

**ST MARK AND ALL SAINTS, READING**  
*Whoever you are,  
wherever you are on life's journey you are welcome here.*

**THE PARISH EUCHARIST FOR**  
SUNDAY 21ST APRIL 2024  
**FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

**This service sheet is sponsored  
by the Butler family  
in memory of Iva's father Viktor,  
on the 1st anniversary of his death.**

**THE GATHERING**

*Today we welcome as our preacher  
Phil Evans from Christian Aid. As a Parish we have supported Christian Aid as a focus  
charity for many years. Phil will share with us about  
the work of the Charity today and how we can support them.*

*All the words are in this service sheet. Please join in with the words printed in **bold type**.  
At the start of the service a bell is rung and the procession enters as we stand to sing the opening hymn.*

**ENTRANCE HYMN**

**Jesus Christ is risen today, Alleluia!  
our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!  
who did once upon the cross, Alleluia!  
suffer to redeem our loss. Alleluia!**

**Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluia!  
unto Christ, our heavenly King, Alleluia!  
who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia!  
sinners to redeem and save. Alleluia!**

**But the pains which he endured, Alleluia!  
our salvation have procured. Alleluia!**

**Now above the sky he's King, Alleluia!  
where the angels ever sing. Alleluia!**

**Sing we to our God above, Alleluia!  
praise eternal as God's love. Alleluia!  
Praise our God, ye heavenly host, Alleluia!  
Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia!**

## THE GREETING

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

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

*The priest welcomes us and introduces the service.*

## PRAYER OF PENITENCE

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

*We say together*

**Almighty God, our heavenly Father,  
we have sinned against you  
and against our neighbour  
in thought and word and deed,  
through negligence, through weakness,  
through our own deliberate fault.  
We are truly sorry and repent of all our sins.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
who died for us, forgive us all that is past  
and grant that we may serve you in newness of life to the glory of your name. Amen.**

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent,  
have mercy upon you,  
pardon and deliver you from all your sins,  
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,  
and keep you in life eternal;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

*Knowing that we are forgiven for our sins we sing this song of praise to God.*

## THE GLORIA

***Glory to God, Glory to God,  
Glory to God in the highest.***

**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.**

*Glory to God ...*

**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.**

*Glory to God ...*

**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.**

*Glory to God ...*

*The priest invites us to pray silently and then prays the collect:*

Almighty God,  
whose Son Jesus Christ is the resurrection and the life:  
raise us, who trust in him,  
from the death of sin to the life of righteousness,  
that we may seek those things which are above,  
where he reigns with you  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever  
**Amen.**

*Please sit*

## **THE LITURGY OF THE WORD**

### **FIRST READING**

Acts 4.5-12

The Jewish rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, 'By what power or by what name did you do this?' Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, 'Rulers of the people and elders, if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead. This Jesus is

“the stone that was rejected by you, the builders;  
it has become the cornerstone.”

There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved.’

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **GRADUAL HYMN PSALM 23**

*Westminster*

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

**The Lord's my shepherd, I'll not want;  
He makes me lie in pastures green.  
He leads me by the still, still waters,  
His goodness restores my soul.**

*And I will trust in You alone,  
And I will trust in You alone,  
For Your endless mercy follows me,  
Your goodness will lead me home.*

**He guides my ways in righteousness,  
And He anoints my head with oil,  
And my cup, it overflows with joy,  
I feast on His pure delights.**

*And I will trust in You alone,  
And I will trust in You alone,  
For Your endless mercy follows me,  
Your goodness will lead me home.*

**And though I walk the darkest path,  
I will not fear the evil one,  
For You are with me, and Your rod and staff  
Are the comfort I need to know.**

*And I will trust in You alone,  
And I will trust in You alone,  
For Your endless mercy follows me,  
Your goodness will lead me home.*

### **THE GOSPEL**

John 10.11-18

**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**

The Lord be with you

**And also with you**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ  
according to John.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus said to the Pharisees: 'I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away – and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **THE SERMON**

*A brief period of silence may follow for us to reflect on the address and the readings today, then the priest invites us to stand to declare our faith.*

## **THE CREED**

**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.

*Sit or kneel to pray*

*During the prayers these or other responses may be used*

**Lord, in your mercy**  
hear our prayer.

*And at the end of the prayers we may say*

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

## THE INTERCESSIONS

## THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

*Stand*

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

*We greet those around us in the peace of Christ, saying "peace be with you."*

## OFFERTORY HYMN

I danced in the morning when the world was begun  
And I danced in the moon and the stars and the sun  
And I came down from heaven and I danced on the earth:  
At Bethlehem I had my birth.

*Dance, then, wherever you may be,  
I am the Lord of the dance, said he,  
And I'll lead you all, wherever you may be,  
And I'll lead you all in the dance, said he.*

I danced for the scribe and the Pharisee,  
But they would not dance and they wouldn't follow me;  
I danced for the fishermen, for James and John;  
They came with me and the dance went on:

I danced on the Sabbath and I cured the lame:  
The holy people said it was a shame.  
They whipped and they stripped and they hung me on high,  
And they left me there on a cross to die:

I danced on a Friday when the sky turned black;  
It's hard to dance with the devil on your back.  
They buried my body and they thought I'd gone;  
But I am the dance, and I still go on:

They cut me down and I leapt up high;  
I am the life that'll never, never die.  
I'll live in you if you'll live in me:  
I am the Lord of the dance, said he.

*When the altar is prepared and the offerings received the president leads the offertory prayers.*

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation:  
through your goodness we have this bread  
to set before you,  
which earth has given and human hands have made.  
It will become for us the bread of life.  
**Blessed be God for ever.**

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation:  
through your goodness we have this wine to set before you,  
fruit of the vine and work of human hands.  
It will become for us the cup of salvation.  
**Blessed be God for ever.**

Generous God, as we gather around your table called and welcomed by Christ we present this

money, symbol of all the gifts you give to us.  
**use it, use us, in the service of your world  
to the glory of your name. 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 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.**

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.

Jesus Christ is Lord:

**Lord, by your cross and resurrection**

**you have set us free.**

**You are the Saviour of the world.**

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 of [N 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. **Amen**

*We kneel or sit as silence is kept before 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 priest breaks the consecrated bread, saying*  
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 priest invites the people to receive Communion and says:*  
Alleluia. Christ our passover is sacrificed for us.  
**Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

**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 your peace**

## COMMUNION 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!**

### **POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

*Once communion has been shared we stand when the priest invites us to pray.*

*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.**

***God of gentleness and love  
draw near to us as we draw near to you.  
Dwell in every heart and conversation.  
Fashion in us the likeness  
of your Son, Jesus Christ.  
Help us to discern together  
all that you are calling us to be  
and all that you are calling us to do.  
Assist us, by your Spirit,  
to become a more contemplative,  
more compassionate  
and more courageous Church  
for the building of your kingdom  
and the glory of your Son.  
Amen***

### **NOTICES**

*We sit to listen to any notices about parish events.*

### **THE DISMISSAL**

*Stand*

The Lord be with you  
**And also with you**  
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 BLESSING**

the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always.  
**Amen.**

## CLOSING HYMN

*As we sing the procession moves to the back of the church.*

**I will sing the wondrous story  
of the Christ who died for me;  
how He left His home in glory  
for the cross of Calvary.**

*Yes, I'll sing the wondrous story  
Of the Christ who died for me -  
Sing it with the saints in glory,  
Gathered by the crystal sea.*

**I was lost, but Jesus found me -  
Found the sheep that went astray;  
Threw His loving arms around me,  
Drew me back into His way.**

*Yes, I'll sing ..*

**Days of darkness still come o'er me,  
sorrow's paths I often tread.  
but the Saviour still is with me;  
by His hand I'm safely led.**

*Yes, I'll sing...*

**He will keep me till the river  
rolls its waters at my feet;  
then He'll bear me safely over,  
where the loved ones I shall meet.**

*Yes, I'll sing...*

*At the end of the hymn please turn to face The Lady Chapel/statue of our Lady Mary the mother of God as we sing our Easter Carol*

## EASTER CAROL

**Joy to thee, O Queen of heaven, alleluia!  
he whom thou wast meet to bear, alleluia!  
as he promised hath arisen, alleluia!  
pour for us to God thy prayer. Alleluia!**

**Rejoice and be glad, O Virgin Mary, alleluia!  
For the Lord is risen indeed, alleluia!**

O God, who by the resurrection of your Son, Jesus Christ,  
have brought joy to the whole world,

grant that with his Mother,  
the Blessed Virgin Mary,  
we may obtain the joys of everlasting life,  
through the same Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*Please turn to face the priest at the back for the dismissal*

**With the risen Christ within us,  
let us go in the peace of Christ.  
Alleluia, Alleluia.**

**Thanks be to God.  
Alleluia, Alleluia.**