

ST PETER'S PARKSTONE



FOCUSED ON GOD - SPEAKING OF JESUS - CARING ABOUT PEOPLE

The Parish Eucharist



The Second Sunday of Easter

Sunday 11th April 2021

WELCOME TO ST PETER'S

We are now in the Great Fifty Days of Eastertide that spans the period of joy from Easter Day to Pentecost. Early Christians gave the name Pentecost to this whole period of seven weeks. It is a season of celebration: our liturgy is sprinkled liberally with Alleluias, the Paschal candle is placed prominently and our vestments are white to emphasise the brightness of this time in our church calendar.

We ask for continued adherence to safety guidelines in our worship, please maintain hand hygiene and social distancing; and continue to wear a mask at all times in the church building. We are mindful of all those who have died due, directly or indirectly, to the Covid-19 virus. We give thanks for the continued vaccination programme, and for all medical workers that seek to support the sick.

You are invited to support the work of St Peter's, to help us carry out our mission and ministry to our local community. A collection will not be taken during the service, but there is provision for you to make your offering as you leave St Peter's Church.

It is also possible to make an offering by clicking the 'donate' button on our website: www.stpetersparkstone.org.uk. Every donation is greatly appreciated, thank you.

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For any pastoral needs, or enquiries about weddings or baptisms
please contact:

Revd Mike Trotman, Rector revdmike@stpetersparkstone.org.uk

Phone: 07525 662999

Please note that the parish office is closed until Monday 19th April.

THE GATHERING

Please stand as the service begins with a hymn, sung by choir members

Alleluya! Alleluya!
Hearts to heaven and voices raise;
sing to God a hymn of gladness,
sing to God a hymn of praise;
he who on the Cross a victim
for the world's salvation bled,
Jesus Christ, the King of Glory,
now is risen from the dead.

Christ is risen, Christ the first-fruits
of the holy harvest field,
which will all its full abundance
at his second coming yield;
then the golden ears of harvest
will their heads before him wave,
ripened by his glorious sunshine
from the furrows of the grave.

Christ is risen, we are risen;
shed upon us heavenly grace,
rain, and dew, and gleams of glory
from the brightness of thy face;
that we, Lord with hearts in heaven,
here on earth may fruitful be,
and by angel-hands be gathered,
and be ever safe with thee.

Alleluya! Alleluya!
Glory be to God on high;
to the Father, and the Saviour,
who has gained the victory;
glory to the Holy Spirit,
fount of love and sanctity;
Alleluya! Alleluya!
To the Triune Majesty.

The Greeting

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All **Amen.**

The Lord be with you

All **and also with you.**

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

All **He is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

The president welcomes everyone.

Prayers of Penitence

Jesus Christ, risen Master and triumphant Lord,
we come to you in sorrow for our sins,
and confess to you our weakness and unbelief.

Silence is kept

We have lived by our own strength, and not by the power of
your resurrection.

In your mercy, forgive us.

All **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.

All **Lord, hear us and help us.**

We have lived for this world alone, and doubted our home in
heaven.

In your mercy, forgive us.

All **Lord, hear us and help us.**

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.**

Choir members sing our hymn of praise to the Trinity – the Gloria:

Gloria in Excelsis

**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 president introduces a period of silent prayer, and then we pray
the Collect for the Second Sunday of Easter.*

The Collect

Let us pray that the light of Christ may dawn in our hearts.

Silence is kept

**Risen Christ,
for whom no door is locked, no entrance barred:
open the doors of our hearts,
that we may seek the good of others
and walk the joyful road of sacrifice and peace,
to the praise of God the Father.**

All **Amen.**

We sit for our readings.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

The whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. ³³With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. ³⁴There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. ³⁵They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

This is the word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

A reading from the first letter of John.

We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life—this life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it, and declare to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was revealed to us— we declare to you what we have seen and heard so that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. We are writing these things so that our joy may be complete. This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us. My little children, I am

writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

We say Psalm 133 responsively:

How very good and pleasant it is
All when kindred live together in unity.

It is like the precious oil on the head,
All running down the beard,
on the beard of Aaron,
All running down over the collar of his robes.

It is like the dew of Hermon,
All which falls on the mountains of Zion.

For there the Lord ordained his blessing,
All life for evermore. Amen.

Please stand and face the reader as we welcome the Gospel.

Gospel Reading

Jesus Christ is risen from the dead.
All Alleluia.

He has defeated the powers of death.
All Alleluia.

Jesus turns our sorrow into dancing.
All Alleluia.

He has the words of eternal life.
All Alleluia.

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

All **Glory to you, O Lord.**

It was evening on the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.' When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.'

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, 'We have seen the Lord.' But he said to them, 'Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.'

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' Then he said to Thomas, 'Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.' Thomas answered him, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him, 'Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.'

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name. (20:19-31)

This is the gospel of the Lord

All **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Please sit.

Sermon – the Revd Mike Trotman, Rector

Please stand as we profess our faith together:

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.**

Prayers of Intercession

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

To the words Jesus, Lord of life,
Please respond **in your mercy, hear us.**

THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

Please 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. Alleluia.

The peace of the risen Christ be always with you

All **and also with you.**

Let us offer each other a sign of God's peace.

Bread and wine are placed on the altar as choir members sing our offertory hymn.

**Lord, enthroned in heavenly splendour,
first-begotten from the dead,
thou, alone, our strong defender,
liftest up thy people's head.
Alleluia,
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.**

**Alleluia,
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.**

**Alleluia,
we in worship join with them.**

**Paschal Lamb, thine offering, finished
once for all when thou wast slain,
in its fullness undiminished
shall for evermore remain,**

**Alleluia,
cleansing souls from every stain.**

**Life-imparting heavenly manna,
stricken rock from streaming side,
heaven and earth with loud hosanna
worship thee, the lamb who died,
Alleluia,
risen, ascended, glorified!**

G.H. Bourne

The Taking of the Bread and Wine

The president offers this prayer for the preparation of the altar.

Risen Lord Jesus Christ, we believe you, and all we have heard is true. When you break bread may we recognize you as the fire that burns within us, that we may bring light to your world.

All Amen.

Please stand

The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you
All **and also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

All **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All **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.

All **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.

Accept our praises, heavenly Father, through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ, and as we follow his example and obey his command, grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit these gifts of bread and wine may be to us his body and his blood;

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.

Therefore, heavenly Father, we remember his offering of himself made once for all upon the cross; we proclaim his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; we look for the coming of your kingdom, and with this bread and this cup we make the memorial of Christ your Son our Lord.

Jesus Christ is Lord:

All **Lord, by your cross and resurrection
you have set us free.
You are the Saviour of the world.**

Accept through him, our great high priest, this our sacrifice of thanks and praise, and as we eat and drink these holy gifts in the presence of your divine majesty, renew us by your Spirit, inspire us with your love and unite us in the body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, with all who stand before you in earth and heaven, we worship you, Father almighty, in songs of everlasting praise:

All **Blessing and honour and glory and power
be yours for ever and ever. Amen.**

The consecrated bread and wine are raised in the sight of the people, and the Sanctus bell is rung as we honour Christ's presence among us.

After a moment's silence, please sit for The Lord's Prayer.

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

The president breaks the consecrated 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.**

**All 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.**

Giving of Communion

The president invites the people to receive communion.

Alleluia. Christ our passover is sacrificed for us.

All Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

All are welcome to come forward to receive communion or a blessing. Due to the current restrictions, communion will be given in one kind only. If you would like to receive a blessing please bring this service booklet with you.

Please respect the distance of two metres from others as you come forward, and form one line in the central aisle. Please sanitise your hands before receiving.

Choir members sing our post-communion hymn.

**Now the green blade riseth, from the buried grain,
Wheat that in dark earth many days has lain;
Love lives again, that with the dead has been:
*Love is come again, like wheat that springeth green.***

**In the grave they laid him, Love who men had slain,
Thinking that never he would wake again,
Laid in the earth like grain that sleeps unseen:
*Love is come again, like wheat that springeth green.***

**Forth he came at Easter, like the risen grain,
He that for three days in the grave had lain,
Quick from the dead, my risen Lord is seen:
*Love is come again, like wheat that springeth green.***

**When our hearts are wintry, grieving, or in pain,
Thy touch can call us back to life again,
Fields of our hearts, that dead and bare have been:
*Love is come again, like wheat that springeth green.***

Prayer after Communion

Lord God our Father, through our Saviour Jesus Christ you have assured your children of eternal life and in baptism have made us one with him: deliver us from the death of sin and raise us to new life in your love, in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, by the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ.

All **Amen.**

All **God of truth,
we have seen with our eyes
and touched with our hands the bread of life:
strengthen our faith
that we may grow in love for you
and for each other;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

Announcements are made and banns of marriage called.

SENDING

Choir members sing our final hymn

**Praise to the Lord, the almighty, the King of creation;
O my soul, praise him, for he is thy health and salvation:
come ye who hear,
brothers and sisters draw near,
praise him in glad adoration.**

**Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things so wondrously
reigneth,
shelters thee under his wings, yea, so gently sustained:
hast thou not seen
all that is needful hath been
granted in what he ordaineth?**

**Praise to the Lord, who doth prosper thy work, and defend thee;
surely his goodness and mercy here daily attend thee;
ponder anew
all the almighty can do,
he who with love doth befriend thee.**

**Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore him!
All that hath life and breath come now with praises before him!
Let the amen
sound from his people again:
gladly for ay we adore him.**

Joachim Neander, trans Catherine Winkworth et al.

Please stand.

The Blessing

God the Father, by whose glory Christ was raised from the dead, strengthen you to walk with him in his risen life; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

All **Amen.**

We are raised to new life with Christ.
Go in his peace. Alleluia, alleluia.

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

The ministers and people depart.

Voluntary – Prelude in a minor BWV 543 by Johann Sebastian BACH (1685-1750)

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