou within the veil hast entered,  
robed in flesh, our great High Priest;  
thou on earth both Priest and Victim  
in the Eucharistic Feast.

*Hyfrydol 271 NEH*

### **The Anthem**

This is the truth sent from above,  
the truth of God, the God of love;  
therefore don't turn me from your door,  
but hearken all both rich and poor.

And at that season of the year  
our blest Redeemer did appear;  
he here did live, and here did preach,  
and many thousands he did teach.

Thus he in love to us behaved,  
to show us how we must be saved;  
and if you want to know the way,  
be pleased to hear what he did say.

*Herefordshire carol*

*arranged by Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872–1958)*

### **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 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**

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 he died for you,  
and feed on him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

*All remain seated or kneeling to sing after the choir*

### **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.**

### **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**

Alleluia, sing to Jesus!  
his the sceptre, his the throne;  
alleluia, his the triumph,  
his the victory alone:  
hark, the songs of peaceful Sion  
thunder like a mighty flood;  
Jesus out of every nation  
hath redeemed us by his blood.

Alleluia, not as orphans  
are we left in sorrow now;  
alleluia, he is near us,  
faith believes, nor questions how:  
though the cloud from sight received him,  
when the forty days were o'er,  
shall our hearts forget his promise,  
'I am with you evermore'?

*All stand to give praise to God 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.*

Merciful Lord,  
cast your bright beams of light upon the Church:  
that, being enlightened by the teaching  
of your blessed apostle and evangelist Saint John,  
we may so walk in the light of your truth  
that we may at last attain to the light of everlasting life;  
through the Jesus Christ your incarnate and risen Son,  
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 Reading**

A reading from the first letter of St John.

We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life— this life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it, and declare to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was revealed to us— we declare to you what we have seen and heard so that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. We are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.

This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*All stand to sing*

### **The Gradual Hymn**

Purify my heart,  
let me be as gold and precious silver.

Purify my heart,  
let me be as gold, pure gold.

*Refrain*

Purify my heart,  
cleanse me from within and make me holy.

Purify my heart,  
cleanse me from my sin, deep within.

*Refrain*

*Refiner's fire,  
my heart's one desire  
is to be holy,  
set apart for you, Lord.  
I choose to be holy,  
set apart for you, my Master,  
ready to do your will.*

373 AM

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:

**Christ has died:**

**Christ is risen:**

**Christ will come again.**

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 the Blessed Virgin Mary, St John, 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.**

*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 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.**

All glory and honour be yours always and everywhere,  
mighty creator, ever-living God, through Jesus Christ our Lord;

for he is the Word before all creation,

the Life made manifest, the Light who shines in the darkness.

He is the living Bread who has come down from heaven,  
the Good Shepherd, who lays down his life for the sheep,  
the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.

He stands among us in his risen power, and shows us his hands and his side.

With joy we worship him as our Lord and our God.

Therefore with all the angels of heaven

we lift our voices to proclaim the glory of your name

and sing our joyful hymn of praise:

**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.

## The Gospel

Alleluia! Alleluia!

The Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory.

**Alleluia!**

*St John 1: 14*

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

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

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus said to Peter, 'Follow me.'

Peter turned and saw the disciple whom Jesus loved following them; he was the one who had reclined next to Jesus at the supper and had said, 'Lord, who is it that is going to betray you?' When Peter saw him, he said to Jesus, 'Lord, what about him?' Jesus said to him, 'If it is my will that he remain until I come, what is that to you? Follow me!' So the rumour spread in the community that this disciple would not die. Yet Jesus did not say to him that he would not die, but, 'If it is my will that he remain until I come, what is that to you?'

This is the disciple who is testifying to these things and has written them, and we know that his testimony is true. But there are also many other things that Jesus did; if every one of them were written down, I suppose that the world itself could not contain the books that would be written.

*St John 21: 19-25*

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*

### **The Prayers of Intercession**

Rejoicing in the love, light, and life of God  
made visible in the face of Jesus Christ, and in his mighty resurrection,  
let us pray to the Father, in the power of the Holy spirit.

Father, as we give thanks today for the ministry of your Church around the world, and especially here in this Parish, may we be inspired by our Patron Saint, John the Evangelist, to share with our community the Good News of your saving acts of love. May the Living Word be present in all that we try to accomplish.

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

Father, your Son is the Bread of Life: sustain us, we pray, during these dark days of pandemic, with the presence of his risen life in the most blessed Sacrament of the Altar. Grant that, although we cannot receive physically at this time, we may receive him spiritually into our hearts.

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

Father, your Son is the Light of the World: illuminate, we pray, the dark places of this world where sin, violence, hatred, injustice, and persecution cast their shadow over human lives. We pray for those for whom the light of faith has grown ever dim and for those situations, places, and conflicts which are currently ignored by our world media.

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

Father, your Son is the Good Shepherd who lays down his life for his sheep: during these days of lockdown we pray for all who sacrificially place themselves at risk whilst serving and helping others. We thank you for their contribution to our community and pray that you would direct and guide them in all their endeavours.

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

Father, your Son is the Gate to the sheepfold: protect, we pray, all who are in trouble or danger this day: for all who are infected or affected by Covid-19; for those who are anxious, afraid, lonely, or vulnerable; for those named on our Newsletter or whom we name in the silence of our hearts. Grant your healing and compassion, and be with those who care for their needs. We rejoice with those who have been restored to health and well-being and brought through their various trials and afflictions.

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

Father, your Son is the Resurrection and the Life: raise us up on the last day, we pray, with all who have gone before us in faith. We remember all those whom we love but see no longer; for those who have died recently; those

whose anniversary of death occurs at this time; all those named on our Newsletter. In your mercy may they find their dwelling place in your heavenly home with St John and all your saints.

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

Father, your Son is the True Vine: grant that as he abides in you and you in him so may our lives be entwined with yours and one another. We pray for the nations of the world: as we have marked the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the end of the Second World War in Europe last week may our leaders learn the lessons of the past and work for a future that is connected - sharing resources, maintaining justice, supporting the marginalised, and welcoming the refugee.

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

Father, your Son is the Way, the Truth, and the Life: be with all who feel lost, misguided, or without faith at this time. Bind up the broken; give rest to the weary; encourage those discerning their call in life and all beginning their journey of faith through baptism. May truth always be esteemed and our lives lived in the full abundance of Christ joys.

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.**

## **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.**

### **The Preparation of the Table**

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

**Amen.**