



# Fifth Sunday of Easter



Sunday 3rd May 2026

St Mary's Kidlington

[www.kidhp.org.uk](http://www.kidhp.org.uk)

*In this and all our services the indications to sit / stand are invitations not instructions.*

*Please adopt whatever posture most suits you.*

## The Gathering

Opening Hymn: AMNS 247 - I heard the voice of Jesus say

I heard the voice of Jesus say,  
"Come unto me and rest;  
lay down, thou weary one, lay down  
thy head upon my breast."  
I came to Jesus as I was,  
weary, worn, and sad;  
I found in him a resting-place,  
and he has made me glad.

I heard the voice of Jesus say,  
"Behold, I freely give  
the living water, thirsty one,  
stoop down and drink and live."  
I came to Jesus, and I drank  
of that life-giving stream;  
my thirst was quenched, my soul revived,  
and now I live in him.

I heard the voice of Jesus say,  
"I am this dark world's light;  
look unto me; thy morn shall rise,  
and all thy day be bright."  
I looked to Jesus, and I found  
in him my star, my sun;  
and in that light of life I'll walk  
till travelling days are done.

Horatius Bonar (1808-89)

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

The Lord be with you **and also with you.**

God is spirit.

**Let us worship him in spirit and truth.**

The Lord is with us.

**Let us praise his name together.**

## Prayers of Penitence

### Invitation to confession

In baptism we died with Christ,  
so that as Christ was raised from the dead,  
we might walk in newness of life.  
Let us receive new life in him  
as we confess our sins in penitence and faith.

### Confession

Like Mary at the empty tomb,  
we fail to grasp the wonder of your presence.  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

Like the disciples behind locked doors,  
we are afraid to be seen as your followers.  
Christ, have mercy.  
**Christ, have mercy.**

Like Thomas in the upper room,  
we are slow to believe.  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

### Absolution

The God of love and power  
forgive you and free you from your sins,  
heal and strengthen you by his Spirit,  
and raise you to new life in Christ our  
Lord. **Amen.**

## 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

*Let us pray.*

Risen Christ,  
your wounds declare your love for the world  
and the wonder of your risen life:  
give us compassion and courage  
to risk ourselves for those we serve  
to the glory of God the Father.  
**Amen.**

## The Liturgy of the Word

### Readings

*Please sit*

## First Reading: Romans 5. 1-8

Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God. Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.

For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. For one will scarcely die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die— but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Gradual Hymn: MP 48 - Be still and know

Be still and know that I am God.  
Be still and know that I am God.  
Be still and know that I am God.

I am the Lord that healeth thee.  
I am the Lord that healeth thee.  
I am the Lord that healeth thee.

In Thee, O Lord, I put my trust.  
In Thee, O Lord, I put my trust.  
In Thee, O Lord, I put my trust.

Anon

## Gospel Reading

Alleluia, alleluia.

I am the first and the last, says the Lord, and the living one; I was dead, and behold I am alive for evermore.

**Alleluia.**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

John 3. 16-17

“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

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

*Please sit*

Sermon - “Being Loved”

The Sermon today is the first of The Sermon Series on Prayer.

*Please stand*

## The Creed

**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.**

*Please sit or kneel*

## Prayers of Intercession

### 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. Alleluia.

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

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

### Preparation of the Table

*At the offertory we offer the eucharistic gifts - bread and wine - for God to transform and bless. As these material gifts are carried through the people to the altar, we also offer ourselves, for God to take, bless, and use for his work in our daily lives. We do not pass around a collection plate but you are warmly invited to contribute to the costs of ministry in this church by using the card reader at the entrance or through a cash donation in the collection plate beside it as you arrive or leave. You can also donate through our website. Thank you for your generosity which is much appreciated.*

### Offertory Hymn AMNS 246 Just as I am

Just as I am, without one plea,  
but that thy blood was shed for me,  
and that thou bidst me come to thee,  
O Lamb of God, I come.

Just as I am, though tossed about  
with many a conflict, many a doubt;  
fightings and fears within, without,  
O Lamb of God, I come.

Just as I am, poor, wretched, blind;  
sight, riches, healing of the mind,  
yea, all I need, in thee to find,  
O Lamb of God, I come.

Just as I am, thou wilt receive;  
wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve,  
because thy promise I believe,  
O Lamb of God, I come.

Just as I am (thy love unknown  
has broken every barrier down),  
now to be thine, yea, thine alone,  
O Lamb of God, I come.

Just as I am, of that free love  
the breadth, length, depth, and height to prove,  
here for a season, then above:  
O Lamb of God, I come.

## Taking of the Bread and Wine

*The table is prepared and bread and wine are placed upon it.*

Risen Lord Jesus Christ,  
we believe you, and all we have heard is true.  
When you break bread  
may we recognise you as the fire that burns within us,  
that we may bring light to your world.

**Amen.**

## The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you  
**and also with 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 always right to give you thanks,  
God our Creator,  
loving and faithful,  
holy and strong.  
You made us  
and the whole universe,  
and filled your world with life.

You sent your Son to live among us,  
Jesus our Saviour, Mary's child.  
He suffered on the cross;  
he died to save us from our sins;  
he rose in glory from the dead.

You send your Spirit  
to bring new life to the world,  
and clothe us with power from on high.  
And so we join the angels  
to celebrate and sing:

**Holy, holy, holy,  
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, on the night before he died,  
Jesus shared a meal with his friends.  
He took the bread, and thanked you.  
He broke it, and gave it to them, saying:  
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.  
Do this to remember me.

After the meal, Jesus took the cup of wine. He  
thanked you, and gave it to them, saying:

Drink this, all of you.  
This is my blood,  
the new promise of God's unfailing love.  
Do this to remember me.

Great is the mystery of faith  
**Christ has died.  
Christ is risen.  
Christ will come again.**

Father, as we bring this bread and wine,  
and remember his death and resurrection,  
send your Holy Spirit,  
that we who share these gifts may be fed by Christ's body and his blood.

Pour your Spirit on us  
that we may love one another,  
work for the healing of the earth,  
and share the good news of Jesus,  
as we wait for his coming in glory.

For honour and praise belong to you, Father,  
with Jesus your Son, and the Holy Spirit:  
one God, for ever and ever.

**Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

*Please sit or kneel*

As our Saviour has taught us so we pray

**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be you name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as it is 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.**

## Breaking of the Bread

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.**

## Giving of Communion

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

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

**Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world,  
grant us peace.**

*The president and people receive communion by intinction or by drinking from the common cup. Please let us know how you want to receive as you approach the minister. If you prefer a blessing, please do come forward.*

Choir anthem: 'Up, Up! My heart! with gladness' - J S Bach

## Post Communion Prayer:

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.**

**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.**

The Sending Out

*Please stand*

The Blessing

Lord Jesus Christ,  
who promised us the Spirit of truth to guide and lead us,  
send us out with hearts ready to welcome your gift,  
eyes open to see and ears eager to hear,  
that we may live and reveal your truth and love  
in every moment, day by day;  
and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, Son and Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always.  
**Amen.**

The Dismissal

With the power that raised Jesus from the dead at work within  
you, go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia.  
**In the name of Christ. Amen. Alleluia, alleluia.**

# Recessional Hymn AMNS 336 All my hope on God is founded

All my hope on God is founded;  
he doth still my trust renew.  
Me through change and chance he guideth,  
only good and only true.  
God unknown, he alone  
calls my heart to be his own.

Pride of man and earthly glory,  
sword and crown betray his trust;  
what with care and toil he buildeth,  
tower and temple, fall to dust.  
But God's power, hour by hour,  
is my temple and my tower.

God's great goodness aye endureth,  
deep his wisdom, passing thought:  
splendour, light and life attend him,  
beauty springeth out of naught.  
Evermore from his store  
new-born worlds rise and adore.

Daily doth th' Almighty Giver  
bounteous gifts on us bestow;  
his desire our soul delighteth,  
pleasure leads us where we go.  
Love doth stand at his hand;  
joy doth wait on his command.

Still from man to God eternal  
sacrifice of praise be done,  
high above all praises praising  
for the gift of Christ, his Son.  
Christ doth call one and all:  
ye who follow shall not fall.

Robert Bridges (1844-1930) based on the German of J. Neander (1650-80)

**Organ voluntary:**

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## Prayer Ministry Team

If you would like someone to pray personally and simply with you, for yourself or a loved one, please go to the Lady Chapel after the service. Two members of the Prayer Ministry Team (name-badges on blue lanyards) will be ready to listen and pray. You may like to bring your coffee with you. If someone is already being prayed with, please wait outside the Lady Chapel on the seating provided and you will be attended to as soon as possible. You are also welcome to ask other members of the Prayer Ministry Team (names below) to pray with you. Please note: The usual rules of confidentiality apply.

## Members of the Prayer Ministry Team:

Liz Bendor-Samuel, Liz Bruce, Rob Bruce, Jill Buckeldee, Philippa Burrell, Diana Davis, Karen Mason, David Meara, John Morris, Joyce Morris

## Safeguarding

If you, or someone you know, has been impacted by abuse or has concerns, please speak to the Safeguarding Officer for our parish, Yo Davies (07865 664451; [safeguarding@kidhp.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@kidhp.org.uk)) or the Diocesan Safeguarding Team (01865 208295) [safeguardingreferrals@oxford.anglican.org](mailto:safeguardingreferrals@oxford.anglican.org)).

## Contact details

Felicity (Team Rector):

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Currently on Sabbatical

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***Summer Sundays  
at St Mary's***



***Church Open for  
Afternoon Teas  
3pm to 5pm  
in the Refectory at the back of  
the church  
from 3rd May to 6th September***