

The Benefice of Chew Valley East

Morning Prayer for Sunday 19 April 2026, The Third Sunday of Easter

*If you wish to join in the service, then the words in **bold** are to be said together.
Please join in with the Psalms and Canticles – by reciting each one in its entirety.*

Preparation

O Lord, open our lips
and our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

In your resurrection, O Christ,
let heaven and earth rejoice. Alleluia.

Blessed are you, Lord God of our salvation,
to you be praise and glory for ever.

As once you ransomed your people from Egypt
and led them to freedom in the promised land,
so now you have delivered us from the dominion of darkness
and brought us into the kingdom of your risen Son.

May we, the first fruits of your new creation,
rejoice in this new day you have made,
and praise you for your mighty acts.

Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Blessed be God for ever.

The night has passed, and the day lies open before us;
let us pray with one heart and mind.

Silence is kept.

As we rejoice in the gift of this new day,
so may the light of your presence, O God,
set our hearts on fire with love for you;
now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Word of God

Psalm 116:1-3, 10-17

¹I love the Lord,
for he has heard the voice of my supplication; ♦
because he inclined his ear to me
on the day I called to him.

²The snares of death encompassed me;
the pains of hell took hold of me; ♦
by grief and sorrow was I held.

³Then I called upon the name of the Lord: ♦
‘O Lord, I beg you, deliver my soul.’

¹⁰How shall I repay the Lord ♦
for all the benefits he has given to me?

¹¹I will lift up the cup of salvation ♦
and call upon the name of the Lord.

¹²I will fulfil my vows to the Lord ♦
in the presence of all his people.

¹³Precious in the sight of the Lord ♦
is the death of his faithful servants.

¹⁴O Lord, I am your servant, ♦
your servant, the child of your handmaid;
you have freed me from my bonds.

¹⁵I will offer to you a sacrifice of thanksgiving ♦
and call upon the name of the Lord.

¹⁶I will fulfil my vows to the Lord ♦
in the presence of all his people,

¹⁷In the courts of the house of the Lord, ♦
in the midst of you, O Jerusalem. Alleluia.

**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.**

First Reading: Acts 2:14a, 36-41

On the day of Pentecost, ¹⁴Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd, ³⁶‘Let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified.’

³⁷Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, ‘Brothers, what should we do?’ ³⁸Peter said to them, ‘Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. ³⁹For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him.’ ⁴⁰And he testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, ‘Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.’ ⁴¹So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added to their number.

Canticle

**In your unfailing love, O Lord,
you lead the people whom you have redeemed. Alleluia.**

¹I will sing to the Lord, who has triumphed gloriously, ♦
the horse and his rider he has thrown into the sea.

²The Lord is my strength and my song ♦
and has become my salvation.

³This is my God whom I will praise, ♦
the God of my forebears whom I will exalt.

⁴The Lord is a warrior, ♦
the Lord is his name.

⁵Your right hand, O Lord, is glorious in power: ♦
your right hand, O Lord, shatters the enemy.

⁶At the blast of your nostrils, the sea covered them; ♦
they sank as lead in the mighty waters.

⁷In your unfailing love, O Lord, ♦
you lead the people whom you have redeemed.

⁸And by your invincible strength ♦
you will guide them to your holy dwelling.

⁹You will bring them in and plant them, O Lord, ♦
in the sanctuary which your hands have established. *Exodus 15.1b-3, 6, 10, 13, 17*

**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.**

**In your unfailing love, O Lord,
you lead the people whom you have redeemed. Alleluia.**

Second Reading: Luke 24:13-35

¹³On that same day, two of the disciples were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, ¹⁴and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. ¹⁵While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, ¹⁶but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. ¹⁷And he said to them, ‘What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?’ They stood still, looking sad. ¹⁸Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, ‘Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?’ ¹⁹Jesus asked them, ‘What things?’ They replied, ‘The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, ²⁰and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be

condemned to death and crucified him. ²¹But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. ²²Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, ²³and when they did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. ²⁴Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but they did not see Jesus.’ ²⁵Then he said to them, ‘Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! ²⁶Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?’ ²⁷Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.

²⁸As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. ²⁹But they urged him strongly, saying, ‘Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over.’ So he went in to stay with them. ³⁰When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. ³¹Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized Jesus; and he vanished from their sight. ³²They said to each other, ‘Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?’ ³³That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. ³⁴They were saying, ‘The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!’ ³⁵Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

Responsory

Death is swallowed up in victory.

Where, O death, is your sting?

Christ is risen from the dead,
the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep.

Death is swallowed up in victory.

The trumpet will sound
and the dead shall be raised.

Where, O death, is your sting?

We shall not all sleep,
but we shall be changed.

Death is swallowed up in victory.

Where, O death, is your sting?

from 1 Corinthians 15

Gospel Canticle: Benedictus

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

¹Blessed be the Lord the God of Israel, ♦
who has come to his people and set them free.

²He has raised up for us a mighty Saviour, ♦
born of the house of his servant David.

³Through his holy prophets God promised of old ♦
to save us from our enemies, from the hands of all that hate us,

⁴To show mercy to our ancestors, ♦
and to remember his holy covenant.

⁵This was the oath God swore to our father Abraham: ♦
to set us free from the hands of our enemies,

⁶Free to worship him without fear, ♦
holy and righteous in his sight all the days of our life.

⁷And you, child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High, ♦
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,

⁸To give his people knowledge of salvation ♦
by the forgiveness of all their sins.

⁹In the tender compassion of our God ♦
the dawn from on high shall break upon us,

¹⁰To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death, ♦
and to guide our feet into the way of peace. *Luke 1.68-79*

**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.**

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

Intercessions

‘What is it you are debating as you walk?’
Companion God, we are debating the news:
the conflict in . . .
the disaster in . . .
the famine in . . .
the accident in . . .
the crime committed . . .

We are debating the news,
wondering why these things have to be.
Companion God, open our eyes to see you among the suffering of our world.
Open our eyes to see Christ's risen presence wherever love overcomes hatred,
hope destroys despair, faith challenges death. Open our lives to Christ's risen
power that we may walk the way of love with you.

'What is it you are debating as you walk?'

Companion God, we are sharing sad news
about people we know:
those who are ill . . .
those who have been bereaved . . .
those anxious about themselves or loved ones . . .

We are sharing sad news,
wondering why these things have to be.
Companion God, open our eyes to see you alongside those whose lives are
burdened, painful, fearful, or sad. Open our eyes to see Christ's risen presence
comforting, encouraging, calming and sharing their loads. Open our lives to
Christ's risen power that we may walk the way of love with you.

'What is it you are debating as you walk?'

Companion God, we are debating the good news
of Christ's life and death and resurrection,
of the undying nature of your love for us
and of your offer of life in all its fullness.
Help us to share this good news
with those with whom we walk along life's paths,
that together we may all walk with you.

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

Collect

Risen Christ,
you filled your disciples with boldness and fresh hope:
strengthen us to proclaim your risen life
and fill us with your peace,
to the glory of God the Father. **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

Rejoicing in God's new creation,
as our Saviour taught us, so we pray

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

**Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.**

**Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever. Amen.**

Conclusion

May the risen Christ grant us the joys of eternal life. **Amen.**

Let us bless the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

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