

# Choral Eucharist

10.30am 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2021 – 5<sup>th</sup> 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](http://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 (Nardone)

*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,  
who through your only-begotten Son Jesus Christ  
have overcome death and opened to us  
the gate of everlasting life:  
grant that, as by your grace going before us  
you put into our minds good desires,  
so by your continual help  
we may bring them to good effect;  
through Jesus Christ our risen Lord,  
who is alive and 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 8.26-end

*read by Sue Adair. Please sit.*

An angel of the Lord said to Philip, 'Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.' (This is a wilderness road.) So he got up and went.

Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, 'Go over to this chariot and join it.' So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, 'Do you understand what you are reading?' He replied, 'How can I, unless someone guides me?' And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him.

Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this: 'Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter, and like a lamb silent before its shearer, so he does not open his mouth. In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth.' The eunuch asked Philip, 'About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?' Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus.

As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, 'Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?' He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

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

### Gradual Anthem (*Rubbra*)

*Sung by the choir.*

Jesukin  
Lives my little cell within;  
What were wealth of cleric high?  
All is lie but Jesukin.  
Sons of kings and kingly kin,  
To my land may enter in;  
Guest of none I hope to be,  
Save of Thee, my Jesukin.  
Unto Heav'ns High King confest  
Sing a chorus, maidens blest!  
He is o'er us, though within,  
Jesukin is on my breast.

### Gospel: John 15.1-8

*Please stand.*

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

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus said to his disciples: 'I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine-grower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me.

I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.'

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

*Written by Richard Hanley, Elder  
led by Hilary Norman, Elder. Please kneel or sit.*

Let us pray.

*Grant, O gracious Lord, that we not only hear your word, but understand and receive it into our hearts; that we not only receive it but reveal it our lives by living out your calling.*

Next week sees the feast day of Mother Julian of Norwich, author of *The Revelations of Divine Love*. We begin our prayers with her most quoted words: *All shall be well, and all shall be well and all manner of thing shall be well.*

Lord in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

We pray for the Christian church throughout the world remembering The Episcopal Church in Jerusalem and The Middle East. In our own diocese we pray for the

Colneys Deanery and the clergy and people of the parishes of Walton and Trimley.

In our own church we pray for each other and particularly members of the PCC meeting on Tuesday. We bring before God the issues to be discussed and decisions to be made. We give thanks for all we have in this place and for all who work to sustain God's presence here.

Lord in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

We pray for the world. *Almighty Father, whose will is to restore all things in your beloved Son, the king of all; govern the hearts and minds of those in authority, and bring the families of the nations divided by the ravages of war and conflict to be subject to his just and gentle rule.*

We bring before God the continuing strife in Myanmar and those suffering as a result of the disaster in Israel. We give thanks for the gift of vaccination against Coronavirus and pray for an equitable distribution amongst the nations of the world.

We pray for all those standing for elected office in this coming week at local, regional or national level. We pray that integrity, honesty and openness are the hallmarks of all who seek to represent others.

Lord in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

We pray for the sick. *Lord the fount of all compassion, tenderness and healing, look with mercy on those who at this time suffer in body, mind or spirit. Comfort and strengthen those who are frightened, sad or anxious.*

We remember particularly at this time Penny Parke. We continue to pray for Derek le May, Sally Patient, Carolyn, Tony Brooke-Carr, Joyce Courage, Andy Courage, Peter Gotts, Margrid Brooks, May Gurney and John Bradbury.

Lord in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

We pray for those who have died remembering today Pat Walkerdine. *Welcome into your calm and peaceful kingdom those who out of this present life have departed to be with you; grant them rest and a place with the souls of the just; and give them the life that knows no age and the reward that passes not away.*

In a moment of silence, we remember those whose memories we treasure but see no longer and give thanks for those whose remembrance falls at this time of year, among them Bernard Willey and Matthew Patient.

We conclude our prayers with words of Mother Julian: *The goodness of God is the highest object of prayer and it reaches down to our lowest need. All shall be well, and all shall be well and all manner of thing shall be well*

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 (Dankworth)

*Sung by the choir. Please sit.*

*During which the minister prepares the Holy Table.*

Light beyond shadow, joy beyond tears,  
 love that is greater when darkest our fears;  
 deeper the peace when the storm is around,  
 dearer the Christ to the lost who is found.

Light of the world, Jesus shining, shining!  
 Sins of the world, see him dying, dying!  
 In our darkness, he is light,  
 in our crying, he is love,  
 in the noise of life imparting  
 peace that passes understanding:

light beyond shadow, joy beyond tears,  
 love that is greater when darkest our fears;  
 deeper the peace when the storm is around,  
 dearer the Christ to the lost who is found.

### 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:*

Generous God, creator, redeemer, sustainer,  
 at your table we present this money,  
 symbol of the work you have given us to do;  
 use it, use us, in the service of your world  
 to the glory of your name. **Amen.**

## 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**

Father, we give you thanks and praise through your beloved Son Jesus Christ, your living Word, through whom you have created all things; who was sent by you in your great goodness to be our Saviour. By the power of the Holy Spirit he took flesh; as your Son, born of the blessed Virgin, he lived on earth and went about among us; he opened wide his arms for us on the cross; he put an end to death by dying for us; and revealed the resurrection by rising to new life; so he fulfilled your will and won for you a holy people.

And now we give you thanks because in his victory over the grave a new age has dawned, the long reign of sin is ended, a broken world is being renewed and humanity is once again made whole.

Therefore with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we proclaim your great and glorious name, for ever praising you and singing:

*The Sanctus is sung by the choir (Nardone)*

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.*

Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness; grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit, and according to your holy will, these gifts of bread and wine may be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ;

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.

Jesus Christ is Lord:

**Lord, by your cross and resurrection  
you have set us free.**

**You are the Saviour of the world.**

And so, Father, calling to mind his death on the cross,  
his perfect sacrifice made once  
for the sins of the whole world;  
rejoicing in his mighty resurrection  
and glorious ascension,  
and looking for his coming in glory,  
we celebrate this memorial of our redemption.

As we offer you  
this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving,  
we bring before you this bread and this cup  
and we thank you for counting us worthy  
to stand in your presence and serve you.

Send the Holy Spirit on your people  
and gather into one in your kingdom  
all who share this one bread and one cup,  
so that we, in the company of  
Blessed Mary all the saints,  
may praise and glorify you for ever,

through Jesus Christ our Lord;  
by whom, and with whom, and in whom,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father,  
for ever and ever. **Amen.**

*We keep a time of quiet together.*

## 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 (Nardone)

*Sung by the choir:*

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world  
have mercy on us. 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

**Eternal God,  
whose Son Jesus Christ is  
the way, the truth, and the life:  
grant us to walk in his way,  
to rejoice in his truth,  
and to share his risen life;  
who is alive and reigns, now and for ever. 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, the Lord of sea and sky,  
I have heard my people cry.  
All who dwell in dark and sin  
my hand will save.  
I who made the stars of night,  
I will make their darkness bright.  
Who will bear my light to them?  
Whom shall I send?

**Here I am Lord. Is it I Lord?  
I have heard you calling in the night.  
I will go, Lord, if you lead me,  
I will hold your people in my heart.**

I, the Lord of snow and rain  
I have borne my people's pain.  
I have wept for love of them.  
They turn away.  
I will break their hearts of stone,  
give them hearts for love alone.

I will speak my word to them.  
Whom shall I send?

**Here I am Lord.....**

I, the Lord of wind and flame,  
I will tend the poor and lame.  
I will set a feast for them.  
My hand will save.  
Finest bread I will provide  
till their hearts are satisfied.  
I will give my life to them.  
Whom shall I send?

**Here I am Lord.....**

## 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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