



St Michael with St Mary



**Holy Communion
Easter Day**



Welcome

Welcome to St Michaels and St Marys: two Christian communities, part of the Church of England. For more information about what we do, please take a welcome leaflet or search our website.

You have come to a service of Holy Communion: we hear God's Word through the Bible, and share Jesus' presence in bread and wine. Christians from different traditions worship here and we do our best to meet a breadth of need.

This booklet contains everything you will need for today's service. We say the **bold type** words together. Words in *italics* offer practical information for example about when to stand or sit. Words in boxes explain the reason for what we do and say.

Singing is an important part of worship. In addition to the hymns, music for the parts of the service (the 'setting') is printed in this booklet. The setting in this booklet includes music by John Bell and Richard Bond.

Sit where you feel most comfortable. Apart from a few seats for people with specific jobs, no spaces are reserved.

If you have children with you, the back of the north aisle and adjacent tower room contain toys and books. During term time, children's groups run in the Parish Centre and nearby school.

Toilets and baby change facilities are available. Please see a steward for access.

If you have a hearing amplification device, use setting 'T'; the strongest signal is in the main body of the church forward from the entrance door.

**If you need large print
please ask a steward**

Eastertide

Easter is the happiest time of the Christian year! Jesus has been raised from the dead and shares his eternal life with all believers. The colours of the season are celebratory white and gold.

On Easter Day many churches dedicate a paschal candle, a reminder of Christ's light among us. Since the time of the early Church, Easter has also been the traditional season for adult Baptisms: candidates who have undertaken preparation during Lent celebrate their faith during the great vigil service on Easter Eve, recalling the story of the Passover, how God saved the Jewish people through the waters of the Red Sea.

The name 'Easter' actually derives from a pagan festival which was kept at this time of year before the Anglo-Saxons were converted to Christianity in the seventh century. In non-Germanic languages the festival name is more appropriately rooted in the Jewish 'Passover' / 'Pesach' - e.g. Welsh 'Pasg' or French 'Pâques'.

Easter Day is calculated as the first Sunday after the first full moon after the spring equinox. The season culminates on Ascension Day, when, after forty days, Jesus returned to his Father in heaven. Following the Ascension, the disciples went back to Jerusalem to wait for the coming of God's Spirit; this happened at 'Pentecost' – literally 'fifty days' after Easter.

Happy Easter: may Christ meet you in the power of his risen presence!



Before we begin

Ideally there is time to still ourselves before the service. You may like to use these words for reflection and prayer.

Lord of all life and power,
who through the 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,
may reign with him in glory. Amen.

Now is eternal life,
if risen with Christ we stand,
in him to life reborn,
and holden in his hand;
no more we fear death's ancient dread,
in Christ arisen from the dead.

If in that Syrian garden, ages slain,
You sleep, and know not you are dead in vain,
Nor even in dreams behold how dark and bright
Ascends in smoke and fire by day and night
The hate you died to quench and could but fan,
Sleep well and see no morning, son of man.
But if, the grave rent and the stone rolled by,
At the right hand of majesty on high
You sit, and sitting so remember yet
Your tears, your agony and bloody sweat,
Your cross and passion and the life you gave,
Bow hither out of heaven and see and save.

AE Housman

The Gathering

The church begins without light as we stand for the traditional ceremonies of the Easter candle.

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

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 candle is lit

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

The Easter candle is processed

The light of Christ. **Thanks be to God.**

The candle is marked as a sign of Christ's endless power

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.**

Nails are inserted into the candle

as a reminder of the cost of Christ's victory

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

The candle is placed in its holder as we sing God's praises

Hymn

Alleluia! alleluia!
Hearts to heaven and voices raise;
sing to God a hymn of gladness,
sing to God a hymn of praise;
he, who on the cross a victim,
for the world's salvation bled,
Jesus Christ, the King of glory,
now is risen from the dead.

Christ is risen, Christ the first-fruits
of the holy harvest field,
which will all its full abundance
at his second coming yield;
then the golden ears of harvest
will their heads before him wave,
ripened by his glorious sunshine
from the furrows of the grave.

Christ is risen, we are risen;
shed upon us heavenly grace,
rain and dew and gleams of glory
from the brightness of thy face;
that we, with our hearts in heaven
here on earth may fruitful be,
and by angel-hands be gathered,
and be ever safe with thee.

Alleluia! alleluia!
Glory be to God on high;
Alleluia to the Saviour,
who has gained the victory;
Alleluia to the Spirit.
fount of love and sanctity:
Alleluia! alleluia!
to the Triune Majesty.

Prayers of Penitence

Kneel or Sit

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 heaven.

In your mercy, forgive us.

Lord, hear us and help us.

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.

Stand

**Sing, choirs of heaven! Let saints and angels sing!
Around God's throne exult in harmony.
Now Jesus Christ is risen from the grave.
Salute your King in glorious symphony.**

**Sing, choirs of earth! Behold, your light has come!
The glory of the Lord shines radiantly.
Lift up your hearts, for Christ has conquered death.
The night is past; the day of life is here.**

**Sing, Church of God! Exult with joy outpoured!
The gospel trumpets tell of victory won.
Your Saviour lives: he's with you evermore.
Let all God's people shout the long Amen.**

The Collect (prayer of the day)

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.
Amen.

Liturgy of the Word

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Sit

Peter began to speak to Cornelius and his household: 'I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: 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. 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; but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, 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. 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. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.'

Acts 10.34-43

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

We stand as the Easter Anthems are sung:

Christ our passover is sacrificed for us: therefore let us keep the feast;
Not with the old leaven, nor with the leaven of malice and wickedness: but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth. *I Corinthians 5.7*

Christ being raised from the dead dieth no more: death hath no more dominion over him.
For in that he died, he died unto sin once: but in that he liveth, he liveth unto God.
Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin: but alive unto God, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Romans 6.9*

Christ is risen from the dead: and become the first-fruits of them that slept.
For since by man came death: by man came also the resurrection of the dead.
For as in Adam all die: even so in Christ shall all be made alive. *I Corinthians 15.20*

The Gospel

A sentence may be sung and the Alleluia repeated



Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John

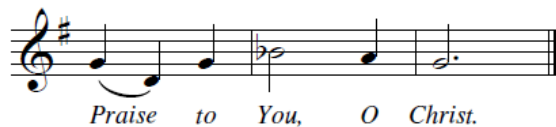


Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, 'They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we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

But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; and 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. They 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.' When she had said this, she turned round and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus 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.' Jesus said to her, 'Mary!' She turned and said to him in Hebrew, 'Rabbouni!' (which means Teacher). Jesus 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."' Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, 'I have seen the Lord'; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

John 20.1-18

This is the Gospel of the Lord.



Sermon

Please sit after the introductory prayer

The Baptism—charles ‘ point—should we use shorter All Age bap– words

Presentation of the Candidates

At the end of the sermon we stand and face the font

The president addresses the whole congregation

God raised Jesus Christ from the dead
and sent the Holy Spirit to recall the whole world to himself.
In baptism we die to sin and rise to newness of life in Christ.
Here we find rebirth in the Spirit,
and set our minds on his heavenly gifts.
As children of God, we are continually created anew,
as we walk the path of faith,
and feed on the forgiveness of his healing grace.

Faith is the gift of God to his people.
In baptism the Lord is adding to our number
those whom he is calling.
People of God, will you welcome N (and M...)
and uphold them in their new life in Christ?
With the help of God, we will.

Parents and godparents,
the Church receives these children with joy.
Today we are trusting God for their growth in faith.
Will you pray for them,
draw them by your example into the community of faith
and walk with them in the way of Christ?
Parents and godparents: With the help of God, we will.

In baptism these children begin their journey in faith.
You speak for them today.
Will you care for them,
and help them to take their place
within the life and worship of Christ's Church?

Parents and godparents: With the help of God, we will.

The Decision

Baptism involves a two-way movement,
away from sin and towards God -
seen here and in the creed on the next page

The president addresses the congregation

In baptism, God calls us out of darkness
into his marvellous light.

To follow Christ means dying to sin
and rising to new life with him.

Therefore I ask:

Do you reject the devil and all rebellion against God?

I reject them.

Do you renounce the deceit and corruption of evil?

I renounce them.

Do you repent of the sins that separate us from God and
neighbour?

I repent of them.

Do you turn to Christ as Saviour?

I turn to Christ.

Do you submit to Christ as Lord?

I submit to Christ.

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

I come to Christ.

Profession of Faith

At Easter Christians are encouraged
to renew the vows made at their baptism.
And so, brothers and sisters, I ask you to profess
together with these candidates
the faith of the Church.

Do you believe and trust in God the Father?

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

Do you believe and trust in his Son Jesus Christ?

**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?

**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.**

Prayer over the Water

Praise God who made heaven and earth,
who keeps his promise for ever.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give thanks and praise.

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ
was baptized in the river Jordan,
we thank you for the gift of water
to cleanse us and revive us.

We thank you that through the waters of the Red Sea
you led your people out of slavery
to freedom in the Promised Land.

We thank you that through the deep waters of death
you brought your Son,
and raised him to life in triumph.

Bless this water, that your servants who are washed in it
may be made one with Christ
in his death and in his resurrection,
to be cleansed and delivered from all sin.

Send your Holy Spirit upon them,
bring them to new birth in the household of faith
and raise them with Christ to full and eternal life;
for all might, majesty, authority and power are yours,
now and for ever.

Amen.

Baptism

N, I baptise you
in the name of the Father,
and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Signing with the Cross

*The president makes the sign of the cross
on the forehead of each candidate, saying*

Christ claims you for his own.
Receive the sign of his cross.

When all the candidates have been signed

Do not be ashamed to confess the faith of Christ crucified.

**Fight valiantly as a disciple of Christ
against sin, the world and the devil,
and remain faithful to Christ to the end of your life.**

May God,
who has received you by baptism into his Church,
pour upon you the riches of his grace,
that within the company of Christ's pilgrim people
you may daily be renewed by his anointing Spirit,
and come to the inheritance of the saints in glory.

Amen.

The Welcome

There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism:
by one Spirit we are all baptised into one body.
**We welcome you into the fellowship of faith;
we are children of the same heavenly Father;
we welcome you.**

Prayers of Intercession

Please kneel or sit

These responses may be used

Lord, in your mercy
hear our prayer.

or

Lord, hear us.
Lord, graciously hear us.

or

Lord of compassion,
in your mercy hear us.

and at the end

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

Liturgy of the Sacrament

The Peace

Stand

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
and also with you.

We exchange a handshake or other sign of peace

Hymn

**See, what a morning, gloriously bright,
with the dawning of hope in Jerusalem;
folded the grave-clothes, tomb filled with light,
as the angels announce Christ is risen!**

**See God's salvation plan,
wrought in love, borne in pain, paid in sacrifice,
fulfilled in Christ, the Man,
for he lives: Christ is risen from the dead!**

**See, Mary weeping, 'where is he laid?'
as in sorrow she turns from the empty tomb;
hears a voice speaking, calling her name;
it's the Master, the Lord raised to life again!**

**The voice that spans the years,
speaking life, stirring hope, bringing peace to us,
will sound till he appears,
for he lives: Christ is risen from the dead!**

**One with the Father, Ancient of Days,
through the Spirit who clothes faith with certainty,
honour and blessing, glory and praise
to the King crowned with power and authority!**

**And we are raised with him,
death is dead, love has won, Christ has conquered;
and we shall reign with him,
for he lives: Christ is risen from the dead!**

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

The musical score is written for organ and voice. It begins with an organ introduction in 2/2 time, marked 'organ'. The organ part consists of a series of chords and single notes, primarily in the right hand, with some left-hand accompaniment. The vocal part enters with the words 'Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might.' The melody is simple and hymn-like, using a G-clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics continue: 'Heav'n and - earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san-na in the high - est. Ho - san-na in the high - est. Ho - san-na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san-na in the high - est.' The score includes a repeat sign and a change to 3/4 time for the final phrase.

organ

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might.____

Heav'n and - earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san-na in the high - est. Ho -

san-na in the high - est. Ho - san-na in the high - est. Bless - ed is

he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san-na in the high - est.

sing for ever the hymn of your glory:

We praise and bless you, loving Father,
through Jesus Christ, our Lord;
and as we obey his command,
send your Holy Spirit,
that broken bread and wine outpoured
may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

On the night before he died he had supper with his friends
and, taking bread, he praised you.
He broke the bread, gave it to them and said:
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

When supper was ended he took the cup of wine.
Again he praised you, gave it to them and said:
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 all that Jesus did,
in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice
made once for all upon the cross.
Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation,
we proclaim his death and resurrection
until he comes in glory.

**Dying you destroyed our death,
rising you restored our life:
Lord Jesus, come in glory.**

Lord of all life,
help us to work together for that day
when your kingdom comes
and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth.
Look with favour on your people,
gather us in your loving arms
and bring us with all the saints
to feast at your table in heaven.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father,
for ever and ever.

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Kneel or sit

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.
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

Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.
Therefore let us celebrate the feast. Alleluia!

Please come to one of the altars.

*If you take Communion in your home church you are very wel-
come to do so here.*

*If Communion is something you are not used to we would love
to share a prayer of blessing; please carry this booklet to indi-
cate that this is what you would like.*

During Communion the choir will sing an anthem

Communion Hymn

*Alleluia, alleluia, give thanks to the risen Lord
Alleluia, alleluia, give praise to his name.*

**Jesus is Lord of all the earth:
he is the King of creation: *Alleluia, alleluia...***

**Spread the good news o'er all the earth:
Jesus has died and has risen: *Alleluia, alleluia...***

**We have been crucified with Christ:
now we shall live for ever: *Alleluia, alleluia...***

**God has proclaimed the just reward:
Life for all men, alleluia: *Alleluia, alleluia...***

**Come, let us praise the living God,
Joyfully sing to our Saviour: *Alleluia, alleluia...***

Prayer after Communion

Sit

**Author of life divine,
in the resurrection of your Son, you set before us
the mystery of his triumph over sin and death;
may all who are washed in the waters of rebirth
rise to newness of life
and find the promised presence
of your abundant grace;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

The Dismissal

Notices

Sit

Hymn or Song

Stand

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

**Giving of a
Lighted
Candle**

This candle is a permanent reminder of today's baptism;
its light is taken from the Easter candle,
a reminder that we all carry Christ's light into the world.

God has delivered us from the dominion of darkness
and has given us a place with the saints in light.
You have received the light of Christ;
walk in this light all the days of your life.
**Shine as a light in the world
to the glory of God the Father.**

May 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.

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

*Do stay for refreshments in the Parish Centre
(the freestanding building in the churchyard)*



*Easter lilies - a traditional symbol of Jesus' resurrection:
thank you to all who have decorated church
and in other ways prepared for this festival season*

It costs over £300 per day to maintain the ministry of our parish. If you are not on a regular giving scheme to St Michaels or St Marys, please give generously on the plate by the door - and consider using a Gift Aid envelope if you are a UK taxpayer.

Please return this booklet to the back of church as you leave

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