



**Holy Communion
for Eastertide**

Welcome to St Paul's.

We hope you feel at home here. Please stay for refreshments after the service and say hello.

If you'd like to find out more about the church, please complete a welcome card – available near the entrance – and we'll be in touch.

This is a service for all ages and having babies and children here is a delight. But the sound is relayed to the hall and parish rooms, which you are welcome to use if you wish. A hearing loop is also installed in church.

If you would like to give during this service, a plate and a card machine are available near the entrance. Please gift aid if you're able to do so.

Eastertide

Easter is celebrated as a season, beginning on Easter Day and lasting until the gift of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost.

The death and resurrection of Jesus lie at the very heart of our faith. They give us a pattern of living, which embraces every kind of human experience and emotion. There is nothing we have to face that is not enfolded within the loving purposes of God.

During Eastertide our worship is rich in symbolism. This is a time for confident proclamation of the Good News of the Kingdom. Our glorious Alleluias take us beyond ourselves, so that we are caught up in the glory of God, whose loving purposes lead us through death to new life in God's nearer presence. Easter is a season and every Sunday is a 'little Easter'.

Alleluia, Christ is risen!

A warm welcome to all

Hymn *Stand to sing*

Greeting The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Alleluia. Christ is risen.
He is risen indeed. Alleluia.

**Prayer of
preparation** **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** In baptism we died with Christ,
so that as Christ was raised from the dead,
we might walk in newness of life.
Let us receive new life in him
as we confess our sins in penitence and faith.

Jesus Christ, risen Master and triumphant Lord,
we come to you in sorrow for our sins,
and confess to you our weakness and unbelief.

We have lived by our own strength,
and not by the power of your resurrection.
In your mercy, forgive us.
Lord, hear us and help us.

We have lived by the light of our own eyes,
as faithless and not believing.
In your mercy, forgive us.
Lord, hear us and help us.

We have lived for this world alone,
and doubted our home in heaven.
In your mercy, forgive us.
Lord, hear us and help us.

May the God of love and power
forgive you and free you from your sins,
heal and strengthen you by his Spirit,
and raise you to new life in Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Collect *Special prayer for today*

Sit

Storytime *Children come and sit by the dais steps
After the story they go to their groups*

**First Bible
reading** *A reading from the Old Testament / epistle*
For God's holy word,
thanks be to God.

Hymn *Stand to sing*

Remain standing for the gospel reading

**Gospel
reading** 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.
Alleluia.

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ,
according to ...
Glory to you, O Lord.

After the reading

This is the gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

Sit

Sermon *After the sermon there are two minutes' silence
for reflection*

**Prayers of
intercession**

Let us pray for the Church and for the world,
and let us thank God for his goodness.

Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

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

Stand

**Declaring
our faith**

Do you believe and trust in God the Father,
source of all being and life,
the one for whom we exist?

We believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in God the Son,
who took our human nature,
died for us and rose again?

We believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit,
who gives life to the people of God
and makes Christ known in the world?

We believe and trust in him.

This is the faith of the Church.

This is our faith.

**We believe and trust in one God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.**

The Peace

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.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

*We share the peace with our neighbours, greeting
them*

Hymn *The offertory is presented during this hymn*

Sit

Communion The Lord be with you.

Prayer **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.

We give you thanks and praise
for the gospel we have received.

Christ died for our sins. Alleluia.

He is risen indeed. Alleluia.

Death comes to all through Adam,
and sin reigns for a time.

New life without end comes through Christ,
and he reigns for ever. Alleluia.

He is risen indeed. Alleluia.

Death, where is your victory?

Death, where is your sting?

Death is swallowed up in victory,
the victory you give us in Christ. Alleluia.

He is risen indeed. Alleluia.

We have been crucified with Christ,
and live his risen life,

to praise you for ever with angels and archangels.

Tune 952 in hymnbook

Holy, holy, holy Lord.

God of power and might,

heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessèd is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

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.



Praise to you, Lord Jesus:
Dying you destroyed our death,
rising you restored our life:
Lord Jesus, come in glory.

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 St Paul
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. **Amen.**

**The Lord's
Prayer**

As our Saviour taught us, so we 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.**

Breaking of the Bread Every time we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Tune 952 in hymnbook

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:
grant us peace.**

Giving of Communion Alleluia. Christ our passover is sacrificed for us.
Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

All are welcome to receive Communion or a blessing

Stand to say 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.**

Hymn *Sit if there are notices, then stand to sing*

Blessing

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.
In the name of Christ. Amen.

*Refreshments are served at the back of church.
If you are a newcomer or visitor, please come and
say hello to one of the welcome team or clergy.*

Eucharistic Prayer B

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St Matthew with St Paul
Pilgrims on a journey