



*Living out faith in our community
through prayer, reflection and action*

**Christ is Risen!
Alleluia!**

No resurrection. No Christianity.
A.M. Ramsey

Celebrating Communion
in the
**Season of Easter
& Pentecost**
(Scottish Liturgy 1982)

Easter 6
9th May 2021
Presider Stuart Robertson

We prepare

Organ Voluntary

Welcome

Grace and peace to you from God our Creator
and the Lord Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Easter acclamation:

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

Opening Hymn



Come down, O Love divine,
seek thou this soul of mine,
and visit it with thine own ardour glowing;
O Comforter, draw near,
within my heart appear,
and kindle it, thy holy flame bestowing.

O let it freely burn,
till earthly passions turn
to dust and ashes in its heat consuming;
and let thy glorious light
shine ever on my sight,
and clothe me round, the while my path illuming.

And so the yearning strong,
with which the soul will long,
shall far outpass the power of human telling;
for none can guess its grace,
till Love create a place
wherein the Holy Spirit makes a dwelling.

Collect for Purity

**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.**

Gloria

Glory to God in the highest,

**and peace to his people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
(with God the Son, Jesus Christ,
and God the Holy Spirit,
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.**

Collect of the Day – *a particular prayer for this week Easter 6*

Merciful God, you have prepared for those who love you riches beyond imagination. Pour into our hearts such love towards you that we, loving you above all things, may obtain your promises which exceed all that we can desire; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen

We listen for God's Word



A Reading from the New Testament Acts 10. 44-48 read by Walter Savory

While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, “Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?” So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

Psalm 98 led by **Walter Savory**

Refrain: The Lord has made known his victory in the sight of the nations.



¹O sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done marvellous things. His right hand and his holy arm have gotten him victory.

²The LORD has made known his victory; he has revealed his vindication in the sight of the nations.

³He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel. All the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

⁴Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises.

⁵Sing praises to the LORD with the lyre, with the lyre and the sound of melody.

⁶With trumpets and the sound of the horn make a joyful noise before the King, the LORD.

⁷Let the sea roar, and all that fills it; the world and those who live in it.

⁸Let the floods clap their hands; let the hills sing together for joy

⁹at the presence of the LORD, for he is coming to judge the earth. He will judge the world with righteousness, and the peoples with equity.

Refrain: The Lord has made known his victory in the sight of the nations.



Epistle – *A reading from one of the letters in the New Testament* 1 John 5. 1-6 **read by**
Walter Savory

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

Gradual Hymn

*A new commandment I give unto you,
That you love one another as I have loved you,
That you love one another as I have loved you.*

By this shall all know that you are My disciples,
If you have love one for another.
By this shall all know that you are My disciples,
If you have love one for another.

A new commandment...

You Are my friends if you do what I command you.
Without my help you can nothing.
You Are my friends if you do what I command you.
Without my help you can nothing

A new commandment...

I am the true Vine, My Father is the gard'ner,
Abide in me and I in you.
I am the true Vine, My Father is the gard'ner,
Abide in me and I in you.

A new commandment...

Gospel – John 15. 9-17 Bob Allen

When it is announced: **Glory to Christ our Saviour.**

As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete. "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.

At the end: Give thanks to the Lord for his glorious Gospel.
Praise to Christ our Lord.

Breaking of the Word

We reflect together on what God might be saying to us **Ken Webb**

'Trying to love you'

We don't always get along, and always think the same:
Sometimes we hold different views, and do so in God's name.
Just because I hold my view with certainty right now,
It doesn't mean I won't learn more and change my thinking round.

*So when we say with all our hearts.
"I feel that this is true",
I know that God loves both of us
And I'm trying to love you.*

Even though your thoughts and mine are just like night and day
And even though we see the world in quite a different way
Just because I hold my view with certainty right now,
it doesn't mean that you and I can't share the love we've found.

So when we say with all our hearts.

Sometimes when I think of you, our differences create
a barrier that separates and leads us into hate.
Just because I hold my view with certainty right now,
in time we'll both break through the wall, and see our common ground.

So when we say with all our hearts.

Song from St James

<https://www.stjamesleith.org.uk/music>

Affirmation of Faith



We believe in God, who is love and who has given the earth to all people.

We believe in Jesus Christ, who came to heal us, and to free us from all forms of oppression.

We believe in the Spirit of God, who works in and through all who are turned towards the truth.

We believe in the community of faith, which is called to be at the service of all people.

We believe in God's promise to finally destroy the power of sin in us all, and to establish the commonwealth of justice and peace for all people.

We do not believe that suffering needs to be in vain, that death is the end, that the disfigurement of the world is what God intended.

But we dare to believe, always and in spite of everything, in God's power to transform and transfigure, fulfilling the promise of a new heaven and a new earth, where justice and peace will flourish.

Adapted from a Creed from Indonesia, part of a World Day of Prayer service

We pray

Intercessions led by Mai Gorringe

*Prayer is offered for the world and its people,
for those who suffer and those in need,
for the Church and its members.*

The prayers end with our Diocesan Prayer for Growing Together:

God, our Father, you call us by your Spirit
to grow together in your Son;
make us one in heart and mind,
generous in giving, faithful in serving,
and bold in proclaiming the hope of a world made new;
through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

Confession and Absolution

God is love and we are God's children.
There is no room for fear in love,
We love because God loved us first.

Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith.

**God our Father, we confess to you
and to our fellow members in the Body of Christ
that we have sinned in thought, word and deed,
and in what we have failed to do. We are truly sorry.
Forgive us our sins, and deliver us from the power of evil,
for the sake of your Son who died for us,
Jesus Christ, our Lord.**

God, who is both power and love,
forgive us and free us from our sins,
heal and strengthen us by the Holy Spirit,
and raise us to new life in Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

We share the Peace of Christ

Peace – *you are invited to share a sign of peace staying in your seat*

We meet in Christ's name. **Let us share his peace.**

Offertory Hymn



An Upper Room did our Lord prepare: Fred Pratt Green

Bible Study by Alan Luff

An Upper Room did our Lord prepare
for those he loved until the end:
and his disciples still gather there
to celebrate their Risen Friend.

A lasting gift Jesus gave his own:
to share his bread, his loving cup.
Whatever burdens may bow us down,
he by his Cross shall lift us up.

And after Supper he washed their feet
for service, too, is sacrament.

In him our joy shall be made complete –
sent out to serve, as he was sent.

No end there is! We depart in peace,
he loves beyond the uttermost:
in every room in our Father's house
he will be there as Lord and Host.

Fred Pratt Green 1903-2000
© 1974 Stainer & Bell Ltd
9.8.9.8.

Offering

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation; through your goodness we have this bread to offer, which earth has given and human hands have made: it will become for us the Bread of Life.

Blessed be God for ever.

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation; through your goodness we have this wine to offer, fruit of the vine and work of human hands: it will become the cup of our salvation.

Blessed be God for ever.

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation; through your goodness we have ourselves to offer, fruit of the womb and formed by your love: blessed and broken, we will become the Body of Christ. Blessed be God for ever.

We Celebrate Communion

Eucharistic Prayer

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 God thanks and praise.

Worship and praise belong to you, Author of all being,
Your power sustains, your love restores our broken world.
You are unceasingly at work,
from chaos bringing order and filling emptiness with life.

Christ, raised from the dead, proclaims the dawn of hope.
He lives in us that we may walk in light.

Your Spirit is fire in us, your breath is power to purge our sin
and warm our hearts to love.

As children of your redeeming purpose,
freed by him who burst from the tomb and opened the gate of life,
we offer you our praise with angels and archangels
and the whole company of heaven,
singing the hymn of your unending 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.**

Praise and thanksgiving be to you, Lord of all,
for by the Cross eternal life is ours
and death is swallowed up in victory.
In the first light of Easter glory broke from the tomb
and changed the women's sorrow into joy.
From the garden the mystery dawned
that he whom they had loved and lost
is with us now in every place forever.

Making himself known in the breaking of the bread,
speaking peace to the fearful disciples,
welcoming weary fishermen on the shore,
your Son, Jesus Christ,
renewed the promise of his presence
and of new birth in the Spirit
who sets the seal of freedom on your sons and daughters.

Before he was given up to suffering and death,
recalling the night of Israel's release,
the night in which slaves walked free,
at supper with his disciples
he took bread and offered you thanks.
He broke the bread, and gave it to them, saying:
'Take, eat. This is my Body: it is broken for you.'
After supper, he took the cup,
he offered you thanks, and gave it to them saying:
'Drink this, all of you.
This is my Blood of the new covenant;
it is poured out for you, and for all, that sins may be forgiven.
Do this in remembrance of me.'

**We now obey your Son's command.
We recall his blessed passion and death,
his glorious resurrection and ascension;
and we look for the coming of his Kingdom.
Made one with him, we offer you these gifts
and with them ourselves,
a single, holy, living sacrifice.**

Hear us, most merciful Father,
and send your Holy Spirit upon us
and upon this bread and this wine,
that, overshadowed by his life-giving power,
they may be the Body and Blood of your Son,
and we may be kindled with the fire of your love
and renewed for the service of your Kingdom.

**Help us, who are baptised
into the fellowship of Christ's Body,
to live and work to your praise and glory;
may we grow together in unity and love**

**until at last, in your new creation,
we enter into our heritage,
in the company of the Virgin Mary,
the apostles and prophets, Martin
and of all our brothers and sisters
living and departed.**

Through Jesus Christ our Lord,
with whom, and in whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory be to you,
Lord of all ages, world without end. **Amen.**

Breaking of the Bread

The living bread is broken for the life of the world.
Lord, unite us in this sign.

Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour has 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.
Do not bring us to the time of trial,
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.**

Invitation and the Sharing of Communion

Communion will be brought to you at your seat.

We give thanks and are sent out

Prayer after Communion

Father, you restored us to life by raising your Son from death. May we who receive this sacrament always be strengthened to do your will, in the name of Jesus Christ the risen Lord.
Amen

Sentence

Give thanks to our gracious God,
whose mercy endures for ever.

Post-Communion Prayer

Father, we have broken the bread which is Christ's body, we have tasted the wine of his new life. We thank you for these gifts by which we are made one in him and drawn into that new creation which is your will for all mankind; through him who died for us and rose again, your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen



Response

To a troubled world

peace from Christ.

To a searching world

love from Christ.

To a waiting world

hope from Christ

Blessing

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the eternal covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

Dismissal

Go in peace to walk in the way of the Lord. Alleluia! Alleluia!

In the name of Christ. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Organ voluntary

Notices

BISHOP'S LENT APPEAL 2021

DONATE HERE* Please use the reference DIOCESE OF EDINBURGH

To donate via BACS please give to: Friends of ACF / Account no. 00030397 / Sort code 40-52-40

If you prefer you can send or give a cheque with Bishop's Lent Appeal written on the back to Lynn who will send it on.