



Easter Morning Service Online

Webcast from Bishopscourt
Easter Day at 7 AM

Holy Communion on Easter Day

Explanatory Notes

1. Spiritual Communion

Bishop Rachel, recognising that she does so in real but separated company with those for whom she has spiritual care, is choosing to stream her celebration of Holy Communion this Easter Day.

Those participating remotely, and therefore unable to receive the bread & wine, are encouraged to make an Act of Spiritual Communion at the same time as the Bishop celebrates Holy Communion. This is explained further below.

The Church of England

website:<https://www.churchofengland.org/sites/default/files/2020-03/Guidance%20on%20Spiritual%20Communion%20and%20Coronavirus.pdf> offers examples of prayers and preparation. As the introduction to that liturgical material explains:

The Book of Common Prayer instructs us that if we offer ourselves in penitence and faith, giving thanks for the redemption won by Christ crucified, we may truly 'eat and drink the Body and Blood of our Saviour Christ', although we cannot receive the sacrament physically in ourselves. Making a Spiritual Communion is particularly fitting for those who cannot receive the sacrament at the great feasts of the Church, and it fulfils the duty of receiving Holy Communion 'regularly, and especially at the festivals of Christmas, Easter and Whitsun or Pentecost' (Canon B 15).

2. Candle Lighting during the Gloria

Bishop Rachel invites you to light a candle or put on a representative light during the Gloria in excelsis (on pages 4-5).

The Easter Liturgy



The Service of Light

The Bishop introduces the service, standing by the unlit Easter Candle.

All Christ yesterday and today,
the beginning and the end,

Alpha and Omega,
All time belongs to him,
And all ages;

All **to him be glory and power,
Through every age and for ever.
Amen.**

This is the day when our Lord Jesus Christ
passed from death to life.

Throughout the world Christians celebrate the awesome
power of God.

As we hear his word and proclaim all that God has done,
we can be confident that we shall share his victory over
death and live with him for ever.

The Bishop lights the Easter Candle, saying

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

All The Light of Christ
Thanks be to God.

The Easter Acclamation

The Bishop then says

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

Gloria in Excelsis

The Gloria in excelsis is sung, during which you are invited to light candles or to put on a representative light.

All **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.**

Music composed and arranged by Angela Reith

Silence is kept.

The 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.

All

Amen.

New Testament Reading

Acts 10.34-43

³⁴ Then Peter began to speak to them: 'I truly understand that God shows no partiality, ³⁵ but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. ³⁶ You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. ³⁷ That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: ³⁸ how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. ³⁹ We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; ⁴⁰ but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, ⁴¹ not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. ⁴² He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. ⁴³ All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.'

This is the word of the Lord.

All

Thanks be to God.

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.

All Alleluia.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to *John*.

All Glory to you, O Lord.

John 20.1-18

¹Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. ²So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, 'They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him.' ³Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went towards the tomb. ⁴The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. ⁵He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. ⁶Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, ⁷and the cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. ⁸Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; ⁹for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. ¹⁰Then the disciples returned to their homes.

¹¹But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; ¹²and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. ¹³They said to her, 'Woman, why are you weeping?' She said to them, 'They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him.' ¹⁴When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. ¹⁵Jesus said to her, 'Woman, why are you weeping? For whom are you looking?' Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, 'Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away.' ¹⁶Jesus said to her, 'Mary!' She turned and said to him

in Hebrew, 'Rabbouni!' which means Teacher. ¹⁷Jesus said to her, 'Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, "I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God."' ¹⁸Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, 'I have seen the Lord'; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

Renewal of Baptismal Vows

Standing before the Candle, the Bishop says

As we celebrate the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ from the dead, we remember that through the paschal mystery we have died and been buried with him in baptism. To follow Christ means dying to sin and rising to new life with him. Therefore I ask:

All Do you reject the devil and all rebellion against God?
I reject them.

All Do you renounce the deceit and corruption of evil?
I renounce them.

All Do you repent of the sins that separate us from God and neighbour?
I repent of them.

All Do you turn to Christ as Saviour?
I turn to Christ.

All Do you submit to Christ as Lord?
I submit to Christ.

All Do you come to Christ, the way, the truth and the life?
I come to Christ.

Profession of Faith

Brothers and sisters, I invite you to profess the faith of the Church.

Do you believe and trust in God the Father?

All **I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe and trust in his Son Jesus Christ?

All **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?

All **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.**

Almighty God,

we thank you for our fellowship in the household of faith
with all who have been baptized in your name.

Keep us faithful to our baptism,

and so make us ready for that day

when the whole creation shall be made perfect in your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ..

All **Amen.**

Prayers of Intercession



The Liturgy of the Eucharist

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.

cf John 20.19

Alleluia.

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

All

Taking of the Bread and Wine

The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

All

Lift up your hearts.

All

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All

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 Easter morning
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, women and children
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:

All **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.

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.

All **Christ has died:**
Christ is risen:
Christ will come again.

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 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.

All **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

All **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.

Breaking of the Bread

The Bishop breaks the consecrated bread.

All Every time we eat this bread and drink this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Prayer for Spiritual Communion

A suggested personal prayer

Thanks be to you, Lord Jesus Christ,
for all the benefits you have given me,
for all the pains and insults you have borne for me.
Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally,
I ask you to come spiritually into my heart.
O most merciful redeemer, friend and brother,
may I know you more clearly,
love you more dearly,
and follow you more nearly, day by day.
Amen

after the Prayer of St Richard of Chichester

*During this time of prayer and spiritual communion,
contemplative music will be played.*

Open my eyes to see
Open my ears to hear
Open my life to live your calling
Open me Lord to love

Music and words: © Angela Reith

Prayer after Communion

God of Life,
who for our redemption gave your only-begotten Son
to the death of the cross,
and by his glorious resurrection
have delivered us from the power of our enemy:
grant us so to die daily to sin,
that we may evermore live with him in the joy of his risen
life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

All **He is risen indeed. Alleluia!**



The Dismissal

Blessing

God the Father,
by whose love Christ was raised from the dead,
open to you who believe the gates of everlasting life.

All **Amen.**

God the Son,
who in bursting the grave has won a glorious victory,
give you joy as you share the Easter faith.

All **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.

All **Amen.**

And the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be *upon* you and remain with you always.

All **Amen.**

The Dismissal

Go in the peace of Christ. Alleluia, Alleluia.

All **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.**

Closing Hymn: Thine be the glory

All Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son,
Endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won;
Angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away,
Kept the folded grave-clothes where thy body lay.

*Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son,
Endless is the vict'ry thou o'er death hast won.*

Lo, Jesus meets us, risen from the tomb;
Lovingly he greets us, scatters fear and gloom;
let the Church with gladness hymns of triumph sing;
For her Lord now liveth, death hath lost its sting:

Thine be the glory...

No more we doubt thee, glorious Prince of Life;
Life is naught without thee: aid us in our strife,
Make us more than conquerors through thy deathless love;
Bring us safe through Jordan to thy home above.

Thine be the glory...

French, Edmond Budry 1854-1932

Tr, Richard Hoyle 1875-1939

Sung by the Choir of Gloucester Cathedral

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“Glory to God”: Music composed and arranged by Angela Reith © 1984-86, 1998.

“The Day of Resurrection” and “Thine be the glory”: Traditional hymns, sung by the Choir of Gloucester Cathedral, directed by David Briggs. From the *Complete New English Hymnal*, Vol. 4.

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