

Easter Eucharist

11am, Sunday 4th April 2021 EASTER DAY

Gathering

Attending this Service in Person in Church

It is required that face coverings should be worn by everyone in church. We welcome this as part making church services as safe as possible for people to attend, and as a sign of our desire to protect others from possible infection.

According to government regulations, the singers for this service are the minimum required for the music being offered in worship with in person attendance.

Logging on to the Live Stream

1. The live stream will start at about 10.55am in preparation for the service.
2. Go to our website www.stmaryletower.org.uk and find the “**LIVE Streamed Services**” title and click to go to our **Facebook Live** page.
3. Click on the service video. When the video opens you will need to click on the loudspeaker icon to unmute it and hear the sound.

Music before the service

Jesus Christus, unser Heiland, der den Tod überwand
'Jesus Christ, our Saviour, who conquered death'
– J S Bach, BWV 626

Organist: William Baldry

Welcome

Revd Canon Charles Jenkin, Vicar

Acclamation

The angel said to the women, 'Do not be afraid; He is not here; for he has been raised.'

He is risen indeed. Alleluia.

Mary announced to the Disciples, 'I have seen the Lord'.
He is risen indeed. Alleluia.

The disciples met the risen Lord, and knew him in the breaking of the bread.

He is risen indeed. Alleluia.

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

He is risen indeed. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

The Easter Candle

Christ yesterday and today, the beginning and the end.

Alleluia.

Alpha and Omega, all time belongs to him.

Alleluia.

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

Alleluia

Gloria *(MacMillan)*

Sung by the choir.

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.

Prayer for the Day

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Let us pray that we may reign
with the risen Christ in glory.

We keep a period of quiet prayer.

**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 to life stands open
in our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

Listening for the Word from God

New Testament Reading

Acts 10. 34-43

Read by Katrina Robertson.

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 gift of his living Word,
Thanks be to God.

Gradual Anthem *(R V Williams)*

Sung by Christopher Borrett.

Rise, heart; thy Lord is risen. Sing his praise,
without delays,
Who takes thee by the hand, that thou likewise
With him may'st rise:
That, as his death calcined thee to dust,
His life may make thee gold, and much more, Just.

Awake, my lute, and struggle for thy part
With all thy art.
The cross taught all wood to resound his name,
Who bore the same.
His stretched sinews taught all strings, what key
Is best to celebrate this most high day.

Consort both heart and lute, and twist a song
Pleasant and long:
Or since all music is but three parts vied,
And multiplied;
O let thy blessed Spirit bear a part,
And make up our defects with his sweet art.

Easter Gospel: John 20.1-18

Hear the Good News of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord!

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 around 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!

Sermon

Revd Canon Charles Jenkin, Vicar

Renewal of Baptism Vows

Decision

God raised Jesus Christ from the dead and sent the Holy Spirit to recall the whole world to himself. In baptism we die to sin and rise to newness of life in Christ, here we find rebirth in the Spirit, and set our minds on his heavenly gifts. As children of God we are continually created anew, as we walk the path of faith, and feed on the forgiveness of his healing grace.

I call upon all baptised people gathered here this Easter Day to renew your Baptism vows.

Do you reject the devil and all rebellion against God?
I reject them.

Do you renounce the deceit and corruption of evil?
I renounce them.

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

I repent of them.

Do you turn to Christ as Saviour?

I turn to Christ

Do you submit to Christ as Lord?

I submit to Christ.

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

I come to Christ.

Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, from whose wounded side flowed life for the world: raise your people from sin and death and build them as living stones into the spiritual temple of your Church; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end.
Amen.

Affirmation of Faith

Brothers and sisters, I ask you now to affirm together the faith of the Church.

Do you believe and trust in God the Father?

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

Do you believe and trust in his Son Jesus Christ?

**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?

**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. Amen.**

Renewal of Discipleship

Those who are baptised are called to worship and serve God.

Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread and in the prayers?

With the help of God, we will.

Will you persevere in resisting evil and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

With the help of God, we will.

Will you proclaim by word and example the good news of God in Christ?

With the help of God, we will.

Will you seek and serve Christ in all people, loving your neighbour as yourself?

With the help of God, we will.

Will you acknowledge Christ's authority over human society by prayer for the world and its leaders, by defending the weak, and by seeking peace and justice?

With the help of God, we will.

May Christ dwell in your hearts through faith, that you may be rooted and grounded in love and bring forth the fruit of the Spirit. **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 risen Christ be always with you

And also with you. Alleluia.

Offertory Hymn

Sung by the choir. Sadly, government regulation continues to prohibit singing in church by congregations. Please follow the words and sing them in your heart.

Jesus Christ is risen today, Alleluia!

Our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!

Who did once, upon the Cross, Alleluia!

Suffer to redeem our loss. Alleluia!

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!

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!

The Gifts of the People

Yours, Lord, is the greatness, the power, the glory, the splendour, and the majesty; for everything in heaven and on earth is yours.

**All things come from you,
and of your own do we give you.**

The Great Thanksgiving

Be present, be present,

Lord Jesus Christ, our risen high priest:

make yourself known in the breaking of bread. **Amen.**

The Lord be with you.

The Lord bless 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 on this day 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:

Sanctus (*MacMillan*)

Sung by the choir.

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.

Father of all, we give you thanks for every gift that comes from heaven. To the darkness Jesus came as your light. With signs of faith and words of hope he touched untouchables with love and washed the guilty clean.

This is his story.

This is our song: Hosanna in the highest.

The crowds came out to see your Son, yet at the end they turned on him. On the night he was betrayed he came to table with his friends to celebrate the freedom of your people.

This is his story.

This is our song: Hosanna in the highest.

Jesus blessed you, Father, for the food; he took bread, gave thanks, broke it and said: This is my body, given for you all. Jesus then gave thanks for the wine; he took the cup, gave it and said: This is my blood, shed for you all for the forgiveness of sins. Do this in remembrance of me.

This is his story.

This is our song: Hosanna in the highest.

Therefore, Father, with this bread and this cup we celebrate the cross on which he died to set us free.

Defying death he rose again and is alive with you to plead for us and all the world.

This is his story.

This is our song: Hosanna in the highest.

Send your Spirit on us now that by these gifts we may feed on Christ with opened eyes and hearts on fire. May we and all who share this food offer ourselves to live for you and be welcomed at your feast in heaven where all creation worships you, Father, Son and Holy Spirit:

Blessing and honour and glory and power be yours for ever and ever. Amen.

We keep a time of quiet together.

Breaking Bread

Rejoicing in God's new creation,
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.**

The President breaks the Bread saying:

Jesus says, I am the bread of life,
whoever eats this bread will live for ever.
**Lord, our hearts hunger for you;
give us this bread always.**

Agnus Dei (*MacMillan*)

Sung by the choir.

Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us.
Jesus, bearer of our sins, have mercy on us.
Jesus, redeemer of the world, grant us peace.

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

The minister proclaims and all respond:

The Body of Christ; the bread of heaven. **Amen.**
The Blood of Christ; the cup of salvation. **Amen.**

The People may make a sign of the cross to affirm their participation in the Body of Christ, and in the blessing of this Eucharistic celebration.

The Minister receives the Bread and the Wine on behalf of the Body of Christ at St Mary-le-Tower.

HOLY COMMUNION

Communion will be administered to the people remaining in their places, and the minister will move to people around the church. Communion will be administered one kind only. The Bread will be carefully dropped into people's hands, so that there is no physical contact.

If you wish to receive, please hold out your crossed hands as the minister approaches. Please do not remove your mask to eat the bread until after the minister has passed by.

If you require a gluten free wafer, please remain standing but without holding out your hands, and the minister will return with gluten free bread.

SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

Those in church who prefer to do so, are welcome to participate through Spiritual Communion, in the same way that as those participating online are doing. Whenever and wherever we are, in this Holy Communion we are united by the Holy Spirit in the Body of Christ, given to us in baptism.

Communion is administered strictly in accordance with Bishops guidelines. Communion is given in one kind only, and the Bishops assure everyone that this is entirely as spiritually beneficial as receiving in both kinds.

Prayer after Communion

**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.**

Sending Out**Blessing**

Alleluia. Christ is risen.
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. **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.**

Dismissal

With the risen life of Christ within you, go in the peace of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.
Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

The livestream ends here.

Blessing of the Easter Garden in the Churchyard

All the people make their way via the south door to the churchyard. Please spread out around the Easter Garden so that there is about 2 meters between everyone, though household groups may stay together.

When everyone is gathered outside:

Alleluia. The Lord is risen!
The angel said to the women, 'Do not be afraid;
He is not here; for he has been raised.'
He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

The disciples met the risen Lord, and knew him in the breaking of the bread.
He is risen indeed. Alleluia.

Risen Lord Jesus, as Mary Magdalene met you in the garden so may we meet you today and every day: bless this Easter garden; speak to us as you spoke to her; reveal yourself as our living Lord; and send us to share the good news with all the world. **Amen.**

Easter Hymn

A cantor will start the hymn.

**Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son,
endless is the victory thou o'er death has 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 has 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 has lost its sting.
Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son,
endless is the victory thou o'er death has won.**

**No more we doubt thee, glorious Prince of life;
life is nought without thee: aid us in our strife;
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 has won.**

Thank you for sharing in this Easter Service.

After the Service

If you wish to speak to the vicar or another member of staff, it is best to do this currently by phone or email:

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