

ST ANDREWS CHURCH - MOSCOW
FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
26th APRIL, 2026



*At the start of our service this morning, please join the choir in a song of praise:
Jesus paid it all*

**I hear the Saviour say,
“Thy strength indeed is small.
Child of weakness, watch and pray.
Find in me thy all in all.”**

***Jesus paid it all,
all to Him I owe;
sin had left a crimson stain,
He washed it white as snow.***

**Lord, now indeed I find
Thy power, and Thine alone,
can change the leper's spots
and melt the heart of stone.**

**For nothing good have I
whereby Thy grace to claim;
I'll wash my garments white
in the blood of Cal'v'ry's Lamb.**

**And when, before the throne,
I stand in Him complete,
“Jesus died my soul to save,”
my lips shall still repeat.**

CALL TO WORSHIP

Sing for joy, O heavens, and exult, O earth; break forth, O mountains, into singing! For the Lord has comforted his people, and will have compassion on his suffering ones. *(Isaiah 49:13)*

Opening Hymn: All creatures of our God and King

**All creatures of our God and King,
Lift up your voice and with us sing
Alleluia, alleluia!**

**Thou burning sun with golden beam,
Thou silver moon with softer gleam,
O praise him, O praise him,
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

**Thou rushing wind that art so strong,
Ye clouds that sail in Heav'n along,
O praise him, alleluia!
Thou rising morn, in praise rejoice,
Ye lights of evening, find a voice.**

**Thou flowing water, pure and clear,
make music for thy Lord to hear,
O praise him, alleluia!
Thou fire, so masterful and bright,
that givest us both warmth and light.**

**All you with mercy in your heart,
forgiving others, take your part.
O praise him, alleluia!
Ye, who long pain and sorrow bear,
praise God and on Him cast your care.**

**And thou, most kind and gentle death,
waiting to hush our latest death,
O praise him, alleluia!
Thou leadest home the child of God,
and Christ our Lord the way hath trod.**

**Let all things their creator bless,
And worship him in humbleness,
O praise him, alleluia!
Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son,
And praise the Spirit, Three in One:
O praise him, O praise him,
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

Good morning and welcome in the name of Christ.

Let everything be said and done in the name of the Lord Jesus,
giving thanks to God through Jesus Christ.

Sing psalms, hymns and sacred songs:

let us sing to God with thankful hearts.

Open our lips, Lord:

and we shall praise your name.

PRAYERS OF PENITENCE *(All Sit)*

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

In baptism we died with Christ, so that as Christ was raised from the dead,
we might walk in newness of life. Let us receive new life in him as we confess
our sins in penitence and faith. *(cf Romans 6:4)*

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.

ABSOLUTION

May the Father forgive you by the death of his Son and strengthen you to live in the power of the Spirit all your days. **Amen.**

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS *(All Stand)*

**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 the Collect together:

Risen Christ, faithful shepherd of your Father's sheep: teach us to hear your voice and to follow your command, that all your people may be gathered into one flock, to the glory of God the Father. Amen.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD *(All Sit)*

First Reading: Acts 2.42-end

⁴² The believers devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. ⁴³ Awe came upon everyone, because

many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. ⁴⁴ All who believed were together and had all things in common; ⁴⁵ they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. ⁴⁶ Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, ⁴⁷ praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 23

¹ The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.

² He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters;

³ he restores my soul. He leads me in right paths for his name's sake.

⁴ Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil;

for you are with me; your rod and your staff—they comfort me.

⁵ You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;

you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

⁶ Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,

and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord my whole life long.

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

Second Reading – I Peter 2:19-end

¹⁹ For it is to your credit if, being aware of God, you endure pain while suffering unjustly. ²⁰ If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, where is the credit in that? But if you endure when you do right and suffer for it, you have God's approval. ²¹ For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps.

²² 'He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth.'

²³ When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten; but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly. ²⁴ He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. ²⁵ For you were going

astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Hymn: Father of peace, and God of love

**Father of peace, and God of love!
we own thy pow'r to save,
that pow'r by which our Shepherd rose
victorious o'er the grave.**

**Him from the dead you brought again,
when, by his sacred blood,
confirmed and sealed forevermore
the eternal covenant stood.**

**O may your Spirit seal our souls,
and mould them to your will,
that our weak hearts no more may stray,
but keep your precepts still;**

**That to perfection's sacred height
we nearer still may rise,
and all we think, and all we do,
be pleasing in your eyes.**

Gospel Reading - John 10:1-10

Jesus said, 'Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. ²The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. ³The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. ⁵They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.' ⁶Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

⁷So again Jesus said to them, ‘Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. ⁸All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. ⁹I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. ¹⁰The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

THE NICENE CREED *(All Stand)*

**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.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION (*All sit or kneel*)

This response is used:

Lord, hear us: **Lord, graciously hear us.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us:

**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 PEACE (*All 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. (*John 20: 19-20*)

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

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

Offertory Hymn: The King of love my shepherd is
**The King of love my shepherd is,
whose goodness faileth never.
I nothing lack if I am his,
and he is mine forever.**

**Where streams of living water flow,
my ransomed soul he leadeth;
and where the verdant pastures grow,
with food celestial feedeth.**

**Perverse and foolish, oft I strayed,
but yet in love he sought me;
and on his shoulder gently laid,
and home, rejoicing, brought me.**

**In death's dark vale I fear no ill,
with thee, dear Lord, beside me;
thy rod and staff my comfort still,
thy cross before to guide me.**

**Thou spreadst a table in my sight;
thy unction grace bestoweth;
and oh, what transport of delight
from thy pure chalice floweth!**

**And so through all the length of days,
thy goodness faileth never;
Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise
within thy house forever.**

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray together:

**Generous God, creator, redeemer, sustainer,
at your table we present this money,
symbol of the work you have given us to do;
use it, use us, in the service of your world
to the glory of your name. Amen.**

DISTRIBUTION OF RESERVED HOST

Christ is the bread of life:

**When we eat this bread and drink this cup we proclaim your death,
Lord Jesus, until you come in glory.**

PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS

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

**We are not worthy
so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table.
But you are the same Lord
whose nature is always to have mercy.
Grant us therefore, gracious Lord,
so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ
and to drink his blood,
that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body
and our souls washed through his most precious blood,
and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.**

*We invite you to receive the bread which has been duly consecrated by Archdeacon
Leslie and is now being used as the reserved sacrament.*

**Hymn during Communion: Break Thou the bread of life
Break Thou the bread of life, O Lord, to me,
as Thou didst break the loaves beside the sea.
Beyond the sacred page I seek Thee, Lord;
my spirit longs for Thee, O living Word.**

**Thou art the bread of life, O Lord, to me,
Thy holy word the truth that savest me.
Give me to eat and live with Thee above;
teach me to love Thy truth, for Thou art love.**

**O send Thy Spirit Lord, now unto me,
that he may touch my eyes and make me see;
show me the truth concealed within thy word,
for in thy book revealed I see Thee, Lord.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

We say together:

**Jesus, no words can express our gratitude and amazement that you
should die for us. How amazing is it that each of our lives is so**

valuable to you that you would lay yours down to reach us. May the presence of you through this reserved sacrament remain with us as we seek to take your message of love and grace into the world. Amen

NOTICES

Closing Hymn: Forth in the peace of Christ we go

**Forth in the peace of Christ we go
Christ to the world with joy we bring
Christ in our minds, Christ on our lips,
Christ in our hearts, the world's true King.**

**King of our hearts, Christ makes us kings
kingship with him his servants gain;
with Christ, the Servant-Lord of all,
Christ's world we serve, to share Christ's reign.**

**Priests of the world, Christ sends us forth
this world of time to consecrate,
our world of sin by grace to heal,
Christ's world in Christ to recreate.**

**Prophets of Christ, we hear his Word:
he claim our minds, to search his ways;
he claims our lips, to speak his truth
he claims our hearts, to sing his praise.**

**We are his Church, he makes us one:
here is one hearth for all to find;
here is one flock, one Shepherd-King;
here is one faith, one heart, one mind.**

CLOSING PRAYER AND DISMISSAL

Merciful Father, you gave your Son Jesus Christ to be the good shepherd, and in his love for us to lay down his life and rise again: keep us always under his protection, and give us grace to follow in his steps; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE BLESSING:

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

Amen.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia.

In the name of Christ. Amen. Alleluia, alleluia.

Acknowledgment: Common Worship- Service and Prayers for the Church of England—Times and Seasons © The Archbishops' Council 2006. New Patterns For Worship, © The Archbishops' Council 2002.