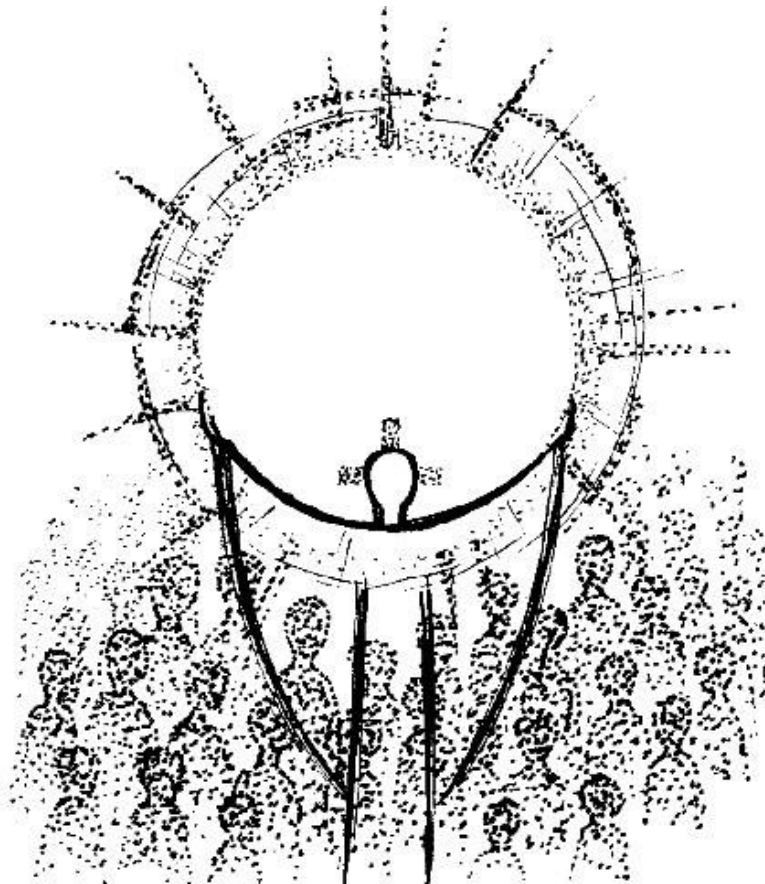




The Eucharist on Easter Day



ABOUT THIS SERVICE

Welcome to **St Margaret's Lee** and to this Easter Eucharist.

Easter is the sacred celebration of Christ's resurrection from the dead. It is the oldest and holiest Christian festival, the climax and centre of the liturgical year, and the holy day to which all other holy days point. Even denominations that do not strictly follow a liturgical calendar commemorate Easter with tremendous joy and thanksgiving.

The Easter season is the most joyful and festive season of the Christian year. Worship during this time features the prominent return of the *Gloria in Excelsis* ("Glory in the highest") and the *Alleluia* ("Praise the Lord"), expressions of joy and praise that were removed from the liturgy at the beginning of Lent. White, symbolic of gladness and holiness, is the liturgical colour for all the Sundays of Easter.

The paschal candle is an ancient symbol of the risen Jesus. It is a very large white candle, the largest and tallest of all sanctuary candles. Paschal candles are always inscribed with a cross, the current year, and the Greek letters alpha and omega, signifying that the Lord is present in His church now in the present year and forever in eternity. After the feast of the Ascension the paschal candle is removed from its place next to the altar and placed near the baptismal font. It is lit at baptisms to remind Christians that in baptism we are crucified and raised with Jesus). The paschal candle is also lit at Christian funerals as a reminder that those who die in Christ are raised up with Him.

All are warmly invited to receive communion. If you would prefer to receive a blessing, please come forward and bow your head as a signal to the priest.

If you have very young children, you are welcome to make use of the creche in the Crypt.

School age children are invited to join children's church, which takes place in the Crypt. The children go out at the beginning of the service and re-join us for the rest of the service at communion.

Toilet facilities are in the Crypt.

*The President **stands** at the door of the Church*

Eternal God, who made that most holy night to shine with the brightness of your one true light: set us aflame with the fire of your love, and bring us to the radiance of your heavenly glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The President says

Christ yesterday and today

All: the beginning and the end,

Alpha and Omega, all time belongs to him, and all ages;

All: to him be glory and power, through every age and for ever. Amen

This is the day when our Lord Jesus Christ passed from death to life. 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 live with him for ever.

The President lights the Easter Candle, saying:

May the light of Christ, rising in glory,
banish all darkness from our hearts and minds.

The Deacon leads the procession carrying the Easter Candle and sings:

The light of Christ

All: Thanks be to God

The acclamation is sung three times, the first from the entrance, the second from the aisle, and the third time at the chancel steps, when the Easter candle is placed in its stand by the Nave Altar.

The Priest faces the congregation and proclaims:

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

All: He is risen indeed. Alleluia.

*The candles of the congregation are lit as we sing our first **Hymn**.*

The Collect

Let us pray that we may walk the risen life of Christ in glory.

Lord of all life and power,
who through the mighty resurrection of your Son
overcame the old order of sin and death
to make all things new in him:
grant that we, being dead to sin
and alive to you in Jesus Christ,
may reign with him in glory;
to whom with you and the Holy Spirit
be praise and honour, glory and might,
now and in all eternity.

All: Amen.

After the Collect, bells and shakers are played and then the choir sings the Gloria.

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 candles of the congregation are extinguished.

The Liturgy of the Word

Sit

First Reading

At the end the reader says

This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Stand

*The **Gradual Hymn** is sung.*

Gospel Reading

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

All: Alleluia, 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.

All: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

The reader says

The Lord be with you

All: and also with you.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to N.

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

At the end the reader says

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sit

Sermon

At the end of the sermon all remain seated, standing when the president stands.

All stand to face the font. Crucifer, Servers, Deacon and President move to the font.

The Renewal of Baptismal Vows

As we celebrate the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ from the dead, we remember that through the paschal mystery we have died and been buried with him in baptism. To follow Christ means dying to sin and rising to new life with him. Therefore I ask:

Do you reject the devil and all rebellion against God?

All: I reject them.

Do you renounce the deceit and corruption of evil?

All: I renounce them.

Do you repent of the sins that separate us from God and neighbour?

All: I repent of them.

In baptism, God calls us out of darkness into his marvellous light. Therefore I ask:

Do you turn to Christ as Saviour?

All: I turn to Christ.

Do you submit to Christ as Lord?

All: I submit to Christ.

Do you come to Christ, the way, the truth and the life?

All: I come to Christ.

Prayer over the Water

The President stands before the water of baptism and says

Praise God who made heaven and earth,

All: who keeps his promise for ever.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give thanks and praise.

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ
was baptized in the river Jordan,
we thank you for the gift of water
to cleanse us and revive us.

All: *Saving God, give us life.*

We thank you that through the waters of the Red Sea
you led your people out of slavery
to freedom in the Promised Land.

All: *Saving God, give us life.*

We thank you that through the deep waters of death
you brought your Son,
and raised him to life in triumph.

All: *Saving God, give us life.*

Bless this water, that your servants who are washed in it
may be made one with Christ in his death and in his resurrection,
to be cleansed and delivered from all sin.

All: *Saving God, give us life.*

Send your Holy Spirit upon them,
bring them to new birth in the household of faith
and raise them with Christ to full and eternal life;
for all might, majesty, authority and power are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.

All: *Saving God, give us life.*

Profession of Faith

The president addresses the congregation

Brothers and sisters, I ask you to profess the faith of the Church.
Do you believe and trust in God the Father?

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

Do you believe and trust in his Son Jesus Christ?

**All: 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.**

Do you believe and trust in the Holy Spirit?

**All: 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**

This is the faith of the Church.

**All: This is our faith.
We believe and trust in one God,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.**

Almighty God, we thank you for our fellowship in the household of faith with all those who have been baptised in your name, keep us faithful to our baptism, and so make us ready for that day when the whole creation shall be made perfect in your Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

All: Amen.

The Priest shall sprinkle the congregation with water from the font.

Prayers of Intercession

Let us pray for the church and the world and let us thank God for his goodness

Kneel

These responses may be used

Lord, in your mercy

All: hear our prayer.

At the end of the prayers:

Merciful Father

All: Accept these prayers

For the sake of your son

Our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

Stand

The Peace

The president introduces the Peace with a suitable sentence

The risen Christ came and stood among his disciples and said
'Peace be with you, my peace I give you'.

Then were they glad when they saw the Lord. Alleluia.

The peace of the risen Christ be always with you

All: and also with you. Alleluia

The deacon or president says

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

All exchange a sign of peace.

Preparation of the Table Taking of the Bread and Wine

*The **Offertory Hymn** is sung during which the altar is prepared and the gifts of the people are gathered and presented.*

The President takes the bread and wine.

Lord of life, with unbounded joy we offer you our sacrifice of praise.
As we are fed with the bread of heaven
may we know your resurrection power;
through Christ our risen Lord.

All: Amen.

The Eucharistic Prayer

The president says or sings

The Lord be with you

All: and also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give thanks and praise.

The president praises God for his mighty acts

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
always and everywhere to give you thanks,
almighty and eternal Father,
and on this night of our redemption
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.

Please sit or kneel as the president continues

Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness;
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit,
and according to your holy will,
these gifts of bread and wine
may be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ;

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.

The deacon or president says or sings

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

All: Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

And so, Father, calling to mind his death on the cross,
his perfect sacrifice made once for the sins of the whole world;
rejoicing in his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension,
and looking for his coming in glory,
we celebrate this memorial of our redemption.

As we offer you this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving,
we bring before you this bread and this cup
and we thank you for counting us worthy
to stand in your presence and serve you.

Send the Holy Spirit on your people and gather into one in your
kingdom, all who share this one bread and one cup,
so that we, in the company of the Blessed Virgin Mary,
St. Margaret and all the saints,
may praise and glorify you for ever,
through Jesus Christ our Lord;
by whom, and with whom, and in whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father, for ever and ever.

All: Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Rejoicing in God's new creation, let us pray with confidence as our
Saviour has taught us

**All: 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.**

Breaking of the Bread

The president breaks the consecrated bread.

Jesus says, I am the bread of life,
whoever eats this bread will live for ever.

**All: Lord, our hearts hunger for you;
give us this bread always.**

The Agnus Dei is sung.

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.

Giving of Communion

The president says the following or another appropriate invitation to communion

Alleluia. Christ our passover is sacrificed for us.

All: Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

The president and people receive communion. At the distribution the minister says

The body of Christ.
The blood of Christ.

*The communicant replies each time **Amen**, and then receives.
An Anthem and **Hymn** may be sung during communion.*

Prayer after Communion

At the end of the distribution the president says

Let us pray

God of Life,
who for our redemption gave your only-begotten Son
to the death of the cross,
and by his glorious resurrection
have delivered us from the power of our enemy:
grant us so to die daily to sin,
that we may evermore live with him in the joy of his risen life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

Almighty God,
**All: 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 Notices are given out.

Stand

*The final **Hymn** is sung.*

The president says

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

All: He is risen indeed. Alleluia.

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

All: Amen.

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

All: 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.

All: Amen.

And the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

All: Amen.

The deacon or president says

With the risen life of Christ within you,
go in the peace of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.

All: Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

The ministers and people depart.

Please join us in the Crypt for refreshments after the service.

Please do not take this order of service away.

Common Worship: Services and Prayers for the Church of England,
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