

Easter 4



Alleluia Christ is risen

He is Risen indeed! Alleluia!!

An Act of Spiritual Communion

The following act of spiritual communion is made available while we cannot worship in church. The church has from earliest times used the term 'Spiritual Communion' to describe the means of grace by which a person, prevented for some serious reason from sharing in a celebration of the Eucharist, nonetheless shares in the communion of Jesus Christ.

Remember always, that we are never truly alone.

Not only is God present with us, and in the prayer and worship we offer, even when physically alone, the saints and angels are present spiritually with us.

The Eucharist will be celebrated at 10am on Sunday.

Joining in this short service will also unite us all spiritually within this celebration.

First settle yourself quietly without distractions. Turn the phone and TV off. You might want to play quiet, reflective music in the background. You may want to light a candle as a focus. You could even set up a 'prayer corner' with religious images, statues, or candles. Be still and know that God is with you.

Welcome [Join the Lords my Shepherd here](#)

The Lord's my shepherd

- 1 The Lord's my shepherd, I'll not want.
 He makes me lie in pastures green.
 He leads me by the still, still waters,
 his goodness restores my soul.
 And I will trust in you alone.
 And I will trust in you alone,
 for your endless mercy follows me,
 your goodness will lead me home.
- 2 He guides my ways in righteousness,
 and he anoints my head with oil,
 and my cup, it overflows with joy,
 I feast on his pure delights.
 Refrain
- 3 And though I walk the darkest path,
 I will not fear the evil one,
 for you are with me, and your rod and staff
 are the comfort I need to know.
 Refrain

**In the name of the Father
and of the Son
and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.**

Now call to mind your sins and make this act of contrition:

Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the living God, have mercy on me, a sinner.

Ask God for his forgiveness:

**May the Lord in all his mercy,
grant me forgiveness of my sins,
deliver me from evil,
and bring me to the joy of eternal life.
Amen.**

At this point read the Opening Prayer (Collect) for the day:

Almighty God,
whose Son Jesus Christ is the resurrection and the life:
raise us, who trust in him,
from the death of sin to the life of righteousness,
that we may seek those things which are above,
where he reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. Amen.

First reading *read by Georgia* [here](#)

Acts 2:42-47

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need.

Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people.

And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

This is the word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.

Hymn Jesus Lives *sung by Hannah and Sachin* [here](#)

Now read the Gospel

John 10. 1-10

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

Glory to you O lord

“Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.” Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

So again Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.

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

Homily: [see here](#)

The Apostles' Creed:

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again;

he ascended into heaven,

he is seated at the right hand of the Father,

and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church,

the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,

the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayers of Intercession:

Let us pray to God our Father who tenderly cares for his people and listens when we call out to him with our concerns for all who are in need.

We pray for the church of God reaching out to care for and protect all who are lost and longing to belong to a community of love.

We pray for the leaders of all nations that they may hear and recognise the voice of the Prince of Peace calling for justice and freedom for all who are oppressed and suffering.

We pray for ourselves and the communities in which we live, work and worship that we may care for one another as brothers and sisters, and members of the community of Christ.

We pray for those suffering from Coronavirus and all in any kind of distress or pain; that they may know that they are held safely in the Father's hands and nothing can snatch them from him.

We pray for those who have recently died and especially remember John Farrow and give thanks for all he gave to the life of this Church. We pray for Janet, Emily and Sophie and ask that You would be close to them, bringing them comfort, strength and peace as they mourn the loss of a husband and father.

Heavenly Father, we are your people and we thank you for your care and protection. Accept these prayers and bring to all for whom we have prayed your blessings of love, joy and peace.

We ask this in the name of the one true Shepherd, your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

In a short moment of quiet. let us offer our own prayers to God as we think of those close to us who need your help.

Merciful father

**Accept these prayers for the sake of your son,
our saviour Jesus Christ
Amen.**

The Eucharistic Prayer: [join here](#)

The Lord be with you

And also with you

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

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.

**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.**

Accept our praises, heavenly Father,
through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ,
and as we follow his example and obey his command,
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit
these gifts of bread and wine
may be to us his body and his blood;

who, in the same night that he was betrayed,
took bread and gave you thanks;
he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper
he took the cup and gave you thanks;
he gave it to them, saying:
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.

Therefore, heavenly Father,
we remember his offering of himself
made once for all upon the cross;
we proclaim his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension;
we look for the coming of your kingdom,
and with this bread and this cup
we make the memorial of Christ your Son our Lord.

Christ is the bread of life:
**When we eat this bread and drink this cup,
we proclaim your death, Lord Jesus,
until you come in glory.**

Accept through him, our great high priest,
this our sacrifice of thanks and praise,
and as we eat and drink these holy gifts
in the presence of your divine majesty,
renew us by your Spirit, inspire us with your love
and unite us in the body of your Son,
Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through him, and with him, and in him,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
with all who stand before you in earth and heaven,
we worship you, Father almighty,
in songs of everlasting praise:

**Blessing and honour and glory and power
be yours for ever and ever. Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

**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. Amen**

*Now make your spiritual communion.
Imagine that you are receiving the Host:*

**Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,
but only say the word and I shall be healed.**

**My Jesus, I believe that you
are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.
I love you above all things,
and I desire to receive you into my soul.
Since I cannot at this moment receive you sacramentally,
come at least spiritually into my heart.
I embrace you as if You were already there
and unite myself wholly to you.
Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.**

Post Communion Prayer

**Merciful Father,
you gave your Son Jesus Christ to be the good shepherd,
and in his love for us to lay down his life and rise again:
keep us always under his protection,
and give us grace to follow in his steps;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

[In Christ alone here](#)

In Christ alone my hope is found,
He is my light, my strength, my song
This Cornerstone, this solid Ground
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
What heights of love, what depths of peace
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease
My Comforter, my All in All
Here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone! - who took on flesh,
Fullness of God in helpless babe.
This gift of love and righteousness,
Scorned by the ones He came to save
Till on that cross as Jesus died,
The wrath of God was satisfied
For every sin on Him was laid
Here in the death of Christ I live.

There in the ground His body lay,
Light of the world by darkness slain:
Then bursting forth in glorious day
Up from the grave He rose again
And as He stands in victory
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me,
For I am His and He is mine
Bought with the precious blood of Christ.

No guilt in life, no fear in death,
This is the power of Christ in me
From life's first cry to final breath,
Jesus commands my destiny
No power of hell, no scheme of man,
Can ever pluck me from His hand
Till He returns or calls me home
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand.

The Blessing: [here](#)

God the Father,
by whose love Christ was raised from the dead,
open to you who believe the gates of everlasting life.

Amen.

God the Son,
who in bursting from the grave has won a glorious victory,
give you joy as you share the Easter faith.

Amen.

God the Holy Spirit,
who filled the disciples with the life of the risen Lord,
empower you and fill you with Christ's peace.

Amen.

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 peace to love and serve the Lord. **Alleluia!! Alleluia!!**
In the name of Christ, Amen. **Alleluia!! Alleluia!!**

HAPPY EASTER!!