

Joint Benefice Communion Holy Communion for Easter The Service of Light

*If you have a Candle at home
this can be used as an Easter
Candle.*



*The service is a combination of this service sheet
and links to Revd Steven, the hymns, music and
bells. (This can be activated directly from the
internet as normal or 'save' the service
document, open it afresh and the links can be
activated with the service sheet remaining in
place).*

Bells <https://youtu.be/dxHdsUHI38c>

Revd Steven Link Part 1 <https://youtu.be/zwlklqGbnto>

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.**

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.

Please light your Easter Candle

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

*The candle would normally be carried to the
front of church, pausing three times*

Christ our light.

Thanks be to God.

*At the front of the Church the candle would
normally be placed on a stand in the Chancel,
and all other candles in the church would be lit.*

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Praise the God and Father of our Lord Jesus
Christ.

He has given us new life and hope.

He has raised Jesus from the dead.

God has claimed us as his own.
He has brought us out of darkness.
He has made us light to the world.

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

Revd Steven link ends

Hymn: 348 Jesus Christ is risen today

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6sj9ljVsfk>

Blessing of the Easter Garden. (Here you could use your garden).

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation,
the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.
To you be glory now and for ever.
In your great mercy you have given us a new
birth into a living hope through the resurrection
of Jesus Christ from the dead.
By your blessing, may we who have prepared
this garden in celebration of his victory
be strengthened in faith,
know the power of his presence,
and rejoice in the hope of eternal glory.
Blessed be God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Revd Steven link Part 2 <https://youtu.be/uchuwc9LfI8>

Confession

God is love and we are his children
There is no room for fear in love.
We love because he loved us first.
Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith.

**God our Father, we confess to you
and to our fellow members in the Body of
Christ**

**that we have sinned in thought, word and
deed,**

and in what we have failed to do.

We are truly sorry.

**Forgive us our sins, and deliver us from the
power of evil,**

**for the sake of your Son who died for us
Jesus Christ, our Lord.**

God who is both power and love,
forgive us and free us from our sins,
heal and strengthen us by his Spirit
and raise us to new life in Christ our Lord

Gloria in Excelsis

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

Let us pray that we may reign with the risen Christ in glory.

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 of life stands open in our Saviour Jesus Christ
Amen.

Revd Steven link ends

New Testament Reading

Acts 10:34-43 - Gentiles Hear the Good News

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.'

At the end the reader says

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Hymn: 475 Now the green blade rises

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UVduV0ustWw>

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Gospel reading

Matthew 28:1-10 - The Resurrection of Jesus

When the gospel is announced the reader says

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to *Matthew*

Glory to you, O Lord.

28 ¹After the sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. ² And suddenly there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. ³ His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. ⁴ For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. ⁵ But the angel said to the women, 'Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. ⁶ He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he

lay. ⁷ Then go quickly and tell his disciples, “He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him.” This is my message for you.’ ⁸ So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. ⁹ Suddenly Jesus met them and said, ‘Greetings!’ And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshipped him. ¹⁰ Then Jesus said to them, ‘Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me.’

At the end

This Is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

RENEWAL OF BAPTISMAL VOWS

In our 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.

We renew the promises made at our baptism, affirming our allegiance to Christ and our rejection of all that is evil.

Therefore, I ask these questions

Do you turn to Christ as Saviour?

I turn to Christ.

Do you repent of your sins?

I repent of my sins.

Do you renounce evil?

I renounce evil.

May almighty God who has given you the desire to follow Christ give you strength to continue in the way.

Brothers and sisters, I ask you to profess together 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**

**As we affirm our baptismal vows let us renew
our commitment
to Jesus Christ.**

**I answer the call of God my creator
I trust in Jesus Christ as my Saviour
I seek new life from the Holy Spirit**

**May Christ dwell in your hearts through faith,
that you may be rooted and grounded in love
and bring forth the fruit of the Spirit.**

Sermon

Let us begin with a prayer. Heavenly Father, give us your grace and spirit and speak to our hearts and minds, so that we may draw closer to you, through Jesus Christ our Lord, **Amen.**

The words which come at the end of our Gospel reading are those famous words we find in the Bible 'Do not be afraid'. We do not need to be afraid of the current times we live in and the damage, sin and death can do to us, because by Jesus being raised from the dead, he has defeated them. It is this, which we celebrate on this Easter Sunday, that our Lord reigns in Heaven and that he has overcome the things we are unable to overcome ourselves.

Jesus has finally bridged the divide between heaven and earth, so where there was division between humanity and God through the turning away of humanity from God, Jesus has broken that divide, so we do not need to be afraid, God has come to us and made all things well and as

we hear from our reading in Acts, God shows no partiality, he has been raised for everybody.

It is through this Easter Sunday excitement when the two Mary's were sent to the disciples to say that Jesus has been risen from the dead and that a new beginning and a new life has begun with the disciples. May we know this excitement afresh for ourselves today and may it help lift any gloom we have during this of pandemic, that we may rejoice today and celebrate the resurrection.

The resurrection shows us that God loves us with an everlasting love by sharing his eternal created life with us, he does not hold anything back from us, but gives us everything that he created and lives within. The resurrection shows us a continuation love from our creation to him redeeming us which shows us the faithfulness of God, that his promises are true and that he fulfils them.

On this day, like Mary, we can look up to see the risen Christ which helps us recognise God's eternal life. We see the Lord of life standing

before us, who then sends us back into the world to proclaim his resurrection. We are to go and share this presence of the risen Christ with those we meet on our journey through life and rejoice with the two Mary's that Jesus has been raised from the dead and new life and the forgiveness of sins is available to all. This gives us great hope and positivity, things we need, especially at this time.

May I wish you a very blessed Easter, **Amen.**

Reverend Steven





Titian – Noli me Tangere

Prayers of Intercession

Intercessions for Easter Day by Michael Pudney

Christ is risen - **He is risen indeed**

We recognize that on this day of joy our celebration is muted as the world comes to terms with the impact of Covid-19. We pray that you give us all strength and the knowledge you are with us always however difficult the challenges might be. Today we remember that Jesus rose again to show that your love and power could overcome even death itself.

We pray for all those affected with the virus throughout the world, O Lord be with those have lost loved ones and with those who suffer both in body and mind. Guide them through the difficult times ahead. Just as Jesus cured the sick and lame our prayers go to all those who tend the sick; our NHS, the doctors, nurses and all working in hospitals, the Ambulance crews, those working in care homes and in the community. Also for all those providing vital services to us all, the Army, the Police, our Firemen, Royal Mail post men and women,

delivery drivers, supermarket workers, the postmen and women, bin collectors and all those who volunteer in so many ways.

Eunice's daughter, Alice

'Elaine Poss' at Basildon Hospital

'Charlee Grace Lystor' a nurse working in Romford

All the staff at the local surgery and care staff Down Hall and The Swan care homes.

Give grace to them and to us, our families and friends, and to all our neighbours; that we may serve the risen Christ in one another, and love as he loves us. May this crisis teach us to value and recognise the holiness of other people and to live as Jesus taught his disciples caring for those around us more than ourselves.

We pray for the Church and all who help guide us in our worship; Arch Bishop Justin, Bishops Stephen, as he prepares for his new responsibilities, also Bishop John, Archdeacon Elizabeth and our own dear Steven. We pray for all our local clergy as they support us during this

time of need, and for our Churchwardens and PCCs. We remember all who like them work in your name, thinking of all those in our parishes who work with our Churches, with the Centre and the Chapel.

With the whole Church throughout the world we rejoice, for Christ is risen. Let every Christian rejoice for Christ is risen. We ask for your blessing on this day, for with the sun Christ is risen.

Lord in your Mercy

Hear our prayer

We pray for Elizabeth our Queen and for Prince Philip – We pray for our Prime Minister and for our Government. Given them the strength and wisdom to support all our society, especially those vulnerable at this time. Let us also pray for all the nations of this world and for their leaders as they grapple to deal with the pandemic and that they too also have a commitment to serve their people and a desire for peace, justice and freedom for all. We pray

for all refugees throughout the world, let them know your love.

Lord in your Mercy

Hear our prayer

Let us pray for all those who are suffering or struggling with life. May the love of our risen Christ comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind or spirit; May that love be with all who are left on their own and feel lonely and unable to cope, or are unwell.

We pray especially for those in hospital in intensive care away from their loved ones as they struggle for life. Let them know your presence and that through you they will never be alone. Bring relief in their distress and the assurance of the blessing of the risen Christ for all who are steadfast in faith.

We also think of Jean & Eddie Foster,

William Bachell in intensive care,

Ray Luck,

Jessica Davis

Nigel and Wendy Cole

Lee Pryer

Angus Bettany

Shirley Hill

Keith Poss

All residents at Down Hall and the Swan care homes and in a moment of quiet all those others known to us, and for those you care for them and share their suffering.

Lord in your Mercy

Hear our Prayer

At this time, hear us as we remember those who died in the faith of Christ; we pray especially for all who mourn and all those loved by us yet seen no more. May they rejoice with us this Easter Day in the fullness of life eternal.

We include in our prayers...;

Ann Symes,

Jean Oyler,

Michael Davies

Peter Winter

And all others known to us:

According to your promises, grant to the faithful departed a share in the inheritance of the saints...As we offer our humble prayers for them, may their heavenly prayers avail for us as we continue on our earthly pilgrimage.

Celebrating in the resurrection of your Son, our Saviour bring us at last to the same blessedness.

Rejoicing in the fellowship of St Thomas, St Nicolas, St James, St Lawrence and all your saints, with the joy and light of Easter Day banishing the gloom of Good Friday, we commend ourselves and all Christian people to your unfailing love.

At the end we say:

Merciful Father

accept these prayers

for the sake of your Son,

our Saviour Jesus Christ.

Amen

Revd Steven link Part 3 https://youtu.be/F6w_iuGCL6U

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

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.

Alleluia!

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

Let us in our homes offer one another a sign of peace to each other and to all sharing this worship today.

All may exchange a sign of peace, greeting one another with these words

Christ is risen.

Revd Steven link ends

Hymn: 637 The day of resurrection

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Mglx_0jhW1Y

With Lyrics

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vwtVmdj0Dc>

The gifts of the people would normally be gathered and presented.

Preparation of the Table and taking of the Bread and Wine

The table is prepared and bread and wine are placed upon it.

Revd Steven link Part 4

<https://youtu.be/KmUf0XW69YU>

Summary of Steven's Sermon

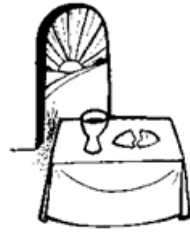
Lord, of life, with unbounded joy we offer you our sacrifice of praise.

As we are fed with the bread of heaven may we know your resurrection power; through Christ our risen Lord. **Amen.**

The Eucharistic Prayer

**The Lord is here.
His Spirit is with us.**

**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 on this day of our
redemption 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.

We *recall the Last Supper:*

.... as often as you drink it, in remembrance of
me.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus:

Dying, you destroyed our death.

Rising, you restored our life.

Lord Jesus, come in glory

The Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray

All Our Father, which art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done,
in earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our sins,
as we forgive them that sin 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

Jesus says, I am the bread of life,
whoever eats this bread will live for ever.
**Lord, our hearts hunger for you;
give us this bread always.**

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

*All are invited to share in the spirit of this Easter
Communion and be Blessed.*

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
has 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**

**God of our salvation,
we thank you for our communion with the
risen Christ
and with all who love him in earth and heaven.
We pray that, strengthened by his grace,**

**we may serve you faithfully all our days;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

The Dismissal Blessing

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

He Is risen indeed. Alleluia!

God the Father,
by whose glory Christ was raised from the dead
strengthen us to walk with him in his risen life;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among us and remain with us always. **Amen.**

Steven link end 16:25

Hymn: 672 Thine be the glory

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UPH7-dNrwb8>

***Notices: See the website for all notices over
this time.***

Revd Steven link Part 5 https://youtu.be/RFOW_IFUq1g

Go in peace to love and serve the risen Lord.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

In the name of Christ. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Revd Steven link ends

Organ voluntary by Brian Clayden

https://youtu.be/_vmpRjldoo



Copyright Archbishops Council 2000

Additional Music for Easter

Worthy is the Lamb

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3x2fSxOeij4>

Alleluia

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=usfiAsWR4qU>