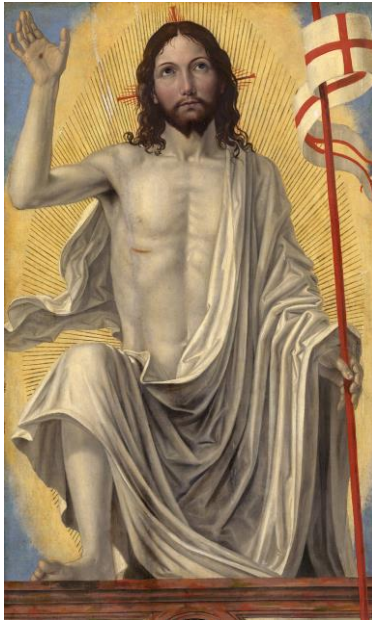


The Parish Church of St Matthew
Northampton

Easter Day



*The Lord is risen from the tomb
who for our sakes hung upon the tree, alleluia.*

The Parish Mass of the Resurrection

Sunday 31st March 2024

10.15 am

Welcome to St Matthew's Parish Church

At Easter, Christians celebrate the greatest event the world has ever known – this is the day Jesus broke the chains of death and rose in triumph from the grave. This is truly the 'Day of the Lord.' It is the climax of our Paschal journey, a time when the barrier between heaven and earth is brought down and all creation is reconciled to God.

As in ancient times, today we renew our baptismal vows and receive the Risen Lord in the Most Holy Sacrament of the Altar.

In this festival, we find the meaning of life, and joyfully recognise the eternal destiny - "Christ is risen; he is risen indeed. ALLELUIA!"

It is our custom to spend some time in quiet preparation before the liturgy begins, and save further conversation until we meet socially for refreshments afterwards. The following prayer, based on today's themes, may be found helpful:

Reflection / Prayer

We feel sad at the onset of winter.
But we are not too despondent,
because we know that spring will renew everything again.
Just as the expectation of spring takes the sting out of winter,
so the resurrection of Jesus takes the sting out of death for us.
God of power and love,
through the resurrection of your Son
you have kindled in our hearts the hope of eternal life.
Guard this hope with your grace,
and bring it to fulfilment in the kingdom of heaven.

Setting

Missa brevis

Grayston Ives (born 1948)

Front cover

Christ Risen from the Tomb, c.1490

Lombard Bergognone (c.1452-1523)



Order of Service

¶ The Gathering

The choir are in their stalls

§ **All stand** at the sound of the bell

Introit

§ *The sanctuary party enters. Incense is blessed.*

Choir This joyful Eastertide, away with sin and sorrow.
My Love, the Crucified, hath sprung to life this morrow.
*Had Christ, that once was slain, ne'er burst his three-day prison,
Our faith had been in vain: but now hath Christ arisen.*

My flesh in hope shall rest, and for a season slumber:
Till trump from east to west shall wake the dead in number.
*Had Christ, that once was slain, ne'er burst his three-day prison,
Our faith had been in vain: but now hath Christ arisen.*

Death's flood hath lost his chill, since Jesus crossed the river:
Lover of souls, from ill my passing soul deliver.
*Had Christ, that once was slain, ne'er burst his three-day prison,
Our faith had been in vain: but now hath Christ arisen.*

Words George Ratcliffe Woodward (1848-1934)

Music arranged by Charles Wood (1866-1926)

The presiding priest intones

All Let us go forth in peace
in the name of Christ. Amen.

Processional Hymn

All

LIGHT'S glittering morn bedecks the sky;
Heaven thunders forth its victory-cry:

Alleluya, alleluya.

The glad earth shouts her triumph high,
And groaning hell makes wild reply:

*Alleluya, alleluya, alleluya,
alleluya, alleluya.*

**While he, the King, the mighty King,
Despoiling death of all its sting,
And trampling down the powers of night,
Brings forth his ransomed saints to light:**

**His tomb of late the threefold guard
Of watch and stone and seal had barred;
But now, in pomp and triumph high,
He comes from death to victory:**

**That Eastertide with joy was bright,
The sun shone out with fairer light,
When, to their longing eyes restored,
The glad apostles saw their Lord:**

**Jesu, the King of gentleness,
Do thou thyself our hearts possess,
That we may give thee all our days
The tribute of our grateful praise:**

**O Lord of all, with us abide
In this our joyful Eastertide;
From every weapon death can wield
Thine own redeemed for ever shield:**

**All praise be thine, O risen Lord,
From death to endless life restored;**

Alleluya, alleluya,

**And praise to God the Father be
And Holy Ghost eternally:**

*Alleluya, alleluya, alleluya,
alleluya, alleluya.*

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

The Greeting

All The Lord be with you
 and also with you.

The Easter Acclamation

All Alleluia. Christ is risen.
 He is risen indeed. Alleluia.

The service is introduced

Invitation to Confession

Christ our passover lamb has been sacrificed for us.
Let us rejoice by putting away all malice and evil
and confessing our sins with a sincere and true heart.

Confession

**God our Father,
long-suffering, full of grace and truth,
you create us from nothing and give us life.
You give your faithful people new life in the water of baptism.
You do not turn your face from us,
nor cast us aside.
We confess that we have sinned against you.
We have wounded your love
and marred your image in us.
Restore us for the sake of your Son,
and bring us to heavenly joy,
in Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

Absolution

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.

All **Amen.**

Gloria in Excelsis

Gloria in excelsis Deo et in terra pax hominibus bonae voluntatis. Laudamus te. Benedicimus te. Adoramus te. Glorificamus te. Gratias agimus tibi propter magnam gloriam tuam. Domine Deus, Rex caelestis, Deus Pater omnipotens, Domine Filii unigenite, Jesu Christe. Domine Deus, Agnus Dei, Filius Patris. Qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis. Qui tollis peccata mundi, suscipe deprecationem nostram. Qui sedes ad dexteram Patris, miserere nobis. Quoniam tu solus sanctus. Tu solus Dominus. Tu solus altissimus, Jesu Christe. Cum Sancto Spiritu in gloria Dei Patris. Amen.	<i>Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace to men of goodwill. We praise you. We bless you. We worship you. We glorify you. We give thanks to you for your great glory. Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God the Father, O Lord, the only begotten Son, Jesus Christ. Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father. You take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us. You take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer. You sit at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us. For you only are holy. You only are the Lord. You only are the most high, Jesus Christ. With the Holy Spirit in the glory of God the Father. Amen.</i>
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The Collect

Let us pray that the risen Christ will raise us up
and renew our lives:

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 Christ Jesus,
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.

All **Amen.**

Brothers and sisters in Christ,
to discover further the meaning of this joyful Eastertide,
let us listen attentively to the Good News of Christ's resurrection.

§ *Sit*

¶ The Liturgy of the Word

First Reading

Reader A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

Peter began to speak to Cornelius and the assembled crowd in Caesarea: '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.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn

All

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 purged 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,
And earth her song begin,
The round world keep high triumph,
And all that is therein;
Let all things seen and unseen,
Their notes of gladness blend,
For Christ the Lord hath risen,
Our joy that hath no end.

Words Greek, St John of Damascus c.750
 translated by John Mason Neale (1816-1866)

Music Ellacombe
 Mainz Gesangbuch, 1833

The Easter Gospel

Acclamation

1. Choir
 2. Choir and Congregation

Al - le - lu - ia.

The musical notation is a single line of music in G-clef (treble clef) with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). It consists of a series of eighth notes: G4, A4, Bb4, C5, D5, E5, F5, G5, A5, Bb5, C6, D6, E6, F6, G6, A6, Bb6, C7. The notes are grouped into a single phrase with a long horizontal line underneath. The lyrics 'Al - le - lu - ia.' are written below the notes, with hyphens under 'Al', 'le', 'lu', and 'ia'.

All Do you reject the devil and all rebellion against God?
I reject them.

All Do you renounce the deceit and corruption of evil?
I renounce them.

All Do you repent of the sins that separate us from God and neighbour?
I repent of them.

All Do you turn to Christ as Saviour?
I turn to Christ.

All Do you submit to Christ as Lord?
I submit to Christ.

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

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

The Apostles' Creed

Brothers and sisters, I ask you to profess the faith of the Church.

All Do you believe and trust in God the Father?
**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

All 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.**

All 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.**

Sprinkling


O God most high, in the sacrifice of your risen Son
you have made spring up fountains of living water;
may this sprinkling revive in us the grace of baptism
that we also may rise to the glory of new and eternal life.

All **Father, cleanse and bless your people.**

§ *The priest sprinkles the people with holy water drawn from the font
as a reminder of baptism, and through which we share in the risen life
of Christ*

Water of Life

Refrain



Wa - ter of Life, cleanse and re - fresh us; Raise us to life in Christ Je - sus.

Choir All you who thirst, come to the waters;
and you will never be thirsty again. **Refrain**

As rain from heaven, so is God's word,
it waters the earth and brings forth life. **Refrain**

Dying with Christ, so we shall rise with him,
death shall no longer have power over us. **Refrain**

Turn to the Lord, cast off your wickedness,
you will find peace in his infinite love. **Refrain**

When the priest has returned to his chair ...

All **Almighty God,**
we thank you for our fellowship in the household of faith
with all who have been baptised in your name.
Keep us faithful to our baptism,
and so make us ready for that day
 when the whole creation shall be made perfect in your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ.
Amen.

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.

All **Amen.**

¶ Farewell to Departing Choristers and Welcome into the back rows of the Choir

*The vicar, director of music, and choristers gather in front of the nave altar.
The director of music introduces the ceremony, and presents the singers to the
vicar*

Director Father Nicholas, I present to you Dylan and Nicholas, who have
completed with distinction their service as trebles in the Choir of St
Matthew's Church. I ask that on behalf of the Parish community you
express our gratitude for all they have contributed.

*The vicar thanks Dylan and Nicholas for their service as trebles in the choir
and presents them with tokens of the church's appreciation. After the
presentation, the choristers kneel, and the vicar says*

Vicar Lord, we thank you for all that your servants Dylan and Nicholas have
given to our Parish and pray that what they have learnt here may be a
blessing to them throughout their life, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

*The director of music provides background information in support of the
choristers' on-going contribution to our choir and worship*

Director Fr Nicholas, I present to you Dylan and Nicholas to be admitted as songmen in the Choir of St Matthew's Church.

Vicar Dylan and Nicholas,
do you wish to continue your service to music in this church?

Boys **Yes, I do.**

Vicar As a singer in the choir here at St Matthew's you are part of a century-old tradition of worship offered to God in this place. Do you promise to devote your effort and skill to helping others in their worship?

Boys **With the help of God, I will.**

Vicar Do you promise to perform your part in the worship of God to the best of your ability?

Boys **With the help of God, I will.**

Vicar Do you promise to be faithful in fulfilling all the duties involved in being a member of the choir?

Boys **With the help of God, I will.**

Vicar Dylan, Nicholas, I admit you as songmen in the choir of this church, in the name of God, Father, † Son and Holy Spirit.

All **Amen.**

Vicar The Lord has given you musical gifts;
may he also give you happiness in his service;
may he bless you and keep you from this day forward
and give you his peace.

All **Amen.**

All **Bless, O Lord, your servants
who make music in this Church of St Matthew.
May they inspire our worship
and hold fast to the vision of a heavenly Jerusalem.
Grant that what they sing with their lips
they may believe in their hearts,
and that what they believe in their hearts
they may show forth in their lives;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

Prayers of the Faithful

Priest In joy and hope let us pray to the Father.

§ *Kneel*

Intercessor That our risen Saviour may fill us with the joy
of his glorious and life-giving resurrection:
we pray to the Father.

All **Hear our prayer.**

That isolated and persecuted churches
may find fresh strength in the good news of Easter:
we pray to the Father.

All **Hear our prayer.**

That God may grant us humility
to be subject to one another in Christian love:
we pray to the Father.

All **Hear our prayer.**

That he may provide for those who lack food, work or shelter:
we pray to the Father.

All **Hear our prayer.**

That by his power war and famine may cease
through all the world:
we pray to the Father.

All **Hear our prayer.**

That he may reveal the light of his presence to the sick,
the weak and the dying,
to comfort and strengthen them (*the acutely ill ...*)
we pray to the Father.

All **Hear our prayer.**

That, according to his promises,
all who have died in the faith of the resurrection
may be raised on the last day (*the recently departed, year's mind ...*)
we pray to the Father.

All **Hear our prayer.**

That he may send the fire of the Holy Spirit upon his people,
so that we may bear faithful witness to his resurrection:
we pray to the Father.

All **Hear our prayer.**

Priest Heavenly Father, you have delivered us from the power of darkness
and brought us into the kingdom of your Son:
grant that, as his death has recalled us to life,
so his continual presence in us may raise us to eternal joy;
through Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

§ *Stand*

¶ The Liturgy of the Sacrament

Sign of 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.

All The peace of the Lord be always with you
and also with you. Alleluia.

Let us offer one another a sign of Christ's peace.

The Offertory

Hymn

§ *A collection is taken. Please give as you are able.*

All **AT the Lamb's high feast we sing
Praise to our victorious King;
Who hath washed us in the tide
Flowing from his piercèd side.
Praise we him whose love divine
Gives his guests his blood for wine,
Gives his body for the feast,
Love the victim, Love the priest.**

**Where the Paschal blood is poured,
Death's dark angel sheathes his sword;
Israel's hosts triumphant go
Through the wave that drowns the foe.
Christ, the Lamb whose blood was shed,
Paschal victim, Paschal bread!
With sincerity and love
Eat we manna from above.**

**Mighty victim from on high,
Powers of hell beneath thee lie;
Death is broken in the fight,
Thou has brought us life and light.
Now thy banner thou dost wave,
Conquering Satan and the grave.
See the prince of darkness quelled;
Heaven's bright gates are open held.**

**Paschal triumph, Paschal joy,
Only sin can this destroy;
From sin's death do thou set free,
Souls re-born, dear Lord, in thee.
Hymns of glory, songs of praise,
Father, unto thee we raise.
Risen Lord, all praise to thee,
Ever with the Spirit be.**

Words From a Latin Breviary hymn
translated by Robert Campbell (1814-1868)

Music Salzburg
Melody from J Hinze (1622-1702)
harmony by Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

Invitation to Prayer

Pray, my brothers and sisters,
that our sacrifice may be acceptable to God,
the almighty Father.

All **May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands
for the praise and glory of his name,
for our good, and the good of all his Church.**

Prayer over the Gifts

Lord, with Easter joy we offer you the sacrifice
by which your Church is reborn and nourished
through Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

The Eucharistic Prayer

All The Lord be with you
and also with you.

All Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

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

It is indeed right and just, 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:

<i>Choir</i>	Sanctus, sanctus, sanctus,	<i>Holy, holy, holy,</i>
	Dominus Deus Sabaoth.	<i>Lord God of power and might.</i>
	Pleni sunt caeli et terra gloria tua.	<i>heaven and earth are full of your glory.</i>
	Osanna in excelsis.	<i>Hosanna in the highest.</i>

Benedictus qui venit
in nomine Domine.
Osanna in excelsis

*Blessed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.*

Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness;
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit,
and according to your holy will,
these gifts of bread and wine
may be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ;

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:

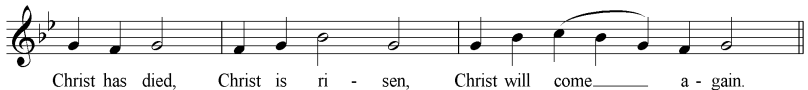
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

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.

Great is the mystery of faith:

All



And so, Father, calling to mind his death on the cross,
his perfect sacrifice made once for the sins of the whole world,
rejoicing in his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension,
and looking for his coming in glory,
we celebrate this memorial of our redemption.
As we offer you this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving,
we bring before you this bread and this cup
and we thank you for counting us worthy
to stand in your presence and serve you.

Send the Holy Spirit on your people
and gather into one in your kingdom
all who share this one bread and one cup,
so that we, in the company Mary, the Virgin Mother of God,
Mary Magdalen, and all the saints,
may praise and glorify you for ever,
through Jesus Christ our Lord;

by whom, and with whom, and in whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father,
for ever and ever.

All



A- men.

The Blessed Sacrament is elevated. Bells are rung.

§ Kneel

The Lord's Prayer

Rejoicing in God's new creation,
let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us:

All

**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

Jesus says, I am the bread of life,
whoever eats this bread will live for ever.

All **Lord, our hearts hunger for you;
give us this bread always.**

Invitation to Communion

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

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

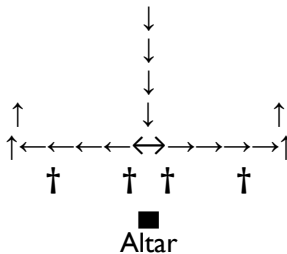
The clergy receive Holy Communion

Giving of Communion

Christ has become our paschal sacrifice;
let us feast with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth, alleluia.

*Baptized persons who are communicant members of other Churches
are warmly invited to receive Holy Communion, as indicated below.*

*Alternatively, if you wish to receive a blessing, please bring this booklet
with you as a sign to us. Thank you.*



Spiritual Communion – *for those watching at home*

Act of Reception

All In union, blessed Jesus,
with the faithful gathered at every altar of your Church
where your blessed Body and Blood are offered this day,

(and remembering particularly my own parish ...)

I long to offer you praise and thanksgiving,
for creation and all the blessings of this life,
for the redemption won for us by your life, death,
and resurrection,
for the means of grace and the hope of glory.

(and particularly for the blessings given me ...)

I believe that you are truly present in the Holy Sacrament,
and, since I cannot at this time receive communion,
I pray you to come into my heart.
I unite myself with you and embrace you with all my heart,
my soul, and my mind.
Let nothing separate me from you;
let me serve you in this life until, by your grace,
I come to your glorious kingdom and unending peace.
Amen.

Agnus Dei

Choir Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi,
miserere nobis.
Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi,
miserere nobis.
Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi,
dona nobis pacem.

*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.*

For private reflection before receiving Holy Communion:

THOU ART RISEN, O LORD!
Let the quiet altar dazzle with light;
let us haste to thy presence,
wondering, incredulous joy;
and partake of thy risen life.

Motet

Choir 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 sound the long Amen!

Music Richard Shephard

After receiving Holy Communion:

THOU ART RISEN, MY LORD AND MY GOD!
Rise up, my heart, give thanks, rejoice!
And do thou, O Lord, deign to enter it
despite the shut doors.
Show me thy hands and thy side,
that it is thou thyself.
Send me about thy business,
servant of the living King, the King of kings,
and hide my life in thine
for ever and ever.

Prayer after Communion

A period of silence for private prayer and thanksgiving

Let us pray:

§ Stand

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.

All

Amen.

Hymn

All

**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:**

**No more we doubt thee, glorious Prince of life;
Life is nought 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:**

Words French, Edmund Budry (1854-1932)
translated by Richard Birch Hoyle (1875-1939)

Music Maccabaeus
George Frederick Handel (1685-1759)
from a chorus originally in *Joshua*, 1747

Notices for the Community

§ Sit

¶ Sending Out

§ Stand

All The Lord be with you
and also with you.

Solemn Blessing

All God the Father,
by whose love Christ was raised from the dead,
open to you who believe the gates of everlasting life.
Amen.

All God the Son,
who in bursting the grave has won a glorious victory,
give you joy as you share the Easter faith.
Amen.

All God the Holy Spirit,
whom the risen Lord breathed into his disciples,
empower you and fill you with Christ's peace.
Amen.

All And the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son †, and the Holy Spirit,
be upon you and remain with you always.
Amen.

Sung Dismissal

Deacon

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.

All

In the name of Christ, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.

§ Please turn to face the Madonna and Child sculpture

Regina Caeli

All **Joy to thee, O Queen of heaven, alleluya** (9 rings)
He whom thou wast meet to bear, alleluya
As he promised, hath arisen, alleluya
Pour for us to God thy prayer, alleluya.

All Rejoice and be glad, O Virgin Mary, alleluya
for the Lord is risen indeed, alleluya.

God of life, you have given joy to the world (9 rings)
by the resurrection of your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ.
Through the prayers of his mother, the Virgin Mary,
bring us to the happiness eternal life;
we ask this through Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

Music The Easter Hymn

Organ Voluntary

Saraband for the Morning of Easter [Six Pieces, No 2]

Herbert Howells (1892-1983)

The procession departs

Those leaving immediately are asked to be aware of those who wish to listen to the organ voluntary.

Refreshments are served in church after Mass, please do join us.

If you are a newcomer to the parish or area please introduce yourself to one of the clergy or speak to a member of our Welcome Team.

This evening at 5.30 pm
Solemn Choral Evensong

Tomorrow at 3.00 pm
Organ Recital
given by Thomas Moore

Collection – responding to God’s generosity

We invite you to make a monetary offering towards the ministry and mission of St Matthew’s Church. You may do so using any of the following methods:

Cash, cheques, stewardship envelopes - using the receptacle provided at the back of church. If you are a taxpayer please use the envelopes in the chairs, and fill out the details in order that our parish may also benefit from the Gift Aid (an extra 25p for every pound given) associated with your giving.

Contactless giving - using the terminal provided. Just press the button for the amount you wish to give - £5, £10, or £20, and then hold your bank card over the reader.

Giving on your smart phone - using the QR code printed below. It gives you the option of any amount, Gift Aid, and making a regular payment.

Giving online - click the donate button on the parish website or Facebook page and follow the instructions.

Your generosity is gratefully received. Thank you.



*Our thanks are due to Anonymous Donor 10
who has generously financed
the production of this week’s service booklet.*

**Please take this booklet home
as an aid to prayer and reflection during the week,
and then re-cycle it.**

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