St George's Church



Service of Holy Communion | Easter Season

Welcome to St George's Church. If you are new or visiting, please introduce yourself to us after the service – we are delighted to have you with us.

ALLELUIA!

CHRIST IS RISEN!

HE IS RISEN INDEED!

ALLELUIA!

For regular events and news from St George's Church, make sure you are on our mailing list. Previous Pastoral Letters are available on our church website.

God's family, reaching out and welcoming in, because JESUS IS GOOD NEWS

CALL: God gathers us

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!

Christ our passover has been sacrificed for us:

so let us celebrate the feast,

not with the old leaven of corruption and wickedness:

but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.

Christ once raised from the dead dies no more:

death has no more dominion over him.

In dying he died to sin once for all:

in living he lives to God.

Count yourselves therefore as dead to sin:

and alive to God in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Christ has been raised from the dead:

the first fruits of those who sleep.

For as by man came death:

by man has come also the resurrection of the dead;

for as in Adam all die:

even so in Christ shall all be made alive.

Glory to the Father and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning is now and shall be for ever. Amen.

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

<u>Hymn</u>

CONFESSION: God cleanses us

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. **Lord, hear us and help us.**

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

We have lived for this world alone, and doubted our home in glory. In your mercy, forgive us. **Lord, hear us and help us.**

This is the message of faith that we proclaim:

If you confess with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.

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.**

<u>The Collect</u> (set prayer for today)

CONSECRATION: God speaks and transforms us

The first Bible reading ends with this Response:

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

Please stand for the Gospel reading

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

After the reading:

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

Sermon

<u>Hymn</u>

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, he became 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.

Prayers

Some of the prayers may end in this way:

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Merciful Father,

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

Amen.

The Minister will invite you to stand for the Communion Prayer. If you wish to remain seated you are welcome to do so.

COMMUNION: God feeds & unites us

The Minister will invite you to stand for the Communion Prayer. If you wish to remain seated you are welcome to do so.

The Lord is here: **His Spirit is with us.**Lift up your hearts: **We lift them up to the Lord.**Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give him 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 your Son our Lord. And now we give you thanks because Christ our Passover Lamb was sacrificed in our place. By his death he tore the curtain and has given us access to your throne of grace. By his resurrection he has crushed death and promised that one day we will rise and see you in glory. Waiting for his return and eager for his appearance we join with angels and archangels and all the company of heaven to 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.

As we draw near to you, Holy God, we come in repentance and faith:

We do not presume to come to this your table, merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in your manifold and great mercies.

We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table.
But you are the same Lord whose nature is always to have mercy.

Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ and to drink his blood, that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body and our souls washed through his most precious blood, and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, in your tender mercy you gave your only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption.

He made there, by his once and for all offering of himself, a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. He instituted and in his holy gospel commands us to continue a perpetual memory of his precious death until he comes again.

Hear us, O merciful Father, we humbly pray and grant that we – who receive this bread and wine, according to your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion – may be partakers of his most blessed body and blood.

On the night that he was betrayed he took bread, and, when he had given 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, when he had given 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.* **Amen.**

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.**

Please sit down again.

A **song or hymn** will be played as the bread and wine are distributed. You are welcome to sing along.

Notes about Communion

We invite all baptised Christians who trust in Jesus Christ for salvation, who are members of a local church and who seek strength to live as disciples of Christ to receive the bread and wine with us.

The bread and wine will be brought to you. Please remain seated.

Ordinarily we would have a shared cup as an important part of the symbolism of this meal. For now, we will express our unity in the following way:

We will each receive a piece of the broken bread. When everyone has a piece we will eat together. Then we will each receive a glass of wine. When everyone has one, we will drink together.

If you do not wish to receive the bread and wine you can simply indicate that as the server comes near.

Whether you receive bread and wine, or not, please use the time to consider the gift of Jesus' salvation, offered to you. Then pray for others within the church family.

The Lord's Prayer

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 forever. Amen.

We stand to sing The Doxology:

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him all creatures here below; praise him above ye heav'nly host; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

COMMISSION: God sends us

All of us who were baptised into Christ Jesus were baptised into his death.

We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death
so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead
through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life.

[Romans 6:3-4]

Offering ourselves to God, as those who have been brought from death to life, we pray together:

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. Amen.

<u>Hymn</u>

Final blessing

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the eternal covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**[Held

[Hebrews 13:20-21]

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

Please wait for someone to collect your wine glass before leaving your pew. If you would like someone to pray with you, please ask.

CALL	reminds us we are	CHOSEN
CONFESSION	renews us as God's	REDEEMED
CONSECRATION	grows us as	HOLY DISCIPLES
COMMUNION	unites us as	JOYFUL FAMILY
COMMISSION	sends us as	SERVANT MISSIONARIES

We are CHOSEN and REDEEMED, to be HOLY DISCIPLES, JOYFUL FAMILY, and SERVANT MISSIONARIES.

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