

Choral Eucharist

10.30am 25th April 2021 – 4th Sunday of Easter

Gathering

Attending this Service in Person in Church

If you are coming to church for this service, please bring this order of service with you if you can, on a device or print the paper copy at home and bring it with you. However people arriving in church without their own order of service will be given a shortened service sheet.

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.

Logging on to the Live Stream

1. The live stream will start at about 10.25am 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

Organist: Christopher Moore

Welcome and Introduction

The minister gives some NOTICES, and INTRODUCES the service.

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

The Lord be with you,
The Lord bless you.

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

Prayer of Preparation

Please kneel or sit.

**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

Christ our Passover lamb has been sacrificed for us. Let us therefore rejoice by putting away all malice and evil and confessing our sins with a sincere and true heart.

We pause for a time of self-reflection.

**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.**

Almighty God,
who forgives all who truly repent,
have mercy upon us,
pardon and deliver us from all our sins,
confirm and strengthen us in all goodness,
and keep us in life eternal;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Gloria (Matthias)

Please stand. 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 (The Collect)

Alleluia, Christ is risen
He is risen indeed. Alleluia.
Let us pray.

We keep a time of silent prayer together.

Almighty God,
whose Son Jesus Christ is the resurrection and the life:
raise us, who trust in him,
from the death of sin to the life of righteousness,
that we may seek those things which are above,
where he reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Listening for the Word from God

First Reading: Acts 4.5-12

read by Ian Lord. Please sit.

The Jewish rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, 'By what power or by what name did you do this?'

Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, 'Rulers of the people and elders, if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead.

This Jesus is "the stone that was rejected by you, the builders; it has become the cornerstone." There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved.'

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

Psalm 23

Sung by the choir.

THE Lord is my shepherd : therefore can I lack nothing.
He shall feed me in a green pasture : and lead me forth
beside the waters of comfort.

He shall convert my soul : and bring me forth in the
paths of righteousness, for his Name's sake.

Yea, thou I walk through the valley of the shadow of
death, I will fear no evil : for thou art with me; thy
rod and thy staff comfort me.

Thou shalt prepare a table before me against them that
trouble me : thou hast anointed my head with oil,
and my cup shall be full.

But thy loving-kindness and mercy shall follow me all
the days of my life : and I will dwell in the house of
the Lord for ever.

Please stand

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son : and to the
Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be :
world without end. Amen.

Gospel: John 10.11-18

read by Richard Hanley, Elder. Please stand.

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said to the Pharisees: 'I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away – and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep.

'I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd.

'For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father.'

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

Sermon

Revd Canon Charles Jenkin

Affirmation of Faith

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.**

Intercession

led by Hilary Norman, Elder. Please kneel or sit.

In the power of the Spirit and in union with Christ, let us pray to the Father.

Almighty God, who in your wisdom have so ordered our earthly life, that we must walk in faith, grant us such faith in you that amidst all things that pass our understanding we may believe in your Fatherly care, and be strengthened by the assurance that underneath are your everlasting arms.

We pray for the mission and unity of the Church throughout the World: remembering today the Anglican Church in Canada. In our diocese we pray for Parishes in the Clare Deanery. In Ipswich we pray for Archdeacon Rhiannon King as she leads the Inspiring Ipswich Project.

In our life at St Mary-le-Tower, we pray for one another. Teach us Lord to seek your will. Guide each of us to know the task which will bring purpose and joy; for in serving others we are serving you. Give us strength and wisdom to meet the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead.

Lord, hear us. **Lord, graciously hear us.**

We pray for the Nations of the World. O Lord, be with those who bear the responsibility of government. Give them wisdom beyond their own, integrity and a resolve to seek your kingdom and your righteousness for all people.

We pray especially for the people of India: where many thousands are suffering as a result of Covid-19 infection.

Grant them courage and to know your presence. Comfort those who mourn.

Loving Father, life's journey sometimes leads through dark valleys, yet darkness does not hide us from you, who shares our burden and our grief.

Lord, hear us. **Lord, graciously hear us.**

We pray for peace in the world. Break down the barriers of fear, of hostility and misunderstanding that divide nations. We remember those living amidst terrorism, for those ensnared in extremism.

We pray for the nations of the United Kingdom, as we prepare for local elections. For those who will serve their local communities providing local services.

O God, we pray that we can conserve and not squander the riches of nature and help to avoid climate change, and share the beauty of creation.

Lord, hear us. **Lord, graciously hear us.**

Heavenly Father we give thanks for our families and friends. For the love and support we receive. We pray for those for whom family life is difficult. For the housebound and the lonely. Help us to reach out to others, to offer a smile, a kindly word, a token of your love Lord. Comfort and sustain each in their need.

Lord, hear us. **Lord, graciously hear us.**

Comfort and heal all who suffer in body, mind or spirit. We remember Penny Parke, Derek Le May, Sally Patient and Helen Burtonshaw, Grace Chandler, Ian Miller, Phyl Fisk, Eileen Mayers and Mary Trythall.

Lord, hear us. **Lord, graciously hear us.**

We pray rest in peace and rise in glory for those who have recently died including Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, and Robert Slater.

We pray for the Queen and members of the Royal Family: and all who mourn the passing of those they have loved but see no longer. We give thanks for the lives of those whose remembrance falls at this time of year including Beatrice Crane.

Lord, hear us. **Lord, graciously hear us.**

Eternal Father, help us to entrust the past to your mercy, the present to your love, and the future to your wisdom.

Merciful Father;

**Accept these prayers,
 For the sake of your Son,
 Our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.**

Liturgy of the Sacrament

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 Gifts of the People

St Mary-le-Tower faces considerable financial challenges at this time and everyone is invited to make a generous contribution by one method or another.

Donations may be made using as follows:

- Regular giving by Standing Order
- The Donation Button on our website
- Via BACS to 30-94-55, 00059383
PCC St Mary le Tower Ipswich

Offertory Anthem (Goodall)

Sung by the choir. Please sit.

During which the minister prepares the Holy Table.

The Lord is my shepherd I shall not want
He maketh me to lie down in green pastures
He leadeth me beside the still waters

Yea, though I walk through the valley
Of the shadow of death I will fear no evil
For you are with me, you will comfort me

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
All the days of my life
And I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

Offertory Sentence

Please stand. The minister takes the collection plate. Recalling our giving for God's work of in the life and mission of our Church, the minister says:

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

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

Blessed are you, Lord God,
our light and our salvation;
to you be glory and praise for ever.
From the beginning you have created all things
and all your works echo the silent music of your praise.

In the fullness of time you made us in your image,
the crown of all creation.

You give us breath and speech,
that with angels and archangels
and all the powers of heaven
we may find a voice to sing your praise:

The Sanctus is sung by the choir (Matthias)

Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.

The Benedictus is sung by the choir.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

Please kneel or sit.

How wonderful the work of your hands, O Lord.
As a mother tenderly gathers her children,
you embraced a people as your own.
When they turned away and rebelled
your love remained steadfast.

From them you raised up Jesus our Saviour,
born of Mary, to be the living bread,
in whom all our hungers are satisfied.
He offered his life for sinners,
and with a love stronger than death
he opened wide his arms on the cross.

On the night before he died,
he came to supper with his friends
and, taking bread, he gave you thanks.
He broke it and gave it to them, saying:
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

At the end of supper, taking the cup of wine,
he gave you thanks, and said:
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.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus:

**Dying you destroyed our death,
Rising you restored our life:
Lord Jesus, come in glory.**

Father, we plead with confidence
his sacrifice made once for all upon the cross;
we remember his dying and rising in glory, and
we rejoice that he intercedes for us at your right hand.

Pour out your Holy Spirit as we bring before you
these gifts of your creation; may they be for us
the body and blood of your dear Son.
As we eat and drink these holy things in your presence,
form us in the likeness of Christ,
and build us into a living temple to your glory.

Remember, Lord, your Church in every land.
 Reveal her unity, guard her faith,
 and preserve her in peace.
 Bring us at the last with Blessed Mary and all the saints
 to the vision of that eternal splendour
 for which you have created us;

through Jesus Christ, our Lord,
 by whom, with whom, and in whom,
 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.**

Breaking Bread

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.
 And 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.**

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.**

Agnus Dei (Matthias)

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.

Holy Communion

*Before receiving Communion, 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.*

Prayer after Communion

**Merciful Father,
 you gave your Son Jesus Christ
 to be the good shepherd,
 and in his love for us
 to lay down his life and rise again:
 keep us always under his protection,
 and give us grace to follow in his steps;
 through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Sending Out

Mission Hymn

*Please stand. Due to Coronavirus regulations, it is sadly
 not currently permitted for the congregation to sing in
 church. Please follow the words and sing them in your
 heart. Please join in at home if you wish!*

I will sing the wondrous story
 Of the Christ who died for me.
 How He left His home in glory
 For the cross of Calvary.
 I was lost, but Jesus found me,
 Found the sheep that went astray,
 Threw His loving arms around me,
 Drew me back into His way.

I was bruised, but Jesus healed me;
 Faint was I from many a fall;
 Sight was gone, and fears possessed me,
 But He freed me from them all.
 Days of darkness still come o'er me,
 Sorrow's paths I often tread,
 But the Savior still is with me;
 By His hand I'm safely led.

He will keep me till the river
 Rolls its waters at my feet;
 Then He'll bear me safely over,
 Where the loved ones I shall meet.
 Yes, I'll sing the wondrous story
 Of the Christ who died for me,
 Sing it with the saints in glory,
 Gathered by the crystal sea.

Blessing and Dismissal

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

He is risen indeed. Alleluia.

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.**

We are raised to new life with Christ.

Go in his peace. Alleluia, alleluia.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

Organ Voluntary

The livestream continues until the end of the Voluntary

After the Service

Under Lockdown Coronavirus Regulations it is not yet permitted for people to gather to chat in church, but it is permitted for groups of six to gather in the churchyard after services.

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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