



LANCASTER PRIORY

A welcoming, inclusive, Christian community

THE EUCHARIST

Easter Day

**31st March 2024
10.00am**

Welcome to Lancaster Priory

We are really pleased that you are worshipping with us today.

This Easter service is one of the earliest Christian festivals. It is a symbolic passing from death into new life, from darkness to light, as the church rejoices at the resurrection of Jesus from the dead. As we remember that first Easter, we celebrate the risen Christ present in his church, symbolized by the new Easter Candle.

For this reason, it was historically also the preferred time for baptisms, remembering that in baptism we die with Christ that we may rise with him. This service is therefore also an occasion for all Christians to renew the vows they made at baptism, dedicating themselves to Christ and his service once more.

The whole service is a celebration of the resurrection, fulfilling all the promises of God to his people. In this Easter Eucharist all the resources of the church – music, flowers, bells, colours – are used to celebrate Christ's resurrection. The 'Alleluia', which has been silent throughout Lent, returns.

Throughout this booklet you will find instructions regarding posture (sit and stand), these capture what is normal for our congregation but are not intended to be restrictive for those who may need to sit or indeed not sit for too long.

Setting: Missa Brevis (Philip Stopford)

Acknowledgements

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The Welcome and Notices

Introit This Joyful Eastertide (Traditional)

Please stand as the choir, servers and clergy enter and the paschal candle and the altar is censed.

Processional Hymn (110)

Jesus Christ is risen to-day, *Alleluia*,
our triumphant holy day, *Alleluia*,
who did once upon the cross, *Alleluia*,
suffer to redeem our loss. *Alleluia*.

2. Hymns of praise then let us sing *Alleluia*,
unto Christ, our heavenly King, *Alleluia*,
who endured the cross and grave, *Alleluia*,
sinners to redeem and save. *Alleluia*.

The organist improvises as the procession continues and we then sing

3. But the pains that he endured *Alleluia*,
our salvation have procured; *Alleluia*,
now above the sky he's King, *Alleluia*,
where the angels ever sing, *Alleluia*. *Lyra Davidica 1708*

The priest greets the congregation:

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**
The Lord be with you **and also with you.**

The deacon says

This is Good News – The grave is empty, Christ is risen. **Alleluia.**

This is Good News – The light shines in the darkness,
and the darkness can never put it out. **Alleluia.**

This is Good News – Once we were no people,
now we are God's people. **Alleluia.**

Alleluia, Christ is risen.

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

Young Church and their leaders gather at the front and the president prays with them before they go to their activities.

Brothers and sisters in Christ, we are people chosen from our generation to be witnesses to the great Covenant of Love between God and humanity. This covenant is sealed in the blood of God's beloved Son, Jesus Christ. He is the one who laid down His life to reconcile human beings with all creation. Our journey this past Holy Week has led us to understand more fully the true nature of love, God's love for us. And so today we respond with thanksgiving, wonder and awe.

The deacon invites us to confess our sins

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.

Lord Jesus, you raise us to new life.

Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, you forgive us our sins.

Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, you feed us with the living bread.

Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

The Absolution *The priest says*

May the Father of all mercies cleanse you from your sins, and restore you in his image to the praise and glory of his name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Gloria in Excelsis *The choir sings the Gloria, which is long, so you may wish to sit.*

Gloria in excelsis Deo,
et in terra pax
hominibus bonae voluntatis.
Laudamus te, Benedicimus te,
Adoramus te, Glorificamus te.
Gratias agimus tibi
propter magnam gloriam tuam,
Domine Deus, Rex coelestis
Deus Pater omnipotens.

Domine Fili unigenite, Jesu Christe.
Domine Deus, Agnus Dei,
Filius Patris,
Qui tollis peccata mundi,

Glory be to God on high,
and in earth peace,
goodwill towards men.
We praise thee, we bless thee,
we worship thee, we glorify thee,
we give thanks to thee
for thy great glory,
O Lord God, heavenly King,
God the Father almighty.

O Lord, the only-begotten Son Jesu Christ;
O Lord God, Lamb of God,
Son of the Father,
that takest away the sins of the world,

miserere nobis.

Qui tollis peccata mundi,
suscipe deprecationem nostram.

Qui sedes ad dexteram Patris,
miserere nobis.

Quoniam tu solus sanctus.

Tu solus Dominus.

Tu solus altissimus, Jesu Christe.

Cum sancto Spiritu, in gloria Dei Patris.

Amen.

have mercy upon us.

Thou that takest away the sins of the world,
have mercy upon us.

Thou that takest away the sins of the world,
receive our prayer.

Thou that sittest at the right hand of God
the Father, have mercy upon us.

For thou only art holy;

thou only art the Lord;

thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost,
art most high in the glory of God

the Father.

Amen.

The Collect *The priest says 'let us pray' and silence is kept.*

God of glory, by the raising of your Son you have broken the chains of death and hell: fill your Church with faith and hope; for a new day has dawned and the way of life stands open in our Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

The First Reading Acts 10.34-43 *Please sit.*

A reading from the Book of the Acts of the Apostles

Peter began to speak to those assembled in the house of Cornelius. 'I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ – he is Lord of all. That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.'

For the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

The Gospel Reading John 20.1-18

Please stand for the Gospel Acclamation which a cantor will lead

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia

Alleluia, 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.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia

The deacon says

The Lord be with you **And also with you**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John. **Glory to you, O Lor**

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb.

So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, 'They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him.' Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went towards the tomb. The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, and the cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself.

Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. Then the disciples returned to their homes.

But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. They said to her, 'Woman, why are you weeping?' She said to them, 'They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him.' When she had said this, she turned round and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, 'Woman, why are you weeping? For whom are you looking?' Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, 'Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away.' Jesus said to her, 'Mary!' She turned and said to him in Hebrew, 'Rabbouni!' (which means Teacher). Jesus said to her, 'Do not hold on to me, because I have

not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, “I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.” ’

Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, ‘I have seen the Lord’; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

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

The Sermon *Please sit.*

The Creed *Please stand*

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 *Please sit. This response is 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 Peace *Please stand.*

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**

The deacon says Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

We acknowledge one another with a sign of peace.

The Offertory Hymn (LP34) *During this hymn a collection will be taken, the gifts of the people are gathered and presented. The altar is prepared, and bread and wine are placed upon it.*

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.
'Til on that cross as Jesus died,
The Son of God was glorified;
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-
Brought 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;
'Til He returns or calls me home-
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand. Keith Getty b.1974 & S Townend b.1963

The Prayer of Thanksgiving

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:

The choir sings

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of hosts, heaven and earth are full of thy glory.

Glory be to thee, O Lord most high.

Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

The priest continues

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.

The deacon says

Great is the mystery of faith:

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

The priest continues

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 *We pray together in our preferred version or language.*

Gathering our prayers and praises into one, let us pray as our Saviour 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.

The Breaking of the Bread

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

Though we are many, we are one body, because we all share in one bread.

The Agnus Dei *Please sit. The choir sings*

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,
have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,
have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,
grant us thy peace.

The Giving of Communion

The congregation are invited to receive communion.

Alleluia. Christ our passover is sacrificed for us.

Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

The priest and people receive communion. We welcome communicant members of all Christian denominations to receive communion. If you would prefer to receive a blessing, please carry this booklet with you. Gluten-free hosts are available, please indicate this to the president, green cards are available from the sidespeople for this purpose.

Communion Anthem *Come ye faithful people* (Thatcher)

Communion Hymn (297) *We remain seated*

Lord Jesus Christ,
you have come to us,
you are one with us,
Mary's Son;
cleansing our souls from all their sin,
pouring your love and goodness in;
Jesu, our love for you we sing,
living Lord.

2. Lord Jesus Christ,
now and every day
teach us how to pray,
Son of God.
You have commanded us to do
this in remembrance, Lord, of you:
into our lives your power breaks through,
living Lord.

3. Lord Jesus Christ,
you have come to us,
born as one us,
Mary's Son.
Led out to die on Calvary,
risen from death to set us free,
living Lord Jesus, help us see
you are Lord.

4. Lord Jesus Christ,
I would come to you,
live my life for you
Son of God.
All your commands I know are true,
your many gifts will make me new,
into my life your power breaks through,
living Lord.

Patrick Appleford 1924-2018

Prayer After Communion

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. **Amen.**

Recessional Hymn (120) *Please stand and turn to face the procession.*

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.*

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

3. No more we doubt thee, glorious prince of life! Edmund L Budry
Life is nought without thee; aid us in our strife; (1854-1932)
make us more than conquerors, through thy deathless love: Tr. Richard B Hoyle
Bring us safe through Jordan to thy home above: (1875-1939)

The Blessing of the Easter Garden *The president censes the garden and says*

Lord, by your blessing, may we who have prepared this garden in celebration of Christ's victory be strengthened in faith, know the power of his presence, and rejoice in the hope of eternal glory. **Amen.**

The Blessing and Dismissal *The priest prays*

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. **Amen.**

The Deacon says Go in the peace of Christ. Alleluia, Alleluia.
Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.

Organ Voluntary *Toccata* (Widor)

Please remain standing while the servers, choir and clergy depart. For the young and young at heart, following the voluntary, there will be an Easter Egg Hunt, and refreshments will also be served. Please stay and celebrate with us!