Bishop Auckland Parish St Andrew's + St Anne's

The Service of Light 9am on Easter Sunday 12 April 2020

Christ yesterday and today, All the beginning and the end, Alpha and Omega, all time belongs to him, and all ages; All to him be glory and power, through every age and for ever. Amen.

People may light a candle.

Jesus Christ Is Risen Today (Easter Hymn)

Jesus Christ is risen today, *Hallelujah* Our triumphant holy day, *Hallelujah* Who did once upon the cross, *Hallelujah* Suffer to redeem our loss, *Hallelujah*

Hymns of praise then let us sing, Hallelujah Unto Christ our heavenly King, Hallelujah Who endured the cross and grave, Hallelujah Sinners to redeem and save, Hallelujah But the pains which He endured, Hallelujah Our salvation have procured, Hallelujah Now in heaven above He's King, Hallelujah Where the angels ever sing, Hallelujah

The Easter Acclamation

A minister says

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

All He is risen indeed. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Gloria in Excelsis

All 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 that we may walk the risen life of Christ in glory. Silence is kept.

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.

All Amen.

Reading(s)

After each reading

This is the word of the Lord. *All* Thanks be to God.

Jeremiah 31:1-6

The Joyful Return of the Exiles
31 At that time, says the LORD, I will be the God of all the families of Israel, and they shall be my people.
² Thus says the LORD:
The people who survived the sword found grace in the wilderness;
when Israel sought for rest,

³ the LORD appeared to him^[a] from far away.^[b]

I have loved you with an everlasting love;

therefore I have continued my faithfulness to you.

⁴Again I will build you, and you shall be built,

O virgin Israel!

Again you shall take^[c] your tambourines,

and go forth in the dance of the merrymakers.

⁵ Again you shall plant vineyards

on the mountains of Samaria;

the planters shall plant,

and shall enjoy the fruit.

⁶ For there shall be a day when sentinels will call

in the hill country of Ephraim:

'Come, let us go up to Zion,

to the LORD our God.'

Acts 10:34-43

Gentiles Hear the Good News

³⁴ Then Peter began to speak to them: 'I truly understand that God shows no partiality, ³⁵ but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. ³⁶ You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. ³⁷ That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: ³⁸ 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. ³⁹ 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; ⁴⁰ but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, ⁴¹ 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. ⁴² 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. ⁴³ All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.'

Christ Is Alive Let Christians Sing (Truro)

Christ is alive let Christians sing The cross stands empty to the sky Let streets and homes with praises ring Love drowned in death Shall never die

Christ is alive No longer bound to distant years in Palestine But saving healing here and now And touching ev'ry place and time

Not throned afar remotely high Untouched unmoved by human pains But daily in the midst of life Our Savior in the Godhead reigns

In ev'ry insult rift and war Where color scorn or wealth divide Christ suffers still yet loves the more And lives where even hope has died Christ is alive and comes to bring Good news to this and every age Till earth and sky and ocean ring with joy With justice love and praise

Matthew 28:1-10

The Resurrection of Jesus

28 After the sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. ² And suddenly there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. ³ His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. ⁴ For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. ⁵ But the angel said to the women, 'Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. ⁶ He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he^[a] lay. ⁷ Then go guickly and tell his disciples, "He has been raised from the dead,^[b] and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him." This is my message for you.' ⁸ So they left the tomb guickly with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. ⁹ Suddenly Jesus met them and said, 'Greetings!' And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshipped him. ¹⁰ Then Jesus said to them, 'Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me.'

Sermon

Re-affirmation of Baptismal Vows

Brothers and sisters, I ask you to profess the faith of the Church.

Do you believe and trust in God the Father?

All I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Do you believe and trust in his Son Jesus Christ? All I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

Do you believe and trust in the Holy Spirit?

All I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Resurrection 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 pow'r 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

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. Alleluia.

Prayers

Alternative prayers may be used.

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

Jesus, light of the world, bring the light and peace of your gospel to the nations ... Jesus, Lord of life, **in your mercy, hear us.**

Jesus, bread of life, give food to the hungry ... and nourish us all with your word. Jesus, Lord of life, **in your mercy, hear us.**

Jesus, our way, our truth, our life, be with us and all who follow you in the way ... Deepen our appreciation of your truth and fill us with your life. Jesus, Lord of life, **in your mercy, hear us.**

Jesus, Good Shepherd who gave your life for the sheep, recover the straggler, bind up the injured, strengthen the sick and lead the healthy and strong to new pastures. Jesus, Lord of life,

in your mercy, hear us.

Jesus, the resurrection and the life, we give you thanks for all who have lived and believed in you ... Raise us with them to eternal life. Jesus, Lord of life, **in your mercy, hear us, accept our prayers, and be with us always. Amen.**

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

All 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.

Thine Be The Glory (Maccabaeus)

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 victory, 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

No more we doubt Thee Glorious Prince of life Life is nought without Thee Aid us in our strife Make us more than conquerors Through Thy deathless love Lead us in Thy triumph To Thy home above

Conclusion

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

All He is risen indeed. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Praise the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

All He has given us new life and hope by raising Jesus from the dead.

God has claimed us as his own.

All He has brought us out of darkness. He has made us light to the world.

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

All He is risen indeed. Alleluia.

Go in the peace of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.

All Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.