

Sunrise Eucharist

6am, 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 5.57am 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.

Preparation

Before the service, the people gather in the dimly lit church in quietness. The people remain seated as the minister takes his place.

Greeting

The Lord be with you.
The Lord bless you.

The minister welcomes the people and introduces the service.

Liturgy of Light

OT Reading: Ezekiel 37: 1-14

read by Humphry Adair

The hand of the Lord came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the Lord and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. He said to me, ‘Mortal, can these bones live?’ I answered, ‘O Lord God, you know.’

Then he said to me, ‘Prophecy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. Thus says the Lord God to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you

with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the Lord.’ So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them.

Then he said to me, ‘Prophecy to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord God: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live.’ I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude.

Then he said to me, ‘Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, “Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.” Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord God: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. And you shall know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the Lord, have spoken and will act, says the Lord.’

For the gift of his living word
Thanks be to God.

We keep a time of quiet for reflection.

Blessing of the Easter Candle

Touching the symbols on the candle, the minister says:

Christ yesterday and today,
the beginning and the end, Alpha and Omega,
all time belongs to him and all ages;
to him be glory and power,
through every age and for ever. **Amen.**

Touching the nails placed in the positions of Christ’s wounds on the Cross, the minister says:

By his holy and glorious wounds
may Christ our Lord guard and keep us. **Amen.**

The minister then lights the Easter Candle, saying:

May the light of Christ, rising in glory,
banish all darkness from our hearts and minds. **Amen.**

The minister raises the Easter Candle, saying:

The Light of Christ!
Thanks be to God.

Easter Gospel: Mark 16.1-8

read by the minister.

When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. They had been saying to one another, 'Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?' When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed.

But he said to them, 'Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you.' So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

Alleluia, Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Easter light is taken from the Easter candle and shared with the people.

The minister places the candle on its stand and lights the altar candles.

The Exsultet

Rejoice, heavenly powers! Sing, choirs of angels!
Exult, all creation around God's throne!
Jesus Christ, our King is risen!
Sound the trumpet of salvation!

Rejoice, O earth, in shining splendour,
radiant in the brightness of your King!
Christ has conquered! Glory fills you!
Darkness vanishes forever!

Rejoice, O mother Church! Exult in glory!
The risen Saviour shines upon you!
Let this place resound with joy,
echoing the mighty song of all God's people!

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 that with full hearts and minds and voices we should praise you the unseen God, the Father almighty, and your only Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who has ransomed us by his death, and paid for us the price of Adam's sin.

For this is the Passover of that true Lamb of God, by whose blood the homes of all the faithful are hallowed and protected. This is the night when of old you saved our forebears, delivering the people of Israel from their slavery, and leading them dryshod through the sea. This is the night when Jesus Christ vanquished hell and rose triumphant from the grave. This is the night when all who believe in him are freed from sin and restored to grace and holiness.

Most blessed of all nights, when wickedness is put to flight and sin is washed away, lost innocence regained, and mourning turned to joy. Night truly blessed, when heaven is wedded to earth and all creation reconciled to God!

Therefore, heavenly Father, in the joy of this night, accept our sacrifice of praise, your Church's solemn offering; and grant that this Easter candle may make our darkness light; for Christ the morning star is risen, never again to set, and is alive and reigns for ever and ever. Amen.

The Easter Collect

**Lord of all life and power,
who through the mighty resurrection
of your Son
overcame the old order of sin and death
to make all things new in him:
grant that we, being dead to sin
and alive to you in Jesus Christ,
may reign with him in glory;
to whom with you and the Holy Spirit
be praise and honour, glory and might,
now and in all eternity. Amen.**

Easter Hymn

The lights are turned on full and a fanfare is played on the organ. The hymn is sung by the choir as it is sadly not yet permitted by government regulations for congregations to sing in church.

Love's redeeming work is done;
fought the fight, the battle won:
lo, our Sun's eclipse is o'er,
lo, he sets in blood no more.

Vain the stone, the watch, the seal;
Christ has burst the gates of hell;
death in vain forbids his rise;
Christ has opened Paradise.

Lives again our glorious King;
where, O death, is now thy sting?
Dying once, he all doth save;
where thy victory, O grave?

Soar we now where Christ has led,
following our exalted Head;
made like him, like him we rise;
ours the cross, the grave, the skies.

Hail, the Lord of earth and heaven!
Praise to thee by both be given:
thee we greet triumphant now;
hail, the Resurrection Thou!

Renewal of Baptismal Vows

NT Reading: Romans 6.3-11

read by Annie Shead.

Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life.

For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, and we might no longer be enslaved to sin. For whoever has died is freed from sin. But if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him.

We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. The death he died, he died to sin, once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

For the gift of his living word,
Thanks be to God

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 now call upon all baptised people 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.

Blessing of Water

Water is poured out.

Praise God who made heaven and earth,
who keeps his promise for ever.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give thanks and praise.

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ was baptized in the river Jordan, we thank you for the gift of water to cleanse us and revive us.

Saving God, you give us new life

We thank you that through the waters of the Red Sea you led your people out of slavery to freedom in the Promised Land.

Saving God, you give us new life

We thank you that through the deep waters of death you brought your Son, and raised him to life in triumph.

Saving God, you give us new life

Bless this water, that your servants who are washed in it may be made one with Christ in his death and in his resurrection, to be cleansed and delivered from all sin.

Saving God, you give us new life

Send your Holy Spirit upon them, bring them to new birth in the household of faith and raise them with Christ to full and eternal life; for all might, majesty, authority and power are yours, now and for ever.
Amen.

Profession 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 bowls of water of baptism are taken to the people who extinguish their lighted candles in it.

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

The Peace

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

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.

Alleluia! Alleluia!
hearts to heaven and voices raise;
sing to God a hymn of gladness,
sing to God a hymn of praise:
he who on the Cross a victim
for the world's salvation bled,
Jesus Christ, the King of Glory,
now is risen from the dead.

Christ is risen, Christ the first-fruits
of the holy harvest field,
which will all its full abundance
at his second coming yield;
then the golden ears of harvest
will their heads before him wave,
ripened by his glorious sunshine,
from the furrows of the grave.

Christ is risen, we are risen;
shed upon us heavenly grace,
rain, and dew, and gleams of glory
from the brightness of thy face;
that we with our hearts in heaven,
here on earth may fruitful be,
and by angel hands be gathered,
and be ever, Lord, with thee.

Alleluia! Alleluia!
Glory be to God on high;
Alleluia to the Saviour,
who has gained the victory;
Alleluia to the Spirit,
fount of love and sanctity;
Alleluia, Alleluia,
to the Triune Majesty.

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 (Nardone)

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 (Nardone)

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

Mission Hymn

sung by the choir.

Ye choirs of new Jerusalem,
your sweetest notes employ,
the paschal victory to hymn
in strains of holy joy.

For Judah's Lion burst his chains,
and crushed the serpent's head;
and brought with him, from death's domains
the long-imprisoned dead.

From hell's devouring jaws the prey
alone our Leader bore;
His ransomed hosts pursue their way
where he hath gone before.

Triumphant in his glory now
his sceptre ruleth all,
earth, heaven and hell before him bow,
and at his footstool fall.

While joyful thus his praise we sing,
his mercy we implore,
into his palace bright to bring
and keep us evermore.

All glory to the Father be,
all glory to the Son,
all glory, Holy Ghost, to thee,
while endless ages run.
Alleluia! Amen.

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.

Organ Voluntary

Allegro Maestoso e Vivace (Sonata II)

– Felix Mendelssohn

Organist: William Baldry

The livestream continues until the end of the voluntary.

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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