

# Holy Communion Eastertide



***Open to God, open to  
one another, open to the  
community***

Welcome to our service this morning, from wherever you join us. We worship together, whether physically in the building or joining us online. We may be scattered physically, but we worship together as the family of God. May each one of us be blessed as we sing, pray and reflect together.

The Great Fifty Days of Eastertide is one long festival of joy. Our Easter candle is lit for each service, the liturgical colours are white and gold, and the readings and text of the service reflect our joy in the risen life of Christ.

***God the creator is a gracious, abundant and generous host.  
You are invited to be a guest at God's table.  
Make yourself at home.  
Relax  
God is here  
You are welcome***

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You are very welcome to share in communion, whatever your tradition. If you need gluten-free bread, please let us know. If for whatever reason you would prefer not to receive communion, please come forward for a blessing.

*This is the table, not of the righteous,  
but of the poor in spirit.  
It is made ready for those who love God  
and who want to love God more.*

*So come, you who have much faith and you who have little,  
You who have been here often  
and you who have not been for a long time,  
You who have tried to follow and all of us who have failed.*

*Christ invites everyone to be known and fed here.'*

Adapted from Iona Worship Book

## **The Gathering**

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

Alleluia Christ is risen.  
**He is risen indeed, Alleluia**

## **Hymn**

### **Welcome**

*Words of welcome and introduction*

### **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.**

### **Prayer of Penitence**

*Invitation to confession*

Lord Jesus you raise us to new life  
Lord have mercy  
**Lord, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus you forgive us our sins  
Christ, have mercy.  
**Christ, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus you feed us with the living bread  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**  
**Amen.**

May 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.**

## 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

### *The Liturgy of the Word*

*One or more Bible readings are heard, followed by;*

For the word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## *Hymn*

### **Gospel Reading:**

Alleluia, alleluia,  
I am the first and the last, says the Lord, the living one;  
I was dead and behold I am alive forevermore

*cf. Revelation 1 17,18*

### **Alleluia**

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

*After the reading*

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

## Sermon

## 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.

## Prayers of Intercession

*These responses may be used:*

Lord in your mercy **Hear our prayer**

*at the end:*

Merciful Father,

**accept these prayers, for the sake of your Son,  
our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

## ***The Liturgy of the Sacrament***

### **The Peace**

The risen Christ came and stood among the disciples and said, 'Peace be with you.'  
Then they were glad when they saw the Lord. Alleluia *John 20 19,20*

The peace of the Lord be always with you  
**And also with you**

## ***Hymn***

### **The Preparation of the Table**

Be present, be present, Lord Jesus Christ, our risen high priest;  
Make yourself known in the breaking of the bread. **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 indeed right, it is our duty and our joy,  
At all times and in all places to give you thanks and praise  
Holy Father, heavenly King,  
Almighty and eternal God,  
Through Jesus Christ you Son our Lord

And now we give you thanks  
because through him you have given us eternal life  
And delivered us from the bondage of sin and the fear of death  
Into the glorious liberty of the children of God

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

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of power and might,  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory,  
Hosanna in the highest.**

Accept our praises heavenly Father,  
Through Jesus Christ our Lord;  
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 this 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.

So Father we remember this 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 forever and ever Amen**

### **The Lord's Prayer**

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us:

**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.**

### **Breaking of the Bread**

We break the bread of life, and that life is the light of the world  
**God is here among us, light in the midst of us,  
Bring us to light and life**

**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**

### **Giving of Communion**

Christ is the true bread which has come down from heaven.

**Lord, give us this bread always.**

*The invitation to Communion is extended to all those worshipping with us today, whether in the physical bread we can touch with our bodies or the spiritual communion with God who comes to us wherever we are. Come to God honestly, in the way you know how. In silence, in music or in words. This prayer, or one like it has been helpful for some people.*

Dear Christ, I love you above all things, and I desire to receive you into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive you sacramentally, come spiritually into my heart. I embrace you as if you were already there and unite myself wholly to you. May I never be separated from you. Amen *(After the Prayer of St Richard of Chichester)*

*silence is kept*

### **Prayer after Communion**

*The minister prays the post communion prayer, and then we say together:*

**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.**

### **Notices**

#### ***The Blessing***

Christ who out of defeat brings new hope and a new future, fill you with this new life; and the blessing....

#### ***Final hymn***

#### ***The Dismissal***

He is not here. He is risen.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord, Alleluia, alleluia

**In the name of Christ. Amen, Alleluia Alleluia**

Some material:

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