



*St* NICOLAS' CHURCH  
ABINGDON-ON-THAMES

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# Easter Day

*Service of*

# Holy Communion



Officiant: The Revd Jennifer Brown



## The Service of Light

*As the President prepares to mark the Easter Candle, the congregation is invited to face the West End of the church and the following is said:*

Christ yesterday and today, the beginning and the end, Alpha and Omega, all time belongs to him, and all ages; to him be glory and power through every age and for ever.

**Amen**

By his holy ✠ and glorious ✠ wounds ✠ may Christ our Lord guard ✠ and keep us ✠

**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 Easter Candle is lit:*

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

The Light of Christ: **thanks be to God**

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### The Greeting

Alleluia! Christ is risen

**He is risen indeed. Alleluia**

*Please sit while we meditate on:*

### Jesus Christ is risen today

Jesus Christ is ris'n today, Alleluia!

Our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!

Who did once upon the cross Alleluia!

Suffer to redeem our loss. Alleluia!

Hymns of praise then let us sing Alleluia!

Unto Christ our heav'nly King, Alleluia!

Who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia!

Sinners to redeem and save. Alleluia!

But the pains which he endured, Alleluia!  
Our salvation have procured; Alleluia!  
Now above the sky he's King, Alleluia!  
Where the angels ever sing. Alleluia!

*Lyra Davidica (1708) and others*

## **Prayer of Preparation**

**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.

**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 you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen**

*Please stand to say*

**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 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.

## The Collect

God of Glory by the raising of your Son you have broken the chains of death and hell; fill your Church with faith and hope; for a new day has dawned and the way to life stands open in our Saviour Jesus Christ.

Amen.

## The Liturgy of the Word

*Please sit for the first reading:*

**Acts 10: 34 - 43**

This is the Word of the Lord

**thanks be to God**

*Please remain seated while we meditate on:*

**Thine be the glory**

**160**

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 victory 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, risen, conquering Son  
Endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won*

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, risen, conquering Son  
Endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won*

*French 19 century Edmond Budry (1854 – 1932)  
tr. Richard Hoyle (1875 – 1939)*

*Please stand for the Gospel*

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 20: 1 - 18**

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Please sit for*

**Sermon**

*Please stand for*

**The Creed**

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

**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.**

**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.**

*Please sit for*

**Prayers of Intercession**

*Lord in your mercy:*

*or*

*Lord hear us*

**Hear our prayer**

**Lord, graciously hear us**

## **The Liturgy of the Sacrament**

*Please stand for*

**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.

The peace of the Lord be always with you, Alleluia! Alleluia!

**and also with you, Alleluia! Alleluia!**

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

*All may exchange a sign of peace.*

**The Offertory**

*Please sit to meditate on:*

**The strife is o'er**

**CP 159**

The strife is o'er, the battle done;  
Now is the Victor's triumph won;  
O let the song of praise be sung.  
Alleluia!

Death's mightiest powers have done their worst,  
And Jesus hath his foes dispersed;  
Let shouts of praise and joy outburst.  
Alleluia!

On the third morn he rose again  
Glorious in majesty to reign;  
O let us swell the joyful strain.  
Alleluia!

Lord, by the stripes which wounded thee,  
from death's dread sting thy servants free,  
that we may live and sing to thee.  
Alleluia!

*Latin, probably 17<sup>th</sup> century tr. Francis Pott (1832 – 1909)*

*We pray:*

**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 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 indeed right, our duty and our joy, always and everywhere to give you thanks, almighty and eternal Father, and in these days of Easter 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 and women 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.

**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.**

Accept our praises, heavenly Father, through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ, and as we follow his example and obey his command, grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit these gifts of bread and wine may be to us his body and his blood; 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.

Therefore, heavenly Father, we remember his offering of himself made once for all upon the cross; we proclaim his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; we look for the coming of your kingdom, and with this bread and this cup we make the memorial of Christ your Son our Lord.

Great is the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died:**

**Christ is risen:**

**Christ will come again**

Accept through him, our great high priest, this our sacrifice of thanks and praise, and as we eat and drink these holy gifts in the presence of your divine majesty, renew us by your Spirit, inspire us with your love and unite us in the body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Through him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, 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 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.**

*The president breaks the consecrated 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.**

**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.**

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

**Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia**

*Please come forward for Communion, keeping as much social distance as possible;*

*the president distributes the host in silence*

*During the distribution we listen to*

### **Christus Resurrexit (Taizé)**

Christus resurrexit, Christus resurrexit!  
Alleluia, Alleluia!

Christ is risen, Christ is risen  
Alleluia, Alleluia!

### **Post Communion prayer**

**Almighty God, we thank you for feeding us with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Through him we offer you our souls and bodies to be a living sacrifice. Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen.**

*Please sit to meditate on:*

### **The day of resurrection**

**CP 157**

The day of resurrection!  
Earth, tell it out abroad;  
The passover of gladness,  
The passover of God.  
From death to life eternal,  
From earth unto the sky,  
Our Christ hath brought us over,  
With hymns of victory.  
  
Our hearts be pure from evil,  
That we may see aright  
The Lord in rays eternal  
Of resurrection light;  
And listening to his accents,  
May hear, so calm and plain,  
His own "All hail!" and, hearing,  
May raise the victor strain.

Now let the heavens be joyful!  
Let earth the song begin!  
Let the round world keep triumph,  
And all that is therein!  
Let all things seen and unseen  
Their notes in gladness blend,  
For Christ the Lord hath risen,  
Our joy that hath no end.

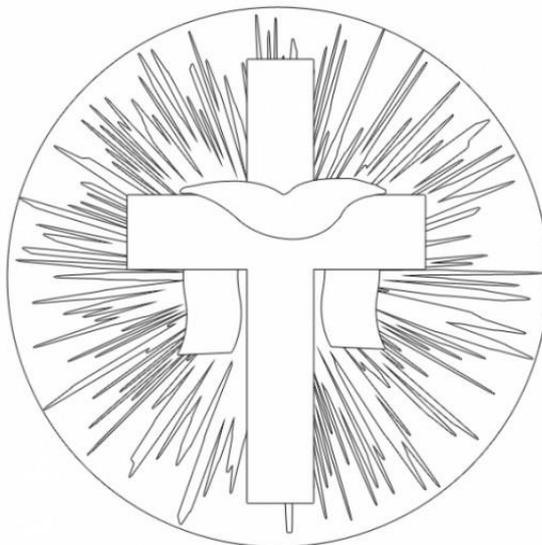
*St John of Damascus d 754  
tr J M Neale (1818 – 1866)*

### **The Blessing**

God, who through the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ has given us the victory, give you joy and peace in your faith; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

### **The Dismissal**

Go in the light and peace of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia  
**Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia**



The text for the service is from Common Worship.  
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