



**April 11<sup>th</sup>, 2021 10.30am.**

**The Second Sunday of Easter**

**Service of Spiritual Communion**

via Brookdean Benefice Facebook page  
or link on [www.forestchurch.org.uk](http://www.forestchurch.org.uk)

### *The Gathering*

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

### **The Greeting**

Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father  
and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

**He is risen indeed. Alleluia**

### **Hymn**

Christ the Lord is risen again,  
Christ hath broken every chain.  
Hark, angelic voices cry,  
singing evermore on high, *Alleluia!*

He who gave for us his life,  
who for us endured the strife,  
is our Paschal Lamb to-day;  
we too sing for joy, and say *Alleluia!*

He who bore all pain and loss  
 comfortless upon the cross,  
 lives in glory now on high,  
 pleads for us, and hears our cry: *Alleluia!*

He who slumbered in the grave  
 is exalted now to save;  
 now through Christendom it rings  
 that the Lamb is King of kings. *Alleluia!*

Now he bids us tell abroad  
 how the lost may be restored,  
 how the penitent forgiven,  
 how we too may enter heaven. *Alleluia!*

Thou, our Paschal Lamb indeed,  
 Christ, thy ransomed people feed,  
 take our sins and guilt away:  
 let us sing by night and day *Alleluia!*

*Christus isi erstanden*      MICHAEL WEISSE (c.1480-1534)  
 translated by CATHERINE WINKWORTH (1827-1878)      T: Wurttemberg

### **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 the newness of life. Let us receive new life in him as we confess our sins in penitence and faith.  
*Cf Romans 6.4*

**Most merciful God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we confess that we have sinned in thought, word and deed. We have not loved you with our whole heart. We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves. In your mercy forgive what we have been, help us to amend what we are, and direct what we shall be; that we may do justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with you, our God. Amen**

### **Prayer of 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.**

### **Gloria in Excelsis**

**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**

Risen Christ, for whom no door is locked, no entrance barred: open the doors of our hearts, that we may seek the good of others and walk the joyful road of sacrifice and peace, to the praise of God the Father. **Amen**

## *The Liturgy of the Word*

**A reading** from the Acts of the Apostles. (4.32–35)

The whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **Hymn**

#### *Chorus*

*We are the Easter people, Alleluia is our song  
Let us rejoice, let us sing out Jesus is risen, Alleluia!*

He died for us, now He is risen:  
We share his life, Jesus is Lord!

His light shines out, dispelling darkness  
Tell the whole world, Jesus is Lord!

Proclaim His glory, Christ is the Saviour.  
He dies no more, Jesus is Lord.

God's people sing! You share His victory  
Have no more fear, Jesus is Lord!

Words: Tom Leigh            T. Tom Leigh and Betty Sharpe  
(based on words by St Augustine.)

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 John.

(20.19–31)

### **Glory to you, O Lord.**

It was evening on the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.' When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.' But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, 'We have seen the Lord.' But he said to them, 'Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.' A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' Then he said to Thomas, 'Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.' Thomas answered him, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him, 'Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.' Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Address**

## The Creed

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and was made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.**

**We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.**

**We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come.**

**Amen.**

## Prayers of Intercession

*The following response may be used*

Lord, in your mercy

**hear our prayer.**

*and at the end,*

Merciful Father,

**accept these prayers**

**for the sake of your Son,**

**our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

## *The Liturgy of the Sacrament*

### **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.**

### **Hymn**

Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son,  
endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won;  
angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away,  
kept the folded grave-clothes where thy body lay.

*Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son,  
endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won.*

Lo, Jesus meets us, risen from the tomb;  
lovingly he greets us, scatters fear and gloom;  
let the church with gladness hymns of triumph sing,  
for her Lord now liveth, death hath lost its sting:

*Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son,  
endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won.*

No more we doubt thee, glorious Prince of Life;  
life is naught without thee: aid us in our strife ;  
ore than conquerors through thy  
make us more than conquerors through thy deathless love;  
bring us safe through Jordan to thy home above:

*Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son,  
endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won.*

*A toi la gloire, O Ressusciré* EDMOND BUDRY (1854~1932)

translated by RICHARD BIRCH HOYLE (1875-1939) T: Maccabeus

Be present, be present, Lord Jesus Christ, our risen high  
priest; make yourself known 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.**

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.**

*The president recalls the Last Supper,  
and we say the the acclamation,*

**Lord, by your cross and resurrection you have set us  
free. You are the Saviour of the world.**

*The Prayer continues and leads into the doxology,  
to which all respond boldly*

**Amen.**

## **The Lord's Prayer**

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.**

## **Breaking of the Bread**

We break the bread of life,  
and that life is the light of the world.

**God here among us, light in the midst of us,  
bring us to light and life.**

Alleluia. Christ our passover is sacrificed for us.

**Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

**Thanks be to you, Lord Jesus Christ, for all the benefits  
you have given me, for all the pains and insults you have  
borne for me.**

**Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, I ask you  
to come spiritually into my heart.**

**O most merciful redeemer, friend and brother, may I  
know you more clearly, love you more dearly, and follow  
you more nearly, day by day.**

**Amen.**



*Open to God's loving presence around us and within us we keep silence for our own act of spiritual communion.*

**Lord Jesus Christ, you said to your disciples,  
'I am with you always'.  
Be with me today, as I offer myself to you.  
Hear my prayers for others and for myself,  
and keep me in your care. Amen.**

### **Prayer after Communion**

Lord God our Father, through our Saviour Jesus Christ you have assured your children of eternal life and in baptism have made us one with him: deliver us from the death of sin and raise us to new life in your love, in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, by the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

**Eternal Father, we thank you for nourishing us,  
may our communion strengthen us in faith,  
build us up in hope, and make us grow in love;  
for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.**

**Hymn**

*Alleluia, alleluia,  
give thanks to the risen Lord.  
Alleluia, alleluia,  
give praise to his name.*

Jesus is Lord of all the earth:  
he is the King of creation:

Spread the good news o'er all the earth  
Jesus has died and has risen:

We have been crucified with Christ:  
now we shall live for ever:

God has proclaimed the just reward:  
life for the world, alleluia:

Come, let us praise the living God,  
joyfully sing to our Saviour:

DONALD FISHEL (b 1950) T: ALLELUIA no.1

*The Dismissal*

God the Father, by whose glory Christ was raised from the dead, strengthen you to walk with him in his risen life; 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 the peace of the risen Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.

**Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**