



# **3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in the Easter Season**



**St Mary's Kidlington**

**14<sup>th</sup> April 2024**

**Thank you for being part of our Easter season services.**

*This season in the Church calendar  
is the celebration of the victory  
of life over death,  
goodness over evil  
hope over despair.*

*As this year we face conflict, injustice, the abuse of power,  
oppression, and the destruction of our planet,  
our world needs this message more than ever.*

*Christian joy is not shallow happiness or feeling good;  
it is the assurance of this victory  
and deep trust in God that this Easter life  
permeates the whole of our lives—  
whether we feel good or not.*

*The Easter message of hope is not just one day, but every day.  
resurrection is for all of us  
and is all around us  
today and every day.  
Let us celebrate with joyful hearts and minds!*

*Throughout the service the rubrics on sitting, standing etc are  
invitations and not instructions; Please adopt the posture that  
you find most helpful.*

*Children are equally part of our celebrations and we do not  
worry if they need to stretch their legs or their lungs.*

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## Welcome and Gathering Prayer

Loving God, we have come to worship you.

**Help us to pray to you in faith,  
to sing your praise with gratitude,  
and to listen to your word with eagerness;  
through Christ our Lord  
Amen.**

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**He is risen indeed, Alleluia!**

### Hymn AMNS 345

Christ is the King! O friends rejoice;  
brothers and sisters, with one voice  
make all men know he is your choice.  
Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

O magnify the Lord, and raise  
anthems of joy and holy praise  
for Christ's brave saints of ancient days.  
Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

They with a faith for ever new  
followed the King, and round him drew  
thousands of faithful men and true.  
Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

O Christian women, Christian men,  
all the world over, seek again  
the Way disciples followed then.  
Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Christ through all ages is the same:  
place the same hope in his great name,  
with the same faith his word proclaim.  
Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Let love's unconquerable might  
your scattered companies unite  
in service to the Lord of light.  
Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

So shall God's will on earth be done,  
new lamps be lit, new tasks begun,  
and the whole church at last be one.  
Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

### Penitence and Absolution

Christ died to sin once for all, and now he lives to God.  
Let us renew our resolve to have done with all that is evil  
and confess our sins in penitence and faith.  
Jesus Christ, risen Master and triumphant Lord,  
we come to you in sorrow for our sins,  
and confess to you our weakness and unbelief.

We have lived by our own strength,  
and not by the power of your resurrection.  
In your mercy,  
**Forgive us and help us.**

We have lived by the light of our own eyes,  
as faithless and not believing.  
In your mercy,  
**Forgive us and help us.**

We have lived for this world alone,  
and doubted our home in heaven.  
In your mercy,  
**Forgive us and help us.**

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent,  
Have mercy on you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins,  
Confirm and strengthen you in all goodness  
And keep you in eternal life, through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## The Gloria

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 sins 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**

## The Collect

Risen Christ,

you filled your disciples with boldness and fresh hope:

strengthen us to proclaim your risen life

and fill us with your peace,

to the glory of God the Father. **Amen**

*Please sit*

## New Testament Reading from Acts Chapter 3

One day Peter and John were going up to the temple at the hour of prayer, at three o'clock in the afternoon.

A man who was unable to walk from birth was being carried in.

People would lay him daily at the gate of the temple called the

Beautiful Gate so that he could beg for money from those

entering the temple.

When he saw Peter and John about to go into the temple, he asked them for money. Peter looked intently at him, as did John, and said, 'Look at us.' The man fixed his attention on them, expecting to receive something from them. But Peter said, 'I have no silver or gold, but what I have I give you; in the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, stand up and walk.'

And Peter took the man by the right hand and raised him up; and immediately his feet and ankles were made strong. Jumping up, the man stood and began to walk, and he entered the temple with them, walking and leaping and praising God. All the people saw him walking and praising God, and they recognized him as the one who used to sit and ask for alms at the Beautiful Gate of the temple; and they were filled with wonder and amazement at what had happened to him.

While the man clung to Peter and John, all the people ran together to them in the portico called Solomon's Portico, utterly astonished. When Peter saw them he said,

'You Israelites, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we had made this man walk?

The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our ancestors, has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you handed over and rejected ... Jesus, the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. And by faith in Jesus' name, his name itself has made this man strong, whom you see and know; the faith that is through Jesus has given him this perfect health in your presence. And now, friends ... repent and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out."

This is the Word of the Lord  
**Thanks be to God**

*Please stand*

Hymn MP 162

From heaven you came helpless babe  
Entered our world, your glory veiled  
Not to be served but to serve  
And give Your life that we might live  
*This is our God, the Servant King  
He calls us now to follow Him  
To bring our lives as a daily offering  
Of worship to the Servant King*

There in the garden of tears  
My heavy load he chose to bear  
His heart with sorrow was torn  
'Yet not my will but yours,' He said (*Chorus*)

Come see His hands and His feet  
The scars that speak of sacrifice  
Hands that flung stars into space  
To cruel nails surrendered. (*Chorus*)

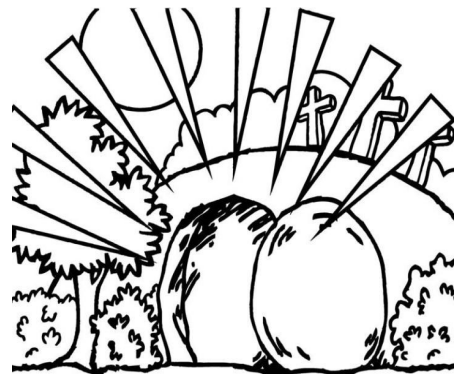
So let us learn how to serve  
And in our lives enthrone Him  
Each other's needs to prefer  
For it is Christ we're serving. (*Chorus*)

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The Gospel from Luke chapter 24

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
according to Luke

**Glory to you, O Lord**



While they were talking about the reports of Jesus being raised from the dead, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them,

'Peace be with you.'

They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost.

Jesus said to them,

'Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.'

And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet.

While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them,

'Have you anything here to eat?'

They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took it and ate in their presence.

Then Jesus said to them,

'These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.'

Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them,

'Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord

**Praise to you, O Christ.**



## Reflection

### Profession of Faith

I ask you to profess 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.**

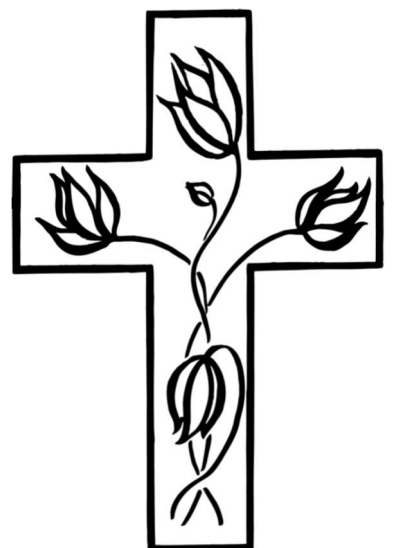
### The Intercessions:

#### The Peace

The risen Christ stood among his disciples  
and said, 'Peace be with you!'  
Then they were glad when they saw the Lord.

The peace of the risen Christ be always with you  
**And also with you.**

Let us offer each other a sign of peace



## Hymn AMNS 172

Glorious things of thee are spoken,  
Zion, city of our God;  
he whose word cannot be broken  
formed thee for his own abode;  
on the Rock of Ages founded,  
what can shake thy sure repose?  
With salvation's walls surrounded,  
thou may'st smile at all thy foes.

See, the streams of living waters,  
springing from eternal love,  
well supply thy sons and daughters,  
and all fear of want remove.  
Who can faint, while such a river  
ever flows their thirst to assuage:  
Grace which, like the Lord, the Giver,  
never fails from age to age?

Round each habitation hovering,  
see the cloud and fire appear  
for a glory and a covering,  
showing that the Lord is near.  
Thus they march, the pillar leading,  
light by night, and shade by day;  
daily on the manna feeding  
which he gives them when they pray.

Saviour, if of Zion's city,  
I through grace a member am,  
let the world deride or pity,  
I will glory in thy name.  
Fading is the worldling's pleasure,  
all his boasted pomp and show;  
solid joys and lasting treasure  
none but Zion's children know.

## THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

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:

**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!**

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.

Jesus Christ is Lord:

**Lord, by your cross and resurrection  
you have set us free.  
You are the Saviour of the world.**

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.

Bring us at the last with 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**

As our Saviour taught us so we pray:

**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.**

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.**

Draw near with faith.  
Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ  
which he gave for you,  
and his blood which he shed for you.  
Eat and drink in remembrance that he died for you,  
and feed on him in your hearts by faith,  
with thanksgiving. **Amen**

*The Distribution of Communion*

*Around Christ's table, everyone is welcome.*

*If it is your custom to receive communion in any Christian church you are welcome to receive it this morning, but if you would prefer to receive a blessing please do feel free to come forward and keep your head bowed.*

*Christians pray for each other.*

*Every week our prayer team is available to pray with you simply and privately about anything that is on your mind, or indeed for another person about whom you care.*

*If you would like them to pray with / for you please go to the Lady Chapel after receiving communion and if there is a queue just sit quietly on the chairs provided*

The body and blood of Christ, **Amen**

*During communion:*

Here, O my Lord, I see thee face to face;  
here would I touch and handle things unseen,  
here grasp with firmer hand th'eternal grace,  
and all my weariness upon thee lean.

Here would I feed upon the bread of God,  
here drink with thee the royal wine of heav'n;  
here would I lay aside each earthly load,  
here taste afresh the calm of sin forgiv'n.

I have no help but thine, nor do I need  
another arm save thine to lean upon:  
it is enough, my Lord, enough indeed;  
my strength is in thy might, thy might alone.

*Horatius Bonar (1808-89)*

*After communion:*

**Father of all, we give you thanks and praise  
that when we were still far off  
you met us in your Son and brought us home.  
Dying and living, he declared your love,  
gave us grace, and opened the gate of glory.  
May we who share Christ's body live his risen life;  
We who drink his cup bring life to others;  
We whom the Spirit lights give light to the world.  
Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us,  
So we and all your children shall be free,  
and the whole earth live to praise your name;  
Through Christ our Lord. Amen**

Notices

The Blessing

...and the blessing of God Almighty -  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit -  
be with you this joyful Eastertide and for ever. **Amen.**

HYMN MP 796

You shall go out with joy and be led forth with peace,  
And the mountains and the hills shall break forth before you.  
There'll be shouts of joy and the trees of the field  
Shall clap, shall clap their hands.

And the trees of the field shall clap their hands,  
And the trees of the field shall clap their hands,  
And the trees of the field shall clap their hands,  
And you'll go out with joy.

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Dismissal

Go in the light and peace of Christ

**Thanks be to God**

*Organ Voluntary: Choral Song - Wesley*

**Team Rector**

Felicity Scroggie, [felicity@kidhp.org.uk](mailto:felicity@kidhp.org.uk)

**Curate**

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**This is your church.  
We are open every day,  
and everyone is welcome all through the  
year, for services, baptisms, weddings, and  
funerals, or just for a chat.**