

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.

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

Amen.

The President sprinkles the congregation with water as a reminder of their baptism whilst the hymn is concluded.

**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.**

Words: French, Edmond Budry (1854-1932)

Tr Richard Hoyle (1875-1939)

Tune: Maccabaeus (NEH 120)

The Blessing

God, who through the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ has given us the victory, give you joy and peace in your faith; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

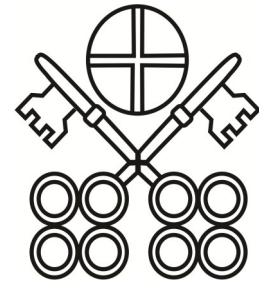
Amen.

The dismissal is given.

With the risen life of Christ within us
let us go in the peace of Christ. Alleluia! Alleluia!
Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Organ Voluntary

The choir leave followed by the ministers Please remain standing until the procession has left. Everyone is warmly invited to stay for refreshments.



Eucharist on Easter Day



St Peter's Collegiate Church, Wolverhampton

Musical Setting:

Darke in F

5th April 2026

11.15 am

As part of this service The Exsultet (the Easter Song of Praise) is sung:

The Exsultet is an ancient chant at the start of the Easter Vigil, proclaiming Christ's resurrection and the triumph of light over darkness. Traditionally sung by a Deacon, it may be sung by a lay cantor. The " _night_ " it describes is not just the time of day, but the moment of salvation: "This is the night when Christ broke the prison-bars of death and rose victorious from the underworld.

THE SERVICE OF LIGHT

The choir and ministers gather at the West Door and the church lights remain unlit, silence is kept by the congregation as far as is possible.

The President, says

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.**

The President continues

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 Paschal Candle is lit saying

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

The candle bearer raises the candle, and the President says

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.

The Paschal Candle is carried aloft and is taken into church, stopping three times, at the font, in the aisle, and in front of the altar.

At The Place of Baptism

The candle is taken to the font.

The Light of Christ.
Thanks be to God.

The Choir move to their stalls.

Post Communion Prayer

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.**

We thank you, Lord, that you have fed us in this sacrament, united us with Christ, and given us a foretaste of the heavenly banquet prepared for all peoples. Amen.

THE DISMISSAL

Please stand, if you are able. During this hymn the ministers move back to the font, please turn to face the font as the cross moves through the church.

Hymn

**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.**

The Renewal of Baptismal Vows

The President pours a ewer of water into the font as a reminder of our participation, through baptism, in the death and resurrection of Christ.

My brothers and sisters,
let us ask the Lord our God
to bless this water he has created,
which we shall use to recall our baptism.
May he renew us and keep us faithful to the Spirit we have received.

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:

We sit or kneel as silence is kept then the President introduces the Lord's Prayer.

**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.**

The President breaks the consecrated bread and says

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.**

The President invites the people to communion saying

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

Agnus Dei

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,
have mercy upon us.
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,
have mercy upon us.
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,
grant us thy peace.

Please remain in your pew until invited forward for Communion by one of the stewards. When invited forward, please move down the centre aisle towards the altar.

Communion is offered in both bread and wine. Once you have received Communion or a Blessing, please move alternately to the left and right of the altar, returning to your pew by way of the side aisles.

After communion we kneel or sit in silent prayer as the choir sings the anthem.

Post Communion Anthems

Now the green blade riseth,
Words: Simon Lindley (b. 1948)

Easter Anthems

Words: J R Middleton

At The Place of Proclamation of God's Word

The candle moves to the place from where the Gospel is proclaimed each Sunday. The congregation face the Paschal Candle.

The Light of Christ.
Thanks be to God.

At The Place of Celebration

The candle moves to the altar, the crucifer standing behind the altar and the President in front facing the congregation, who have turned to face the Paschal Candle

The Light of Christ.
Thanks be to God.

The Paschal Candle is placed on its stand, the President moves to his place.

The Exsultet

The Exsultet (the Easter Song of Praise) is sung.

The President says

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

Gloria

The organ plays a fanfare, and the choir respond to the proclamation by singing the Gloria. The lights are put on and all candles are lit.

Glory be to God on high,
and in earth peace goodwill towards men.
We praise thee, we bless thee,
we worship thee, we glorify thee,
we give thanks to thee for thy great glory,
O Lord God, heavenly King,
God the Father Almighty.
O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesu Christ:
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
that takest away the sins of the world,
have mercy upon us.
Thou that takest away the sins of the world,
receive our prayer:
Thou that sittest at the right hand
of God the Father have mercy upon us.
For thou only art holy; thou only art the Lord;
thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost,
art the most high,
in the glory of God the Father.
Amen.

Collect

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.**

Please sit

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

The First Reading

Acts 10. 34 - 43

Then Peter began to speak to them: '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.'

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand, if you are able.

Gradual Hymn

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

Where the Paschal blood is poured,

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 creationsing for ever the hymn of your glory:

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of hosts,
 heaven and earth are full of thy glory.
 Glory be to thee, O Lord most High.

Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest!

(Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus Dominus Deus Sabaoth.

Pleni sunt caeli et terra gloria tua.

Hosanna in excelsis.

Benedictus qui venit in nomine Domini.

Hosanna in excelsis.)

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.

Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died,

Christ is risen,

Christ will come again.

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 Blessed Mary, Peter, Chad, Mark, John and 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.

**First-begotten from the dead,
Thou alone, our strong defender,
Liftest up thy people's head.
Alleluya, alleluya,
Jesu, true and living Bread!**

**Here our humblest homage pay we;
Here in loving reverence bow;
Here for Faith's discernment pray we,
Lest we fail to know thee now.
Alleluya, alleluya,
Thou art here, we ask not how.**

**Though the lowliest form doth veil thee
As of old in Bethlehem,
Here as there thine angels hail thee,
Branch and Flower of Jesse's stem.
Alleluya, alleluya,
We in worship join with them.**

**Paschal Lamb, thine Offering, finished
Once for all when thou wast slain,
In its fulness undiminished
Shall for evermore remain,
Alleluya, alleluya,
Cleansing souls from every stain.**

**Life-imparting heavenly Manna,
Stricken Rock with streaming side,
Heaven and earth with loud hosanna
Worship thee, the Lamb who died,
Alleluya, alleluya,
Risen, ascended, glorified!**

*Words: G. H. Bourne (1840-1925)
Tune: St Helen (NEH 296)*

*When the altar is prepared and the collection received,
the President leads the offertory prayer.*

Be present, be present, Lord Jesus Christ, our
risen high priest;
**make yourself known in the breaking of
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, 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

**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 hast 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
Tr Robert Campbell (1814-1868)
Tune: Salzburg (NEH 104)*

The Gospel

John 20: 1 - 18

*The Gospel Book is carried into the midst of the
congregation, reflecting God's coming among us in
Christ. Please turn to face it.*

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

I am the first and the last, says the Lord,
and the living one; I was dead,
and behold I am alive for evermore.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to John

Glory to you, O Lord.

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
wappings lying there, but he did not go in.
Then Simon Peter came, following him, and
went into the tomb. He saw the linen wappings
lying there, and the cloth that had been on
Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wappings

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.

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

Sermon

The Profession of Faith

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, was 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.**

Please sit

Prayers of Intercession

We pray to Jesus who is present with us to eternity.

After each of the prayers, we use this response

Jesus, Lord of life,
In your mercy, hear us.

Our prayers conclude with these words

Jesus, Lord of life,
**In your mercy, hear us,
 Accept our prayers, and be with us always.
 Amen.**

THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

Please stand, if you are able

The Peace

The risen Christ came and stood among his disciples and said, "Peace be with you." Then they were glad when they saw the Lord. Alleluia!

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

We exchange signs of peace.

Offertory Hymn

During this hymn, bread and wine are prepared on the altar and a collection is taken.

If you are a UK taxpayer, please use one of the white envelopes for your donation, ensuring that you enter your details on the front.

Offertory tokens are available for those who give directly into the church's account.



Lord, enthroned in heavenly splendour,