**SERVICES FOR GOOD FRIDAY, HOLY SATURDAY AND EASTER DAY ARE BELOW**

**East Neuk Episcopal Churches**

**17 April 2025 —Maundy Thursday**

7.00pm Joint communion service with Pittenweem Parish Church at St John’s

led by Revd David Gordon and Revd David Scott

All baptised Christians are welcome to share in communion with us

Grace and peace to you from God our
Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

**Opening hymn**

Brother, sister, let me serve you,

let me be as Christ to you;

pray that I may have the grace to

let you be my servant, too.

We are pilgrims on a journey,

fellow travellers on the road;

we are here to help each other

walk the mile and bear the load.

I will hold the Christlight for you

in the night-time of your fear;

I will hold my hand out to you,

speak the peace you long to hear.

I will weep when you are weeping;

when you laugh, I'll laugh with you.

I will share your joy and sorrow

till we've seen this journey through.

When we sing to God in heaven,

we shall find such harmony,

born of all we've known together

of Christ's love and agony.

Brother, sister, let me serve you,

let me be as Christ to you;

pray that I may have the grace to

let you be my servant, too.

*Richard Gillard © Scripture in Song*

**Collect for purity**
**Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hidden: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**Confession and absolution**

God is love and we are God’s children.

There is no room for fear in love.

We love because God loved us first.

Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith.

*Please sit*

**God our Father, we confess to you**

**and to our fellow members in the Body of Christ**

**that we have sinned in thought, word and deed,**

**and in what we have failed to do.**

**We are truly sorry.**

**Forgive us our sins,**

**and deliver us from the power of evil,**

**for the sake of your Son who died for us,**

**Jesus Christ, our Lord.**

God, who is both power and love,

forgive us and free us from our sins,

heal and strengthen us by the Holy Spirit,

and raise us to new life in Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*Please stand if you are able*

**Gloria in excelsis**

*Gloria, gloria in excelsis, in excelsis*

*Gloria, gloria in excelsis Deo.*

Peace on earth to all your people,

Lord God, heavenly King.

We worship you, almighty Father,

let our voices ring! Sing:

*Gloria, gloria in excelsis, in excelsis*

*Gloria, gloria in excelsis Deo.*

Jesus, blessèd Lamb of God,

to you our voice we raise.

You take away our sins, O Lord,

Receive our song of praise! Sing:

*Gloria, gloria in excelsis, in excelsis*

*Gloria, gloria in excelsis Deo.*

Holy Lord in highest heaven,

how our hearts rejoice

in God the Father, Son and Spirit,

so with loudest voice sing:

*Gloria, gloria in excelsis, in excelsis*

*Gloria, gloria in excelsis Deo.*

**Collect of the day**
**O God, your Son Jesus Christ has left to us this meal of bread and wine in which we share his body and his blood. May we who celebrate this sign of his great love show in our lives the fruits of his redemption; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.**

*Please sit*

**Readings**

**Exodus 12.1-14**

The Lord said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt: This month shall mark for you the beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year for you. Tell the whole congregation of Israel that on the tenth of this month they are to take a lamb for each family, a lamb for each household. If a household is too small for a whole lamb, it shall join its closest neighbour in obtaining one; the lamb shall be divided in proportion to the number of people who eat of it. Your lamb shall be without blemish, a year-old male; you may take it from the sheep or from the goats. You shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month; then the whole assembled congregation of Israel shall slaughter it at twilight. They shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it. They shall eat the lamb that same night; they shall eat it roasted over the fire with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water, but roasted over the fire, with its head, legs, and inner organs. You shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn. This is how you shall eat it: your loins girded, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand; and you shall eat it hurriedly. It is the passover of the Lord. For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike down every firstborn in the land of Egypt, both human beings and animals; on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgements: I am the Lord. The blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you live: when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague shall destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt. This day shall be a day of remembrance for you. You shall celebrate it as a festival to the Lord; throughout your generations you shall observe it as a perpetual ordinance.

**Psalm 116.1, 10-17**

I love the Lord, because he has heard
my voice and my supplications.

**The cup of blessing that we bless,**

**is it not a sharing in the blood of Christ?**
I kept my faith, even when I said,
‘I am greatly afflicted’;
I said in my consternation,
‘Everyone is a liar.’

What shall I return to the Lord
for all his bounty to me?
**The cup of blessing that we bless,**

**is it not a sharing in the bloodof Christ?**

I will lift up the cup of salvation
and call on the name of the Lord,
I will pay my vows to the Lord
in the presence of all his people.
**The cup of blessing that we bless,**

**is it not a sharing in the bloodof Christ?**

Precious in the sight of the Lord
is the death of his faithful ones.
O Lord, I am your servant;
I am your servant, the child of your serving-maid.
You have loosed my bonds.
I will offer to you a thanksgiving sacrifice
and call on the name of the Lord.

**The cup of blessing that we bless,**

**is it not a sharing in the bloodof Christ?**

**1 Corinthians 11.23-26**

I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, ‘This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me.’ In the same way he took the cup also, after supper, saying, ‘This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.’ For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord’s death until he comes.

*Please stand*

**Gradual hymn**

From heaven you came, helpless babe,
entered our world, your glory veiled,
not to be served but to serve,
and give your life that we might live.

*This is our God, the Servant King,
he calls us now to follow him,
to bring our lives as a daily offering
of worship to the Servant King.*

There in the garden of tears
my heavy load he chose to bear;
his heart with sorrow was torn,
'Yet not my will but yours,' he said.

Come see his hands and his feet,
the scars that speak of sacrifice,
hands that flung stars into space
to cruel nails surrendered.

So let us learn how to serve
and in our lives enthrone him,
each other's needs to prefer,
for it is Christ we're serving.

*Graham Kendrick © Thankyou Music*

**Gospel**

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John*.*
**Glory to Christ our Saviour.**

**John 13.1-17, 31b-35**

Now before the festival of the Passover, Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart from this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end. The devil had already put it into the heart of Judas son of Simon Iscariot to betray him. And during supper Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going to God, got up from the table, took off his outer robe, and tied a towel around himself. Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples’ feet and to wipe them with the towel that was tied around him. He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, ‘Lord, are you going to wash my feet?’ Jesus answered, ‘You do not know now what I am doing, but later you will understand.’ Peter said to him, ‘You will never wash my feet.’ Jesus answered, ‘Unless I wash you, you have no share with me.’ Simon Peter said to him, ‘Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!’ Jesus said to him, ‘One who has bathed does not need to wash, except for the feet, but is entirely clean. And you are clean, though not all of you.’ For he knew who was to betray him; for this reason he said, ‘Not all of you are clean.’

After he had washed their feet, had put on his robe, and had returned to the table, he said to them, ‘Do you know what I have done to you? You call me Teacher and Lord—and you are right, for that is what I am. So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another’s feet. For I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you. Very truly, I tell you, servants are not greater than their master, nor are messengers greater than the one who sent them. If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them.

Give thanks to the Lord for his glorious

Gospel. **Praise to Christ our Lord.**

*Please sit*

**Sermon**

*Revd David D Scott, Interim-Moderator, Pittenweem Parish Church*

**Intercessions**

Loving God, on this night when he was betrayed, your Son, Jesus Christ, washed his disciples’ feet. We commit ourselves to follow his example of love and service.

**Lord, hear us and humble us.**

On this night, he prayed for his disciples to be one. We pray for peace in our world and for the unity of your Church.

**Lord, hear us and humble us.**

On this night, he prayed for those who were to believe through their message. We pray for the mission of your Church.

**Lord, hear us and humble us.**

On this night, he commanded them to love, but suffered rejection himself. We pray for the rejected and unloved.

**Lord, hear us and humble us.**

On this night, he reminded them that if the world hated them, it hated him first. We pray for those who are persecuted for their faith.

**Lord, hear us and humble us. Amen.**

*Please stand*

**The peace**Our Lord Jesus, on the night he was betrayed, said:

“Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid” (Jn. 14: 27).

We meet in Christ’s name.
**Let us share his peace.**

**Offertory hymn**

O thou, who at thy Eucharist didst pray

that all thy Church might be for ever one,

grant us at every eucharist to say,

with longing heart and soul, `Thy will be done.'

O may we all one bread, one body be,

through this blest sacrament of unity.

For all thy Church, O Lord, we intercede;

make thou our sad divisions soon to cease;

draw us the nearer each to each, we plead,

by drawing all to thee, O Prince of Peace:

thus may we all one bread, one body be,

through this blest sacrament of unity.

We pray thee too for wanderers from thy fold;

O bring them back, good Shepherd of the sheep,

back to the faith which saints believed of old,

back to the Church which still that faith doth keep;

soon may we all one bread, one body be,

through this blest sacrament of unity.

So, Lord, at length when sacraments shall cease,

may we be one with all thy Church above,

one with thy saints in one unbroken peace,

one with thy saints in one unbounded love;

more blessed still, in peace and love to be

one with the Trinity in unity.

*William Harry Turton © Copyright*

*control*

**Liturgy of the sacrament**

**Prayers of offering**

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation; through your

goodness we have this bread to offer, 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 offer, fruit of the vine and work of human hands; it will become the cup of our salvation.

**Blessed be God for ever.**

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 our thanks and praise.**

Worship and praise belong to you, maker of light and darkness. Your wisdom draws beauty from chaos, brings a harvest out of sorrow and leads the exiles home.

In Christ your Son enemies are reconciled, debts forgiven and strangers made welcome.

Your Spirit frees us to live as sons and daughters in our Father's house.

We who by Christ's power follow the way of the Cross, sharing the joy of his obedience, now offer you our praise, with angels and archangels and the whole company of heaven singing the hymn of your unending glory:

*(Sung)*

Holy, holy, holy Lord
God of power and might
heaven and earth

are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he, O blessed is he

who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.
Hosanna in the highest.

*(Please feel free to sit)*

Glory and thanksgiving be to you, most loving Father, for Christ in whom the world is reconciled. Lifted on the Cross, his suffering and forgiveness spanned the gulf our sins had made.

Through that dark struggle death was swallowed up in victory, that life and light might reign.

Before he was given up to suffering and death, recalling the night of Israel's release, the night in which the sons of Egypt died, your Chosen One, himself the First-Born, freely offered his life.

At supper with his disciples he took bread and offered you thanks. He broke the bread, and gave it to them, saying: “Take, eat. This is my Body: it is broken for you.”

After supper, he took the cup, he offered you thanks, and gave it to them, saying: “Drink this, all of you. This is my Blood of the new covenant; it is poured out for you, and for all, that sins may be forgiven. Do this in remembrance of me.”

**We now obey your Son's command. We recall his blessed passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension; and we look for the coming of his Kingdom. Made one with him, we offer you these gifts and with them ourselves, a single, holy, living sacrifice.**

Hear us, most merciful Father, and send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon this bread and this wine, that, overshadowed by the Spirit’s life-giving power, they may be the Body and Blood of your Son, and we may be kindled with the fire of your love and renewed for the service of your Kingdom.

**Help us, who are baptised into the fellowship of Christ's Body to live and work to your praise and glory; may we grow together in unity and love until at last, in your new creation, we enter into our heritage in the company of the Virgin Mary, the apostles, and prophets, and of all our brothers and sisters living and departed.**

Through Jesus Christ our Lord, with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory be to you, Lord of all ages, world without end. **Amen.**

**Breaking of the bread**

The living bread is broken for the life of the world.
**Lord, unite us in this sign.**

**Lord’s prayer**

As our Saviour Christ has commanded and taught us, we are bold to say:

**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.**

**Lamb of God, you take away
the sins of the world:**

**have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away
the sins of the world:**

**have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away
the sins of the world:**

**grant us peace.**

**Invitation to communion**

The gifts of God for the people of God.

Let us draw near with confidence and faith

for all are welcome at the Table of the Lord.

**Communion**

**Thanksgiving**

Holy God, source of all love, on the night of his betrayal Jesus gave his disciples a new commandment to love one another as he loved them. Write this commandment in our hearts; give us the will to serve others as he was the servant of all, who gave his life and died for us, yet is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**.

**The garden of Gethsemane**

**Luke 22: 39-46**

Jesus came out and went, as was his custom, to the Mount of Olives; and the disciples followed him. When he reached the place, he said to them, ‘Pray that you may not come into the time of trial.’ Then he withdrew from them about a stone’s throw, knelt down, and prayed, ‘Father, if you are willing, remove this cup from me; yet, not my will but yours be done.’ Then an angel from heaven appeared to him and gave him strength. In his anguish he prayed more earnestly, and his sweat became like great drops of blood falling down on the ground. When he got up from prayer, he came to the disciples and found them sleeping because of grief, and he said to them, ‘Why are you sleeping? Get up and pray that you may not come into the time of trial.’

*Remain seated while Stay with me (Taize chant) is played and sung*

Stay with me, remain here with me,

watch and pray, watch and pray.

Stay with me, remain here with me,

watch and pray, watch and pray. *(repeat)*

**Luke 22: 47-62**

While Jesus was still speaking, suddenly a crowd came, and the one called Judas, one of the twelve, was leading them. He approached Jesus to kiss him; but Jesus said to him, ‘Judas, is it with a kiss that you are betraying the Son of Man?’ When those who were around him saw what was coming, they asked, ‘Lord, should we strike with the sword?’ Then one of them struck the slave of the high priest and cut off his right ear. But Jesus said, ‘No more of this!’ And he touched his ear and healed him. Then Jesus said to the chief priests, the officers of the temple police, and the elders who had come for him, ‘Have you come out with swords and clubs as if I were a bandit? When I was with you day after day in the temple, you did not lay hands on me. But this is your hour, and the power of darkness!’

Then they seized him and led him away, bringing him into the high priest’s house. But Peter was following at a distance. When they had kindled a fire in the middle of the courtyard and sat down together, Peter sat among them. Then a servant-girl, seeing him in the firelight, stared at him and said, ‘This man also was with him.’ But he denied it, saying, ‘Woman, I do not know him.’ A little later someone else, on seeing him, said, ‘You also are one of them.’ But Peter said, ‘Man, I am not!’ Then about an hour later yet another kept insisting, ‘Surely this man also was with him; for he is a Galilean.’ But Peter said, ‘Man, I do not know what you are talking about!’ At that moment, while he was still speaking, the cock crowed. The Lord turned and looked at Peter. Then Peter remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said to him, ‘Before the cock crows today, you will deny me three times.’ And he went out and wept bitterly.

*All depart in silence*

**Notices**

**Good Friday** 12.00noon Meditation on the Lord’s passion

**Holy Saturday** 7.00pm Service of light and blessing of the Easter candle in St Fillan’s Cave, Cove Wynd, Pittenweem

**Easter Sunday** 8.00am Service at Elie harbour followed by bacon rolls in the church hall

Easter communion at 9.45am in St Michael’s and 1130am at St John’s led by Revd David Gordon

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  **East Neuk Episcopal Churches**

**18 April 2025 —Good Friday**

12.00noon at St John’s and 2.00pm at St Michael’s led by Revd David Gordon

*All enter in silence*

*A period of silent prayer is kept*

**The Collect**

**O Lord, look with mercy on this your family, for which our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed, given up into the hands of sinners, and to suffer death upon the cross; who lives and reigns for ever and ever. Amen.**

**Readings**

**First reading**

*The reading is not introduced, and there is no concluding response*

**Isaiah 52. 13–53. 12**

See, my servant shall prosper; he shall be exalted and lifted up, and shall be very high. Just as there were many who were astonished at him—so marred was his appearance, beyond human semblance, and his form beyond that of mortals—so he shall startle many nations; kings shall shut their mouths because of him; for that which had not been told them they shall see, and that which they had not heard they shall contemplate. Who has believed what we have heard?  And to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed? For he grew up before him like a young plant, and like a root out of dry ground; he had no form or majesty that we should look at him, nothing in his appearance that we should desire him. He was despised and rejected by others; a man of suffering and acquainted with infirmity; and as one from whom others hide their faces he was despised, and we held him of no account. Surely he has borne our infirmities and carried our diseases; yet we accounted him stricken,
   struck down by God, and afflicted. But he was wounded for our transgressions, crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the punishment that made us whole, and by his bruises we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have all turned to our own way, and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all. He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he did not open his mouth; like a lamb that is led to the slaughter, and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent, so he did not open his mouth. By a perversion of justice he was taken away. Who could have imagined his future? For he was cut off from the land of the living, stricken for the transgression of my people. They made his grave with the wicked and his tomb with the rich, although he had done no violence, and there was no deceit in his mouth. Yet it was the will of the Lord to crush him with pain. When you make his life an offering for sin, he shall see his offspring, and shall prolong his days; through him the will of the Lord shall prosper. Out of his anguish he shall see light; he shall find satisfaction through his knowledge. The righteous one, my servant, shall make many righteous, and he shall bear their iniquities. Therefore I will allot him a portion with the great, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong; because he poured out himself to death, and was numbered with the transgressors; yet he bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.

**Psalm 22**

My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?  Why are you so far from helping me, from the words of my groaning? O my God, I cry by day, but you do not answer; and by night, but find no rest. Yet you are holy, enthroned on the praises of Israel.

**My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?**

In you our ancestors trusted; they trusted, and you delivered them. To you they cried, and were saved; in you they trusted, and were not put to shame.

**My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?**

But I am a worm, and not human; scorned by others, and despised by the people. All who see me mock at me; they make mouths at me, they shake their heads; ‘Commit your cause to the Lord; let him deliver— let him rescue the one in whom he delights!’

**My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?**

Yet it was you who took me from the womb; you kept me safe on my mother’s breast. On you I was cast from my birth, and since my mother bore me you have been my God. Do not be far from me, for trouble is near and there is no one to help. Many bulls encircle me, strong bulls of Bashan surround me; they open wide their mouths at me, like a ravening and roaring lion.

**My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?**

I am poured out like water, and all my bones are out of joint; my heart is like wax; it is melted within my breast; my mouth is dried up like a potsherd, and my tongue sticks to my jaws; you lay me in the dust of death.

**My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?**

For dogs are all around me; a company of evildoers encircles me. My hands and feet have shrivelled; I can count all my bones. They stare and gloat over me; they divide my clothes among themselves, and for my clothing they cast lots.

**My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?**

But you, O Lord, do not be far away! O my help, come quickly to my aid! Deliver my soul from the sword, my life from the power of the dog! Save me from the mouth of the lion! From the horns of the wild oxen you have rescued me.

**My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?**

I will tell of your name to my brothers and sisters; in the midst of the congregation I will praise you: You who fear the Lord, praise him! All you offspring of Jacob, glorify him.

**My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?**

Stand in awe of him, all you offspring of Israel! For he did not despise or abhor the affliction of the afflicted; he did not hide his face from me, but heard when I cried to him. From you comes my praise in the great congregation; my vows I will pay before those who fear him.

**My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?**

The poor shall eat and be satisfied; those who seek him shall praise the Lord. May your hearts live for ever! All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord; and all the families of the nations shall worship before him. For dominion belongs to the Lord, and he rules over the nations.

**My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?**

To him, indeed, shall all who sleep in the earth bow down; before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, and I shall live for him. Posterity will serve him; future generations will be told about the Lord, and proclaim his deliverance to a people yet unborn, saying that he has done it.

**My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?**

**Second reading**

*The reading is not introduced, and there is no concluding response*

**Hebrews 10. 16–25**

‘This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, says the Lord: I will put my laws in their hearts, and I will write them on their minds’, he also adds, ‘I will remember their sins and their lawless deeds no more.’ Where there is forgiveness of these, there is no longer any offering for sin. Therefore, my friends, since we have confidence to enter the sanctuary by the blood of Jesus, by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain (that is, through his flesh), and since we have a great priest over the house of God, let us approach with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. Let us hold fast to the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who has promised is faithful. And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

**Gradual hymn**

When I survey the wondrous cross

on which the Prince of Glory died,

my richest gain I count but loss,

and pour contempt on all my pride.

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast,

save in the death of Christ, my God:

all the vain things that charm me most,

I sacrifice them to his blood.

See from his head, his hands, his feet,

sorrow and love flow mingling down:

did e'er such love and sorrow meet,

or thorns compose so rich a crown?

His dying crimson, like a robe,

spreads o’er his body on the tree;

then am I dead to all the globe,

and all the globe is dead to me.

Were the whole realm of nature mine,

that were an offering far too small;

love so amazing, so divine,

demands my soul, my life, my all.

*Isaac Watts*

**The Gospel of the passion John 18. 1–19. 42**

*Narrator* After Jesus had spoken these words, he went out with his disciples across the Kidron valley to a place where there was a garden, which he and his disciples entered. Now Judas, who betrayed him, also knew the place, because Jesus often met there with his disciples. So Judas brought a detachment of soldiers together with police from the chief priests and the Pharisees, and they came there with lanterns and torches and weapons. Then Jesus, knowing all that was to happen to him, came forward and asked them,

*Jesus* ‘For whom are you looking?’

*Narrator* They answered,

*Reader* ‘Jesus of Nazareth.’

*Jesus* ‘I am he.’

*Narrator* Judas, who betrayed him, was standing with them. When Jesus said to them, ‘I am he’, they stepped back and fell to the ground. Again he asked them,

*Jesus* ‘For whom are you looking?’

*Narrator* And they said,

*Reader* ‘Jesus of Nazareth.’

*Jesus*  ‘I told you that I am he. So if you are looking for me, let these men go.’

*Narrator* This was to fulfil the word that he had spoken, ‘I did not lose a single one of those whom you gave me.’ Then Simon Peter, who had a sword, drew it, struck the high priest’s slave, and cut off his right ear. The slave’s name was Malchus. Jesus said to Peter,

*Jesus* ‘Put your sword back into its sheath. Am I not to drink the cup that the Father has given me?’

*Narrator* So the soldiers, their officer, and the Jewish police arrested Jesus and bound him. First they took him to Annas, who was the father-in-law of Caiaphas, the high priest that year. Caiaphas was the one who had advised the Jews that it was better to have one person die for the people. Simon Peter and another disciple followed Jesus. Since that disciple was known to the high priest, he went with Jesus into the courtyard of the high priest, but Peter was standing outside at the gate. So the other disciple, who was known to the high priest, went out, spoke to the woman who guarded the gate, and brought Peter in. The woman said to Peter,

*Reader* ‘You are not also one of this man’s disciples, are you?’

*Narrator* He said,

*Reader* ‘I am not.’

*Narrator* Now the slaves and the police had made a charcoal fire because it was cold, and they were standing round it and warming themselves. Peter also was standing with them and warming himself.

Then the high priest questioned Jesus about his disciples and about his teaching.

*Jesus* ‘I have spoken openly to the world; I have always taught in synagogues and in the temple, where all the Jews come together. I have said nothing in secret. Why do you ask me? Ask those who heard what I said to them; they know what I said.’

*Narrator* When he had said this, one of the police standing nearby struck Jesus on the face, saying,

*Reader* ‘Is that how you answer the high priest?’

*Jesus* ‘If I have spoken wrongly, testify to the wrong. But if I have spoken rightly, why do you strike me?’

*Narrator* Then Annas sent him bound to Caiaphas the high priest. Now Simon Peter was standing and warming himself. They asked him,

*Reader* ‘You are not also one of his disciples, are you?’ *Narrator* He denied it and said,

*Reader* ‘I am not.’

*Narrator* One of the slaves of the high priest, a relative of the man whose ear Peter had cut off, asked,

*Reader* ‘Did I not see you in the garden with him?’

*Narrator* Again Peter denied it, and at that moment the cock crowed. Then they took Jesus from Caiaphas to Pilate’s headquarters. It was early in the morning. They themselves did not enter the headquarters, so as to avoid ritual defilement and to be able to eat the Passover. So Pilate went out to them and said,

*Reader* ‘What accusation do you bring against this man?’

*Narrator* They answered,

*Reader* ‘If this man were not a criminal, we would not have handed him over to you.’

*Narrator* Pilate said to them,

*Reader* ‘Take him yourselves and judge him according to your law.’

*Narrator* The Jews replied,

*Reader* ‘We are not permitted to put anyone to death.’

*Narrator* (This was to fulfil what Jesus had said when he indicated the kind of death he was to die.)

Then Pilate entered the headquarters again, summoned Jesus, and asked him,

*Reader* ‘Are you the King of the Jews?’

*Jesus* ‘Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?’

*Narrator* Pilate replied,

*Reader* ‘I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?’

*Jesus* ‘My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here.

*Narrator*’ Pilate asked him,

*Reader* ‘So you are a king?’

*Jesus* ‘You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice.’

*Narrator* Pilate asked him,

*Reader* ‘What is truth?’

*Narrator* After he had said this, he went out to the Jews again and told them,

*Reader* ‘I find no case against him. But you have a custom that I release someone for you at the Passover. Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews?’

*Narrator* They shouted in reply,

*Reader* ‘Not this man, but Barabbas!’

*Narrator* Now Barabbas was a bandit. Then Pilate took Jesus and had him flogged. And the soldiers wove a crown of thorns and put it on his head, and they dressed him in a purple robe. They kept coming up to him, saying, *Reader* ‘Hail, King of the Jews!’

*Narrator* and striking him on the face. Pilate went out again and said to them,

*Reader* ‘Look, I am bringing him out to you to let you know that I find no case against him.’

*Narrator* So Jesus came out, wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. Pilate said to them,

*Reader* ‘Here is the man!’

*Narrator* When the chief priests and the police saw him, they shouted,

*Reader*‘Crucify him! Crucify him!’

*Narrator* Pilate said to them,

*Reader* ‘Take him yourselves and crucify him; I find no case against him.’

*Narrator* The Jews answered him,

*Reader* ‘We have a law, and according to that law he ought to die because he has claimed to be the Son of God.’

*Narrator* Now when Pilate heard this, he was more afraid than ever. He entered his headquarters again and asked Jesus,

*Reader* ‘Where are you from?’

*Narrator* But Jesus gave him no answer. Pilate therefore said to him,

*Reader* ‘Do you refuse to speak to me? Do you not know that I have power to release you, and power to crucify you?’

*Jesus* ‘You would have no power over me unless it had been given you from above; therefore the one who handed me over to you is guilty of a greater sin.’

*Narrator* From then on Pilate tried to release him, but the Jews cried out,

*Reader* ‘If you release this man, you are no friend of the emperor. Everyone who claims to be a king sets himself against the emperor.’

*Narrator* When Pilate heard these words, he brought Jesus outside and sat on the judge’s bench at a place called The Stone Pavement, or in Hebrew Gabbatha. Now it was the day of Preparation for the Passover; and it was about noon. He said to the Jews,

*Reader* ‘Here is your King!’

*Narrator* They cried out,

*Reader* ‘Away with him! Away with him! Crucify him!’

*Narrator* Pilate asked them,

*Reader* ‘Shall I crucify your King?’

*Narrator* The chief priests answered,

*Reader* ‘We have no king but the emperor.’

*Narrator* Then he handed him over to them to be crucified. So they took Jesus; and carrying the cross by himself, he went out to what is called The Place of the Skull, which in Hebrew is called Golgotha. There they crucified him, and with him two others, one on either side, with Jesus between them. Pilate also had an inscription written and put on the cross. It read, ‘Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews.’ Many of the Jews read this inscription, because the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city; and it was written in Hebrew, in Latin, and in Greek. Then the chief priests of the Jews said to Pilate,

*Reader* ‘Do not write, “The King of the Jews”, but, “This man said, I am King of the Jews.”

*Narrator*’ Pilate answered,

*Reader* ‘What I have written I have written.’

*Narrator* When the soldiers had crucified Jesus, they took his clothes and divided them into four parts, one for each soldier. They also took his tunic; now the tunic was seamless, woven in one piece from the top. So they said to one another,

*Reader* ‘Let us not tear it, but cast lots for it to see who will get it.’

*Narrator* This was to fulfil what the scripture says,
‘They divided my clothes among themselves,
   and for my clothing they cast lots.’
And that is what the soldiers did. Meanwhile, standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother’s sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother,

*Jesus* ‘Woman, here is your son.’

*Narrator* Then he said to the disciple,

*Jesus* ‘Here is your mother.’

*Narrator* And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home. After this, when Jesus knew that all was now finished, he said (in order to fulfil the scripture),

*Jesus* ‘I am thirsty.’

*Narrator* A jar full of sour wine was standing there. So they put a sponge full of the wine on a branch of hyssop and held it to his mouth. When Jesus had received the wine, he said,

*Jesus* ‘It is finished.’

*Narrator* Then he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

Since it was the day of Preparation, the Jews did not want the bodies left on the cross during the sabbath, especially because that sabbath was a day of great solemnity. So they asked Pilate to have the legs of the crucified men broken and the bodies removed. Then the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first and of the other who had been crucified with him. But when they came to Jesus and saw that he was already dead, they did not break his legs. Instead, one of the soldiers pierced his side with a spear, and at once blood and water came out. (He who saw this has testified so that you also may believe. His testimony is true, and he knows that he tells the truth.) These things occurred so that the scripture might be fulfilled, ‘None of his bones shall be broken.’ And again another passage of scripture says, ‘They will look on the one whom they have pierced.’

After these things, Joseph of Arimathea, who was a disciple of Jesus, though a secret one because of his fear of the Jews, asked Pilate to let him take away the body of Jesus. Pilate gave him permission; so he came and removed his body. Nicodemus, who had at first come to Jesus by night, also came, bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes, weighing about a hundred pounds. They took the body of Jesus and wrapped it with the spices in linen cloths, according to the burial custom of the Jews. Now there was a garden in the place where he was crucified, and in the garden there was a new tomb in which no one had ever been laid. And so, because it was the Jewish day of Preparation, and the tomb was nearby, they laid Jesus there.

**Silence**

**Poem: Friday morning** by Sydney Carter

It was on a Friday morning

that they took me from the cell

and I saw they had a carpenter

to crucify as well.

You can blame it on to Pilate,

you can blame it on the Jews,

you can blame it on the Devil,

it’s God I accuse.

It’s God they ought to crucify

instead of you and me,

I said to the carpenter

a-hanging on the tree.

You can blame it on to Adam,

you can blame it on to Eve,

you can blame it on the Apple,

but that I can’t believe.

It was God that made the Devil

and the Woman and the Man,

and there wouldn’t be an Apple

if it wasn’t in the plan.

It’s God they ought to crucify

instead of you and me,

I said to the carpenter

a-hanging on the tree.

Now Barabbas was a killer

and they let Barabbas go.

But you are being crucified

for nothing, here below.

your God is up in heaven

and he doesn’t do a thing:

with a million angels watching,

and they never move a wing.

It’s God they ought to crucify

instead of you and me,

I said to the carpenter

a-hanging on the tree.

To hell with Jehovah,

to the carpenter I said,

I wish that a carpenter

had made the world instead.

Goodbye and good luck to you,

our ways will soon divide.

Remember me in heaven,

the man you hung beside.

It’s God they ought to crucify

instead of you and me,

I said to the carpenter

a-hanging on the tree.

**Sermon**

**Hymn**

O sacred head, surrounded

by crown of piercing thorn!

bleeding head, so wounded,

so shamed and put to scorn!

Death's pallid hue comes o'er thee,

the glow of life decays;

yet angel-hosts adore thee,

and tremble as they gaze.

Thy comeliness and vigour

is withered up and gone,
and in thy wasted figure
I see death drawing on.

agony and dying!

love to sinners free!

Jesu, all grace supplying,

turn thou thy face on me.

In this thy bitter passion,

good Shepherd, think of me

with thy most sweet compassion,

unworthy though I be:

beneath thy cross abiding

for ever would I rest,

in thy dear love confiding,

and with thy presence blest.

*Paul Gerhardt*

**The solemn intercessions**

1

Let us pray for the Holy Church of God that our God and Lord will preserve it in peace throughout the whole world; and that we, leading a quiet and peaceable life, may glorify the Creator of heaven and earth.

*A period of silent prayer*

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

Almighty and everlasting God, in Christ you have revealed your glory among the nations: preserve the works of your mercy, that your Church throughout the world may persevere, with steadfast faith, in the confession of your Name; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

2

Let us pray for all bishops, priests and deacons, and especially Ianour Bishop (that God would clothe them with wisdom, and fill them with the Holy Spirit). Let us pray also for this congregation (that God would make us a royal priesthood, a holy nation, to the glory of Christ Jesus).

*A period of silent prayer*

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

Almighty and everlasting God, by whose Spirit the whole body of your faithful people is governed and sanctified: receive our supplications and prayers for all members of your holy Church; that in their vocation and ministry they may truly and devoutly serve you

to the glory of your name; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

3

Let us pray for the rulers of the nations, especially for Charles our King, the Government and Parliament of the United Kingdom, the Government and Parliament of Scotland, and all who serve the common good: that by God’s help they may seek justice and truth, and we may live in peace and concord.

*A period of silent prayer*

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

Almighty God, kindle, we pray, in every heart the true love of peace, and guide with your wisdom those who take counsel for the nations of the earth; that in tranquillity your kingdom may go forward till the earth is filled with the knowledge of your love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

4

Let us pray for those preparing to be baptised that our Lord and God may give them illumination and understanding, opening their hearts, strengthening their faith, and granting them the waters of rebirth, so they may be one with Christ Jesus our Lord.

*A period of silent prayer*

**Lord, in your mercy:**

**hear our prayer.**

Almighty and everlasting God, you make your Church ever fruitful with new offspring: increase the faith and understanding of those to be baptised; that as they are buried with Christ by baptism into death, so in Christ they may be raised to newness of life; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

5

Let us pray for those in tribulation and special need for those weighed down with sickness or any trouble; for those who are in prison and captivity for the name of the Lord: that God would deliver them from every illness and disease, open the prisons, loose their chains, and restore them sound into the holy Church.

*A period of silent prayer*

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

Almighty and ever-living God, the comfort of the sorrowful, the strength of those who suffer: hear the prayers of your children who cry out in any tribulation;

that all may rejoice, having known your merciful love in their time of need; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

6

Let us pray for those who do not acknowledge the Lord our God that, following what is right, in sincerity of heart, they may find the way to God.

*A period of silent prayer*

**Lord, in your mercy:**

**hear our prayer.**

Almighty and everlasting God, you have made us for yourself and our hearts are restless until they find their rest in you: have mercy on all who live in doubt and unbelief, that they may know you, the one Creator God; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

7

Let us pray for those who do not confess Jesus Christ, our crucified Lord that, enlightened by the Holy Spirit, they too may enter on the way of salvation.

*A period of silent prayer.*

**Lord, in your mercy:**

**hear our prayer.**

Almighty and ever-living God, grant to those who do not confess Christ yet walk before you with a sincere heart, that they may find in him the way, the truth, and the life; and that we ourselves, being constant in mutual love and striving to understand more fully the mystery of your life, may be made more perfect witnesses to your love in the world; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

8

Let us pray for God’s ancient people, the Jews, who were the first to hear the word of the Lord our God that together we may advance in the love of God’s name and in faithfulness to God’s covenant.

*A period of silent prayer*

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

Almighty and ever-living God, who bestowed your promises on Abraham and Sarah and their descendants: bless the children of your covenant, both Christian and Jew; take from us all blindness and bitterness of heart, and hasten the coming of your kingdom, when Israel shall be saved, the Gentiles gathered in, and we shall dwell together in mutual love and peace under the one God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

9

Let us pray for all our brothers and sisters who believe in Christ that our Lord and God may be pleased to regard not our sins, but the faith of the Church, and would grant peace and unity to all Christian people.

*A period of silent prayer*

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

Almighty and everlasting God, you gather the scattered, and unite those you have brought together; look kindly on all who follow Jesus Christ, your Son; that we, who are consecrated by one baptism into his life, death, and resurrection, may be joined together in the fullness of faith, and united in the fellowship of love; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

10

Let us pray to Almighty God, the creator of heaven and earth, for the whole of creation, through Jesus Christ, in whom all things were made, and through whom all things were reconciled to the Father, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his Cross.

*A period of silent prayer*

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

Eternal God of unchanging power and light: look with mercy on your whole creation; and bring to completion your saving work, so that the whole world may see the fallen lifted up, the old made new, and all things brought to perfection by him through whom all things were made, by our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

**Lord’s prayer**

As our Saviour Christ has commanded and taught us, we are bold to say:

**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.**

**Closing hymn**

We sing the praise of him who died,

of him who died upon the cross;

the sinner's hope, though all deride,

will turn to gain this bitter loss.

Inscribed upon the cross we see

in shining letters, 'God is love’;

he bears our sins upon the tree;

he brings us mercy from above.

The cross! it takes our guilt away:

it holds the fainting spirit up;

it cheers with hope the gloomy day,

and sweetens every bitter cup.

It makes the coward spirit brave

to face the darkness of the night;

it takes the terror from the grave,

and gilds the bed of death with light.

The balm of life, the cure of woe,

the measure and the pledge of love,

the sinner's refuge here below,

the angels' theme in heaven above.

*Thomas Kelly*

**Final prayer**

May your abundant blessing, Lord,

come down upon your people

who have devoutly recalled the death of your Son

in the sure and certain hope of their resurrection:

grant them pardon, bring them comfort,

may their faith grow stronger,

and their eternal salvation be assured;

through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*All depart in silence*

**Notices**

**Holy Saturday** 7.00pm Service of light and blessing of the Easter candle in St Fillan’s Cave, Cove Wynd, Pittenweem

**Easter Sunday** 8.00am Service at Elie harbour followed by bacon rolls in the church hall

Easter communion at 9.45am in St Michael’s and 1130am at St John’s led by Revd David Gordon

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**East Neuk Episcopal Churches**

**19 April 2025 —Holy Saturday**

7.00pm at St Fillan’s Cave led by Revd David Gordon

**Liturgy of the light**

*The congregation gathers and the people turn to face the Presiding Celebrant. The address takes place; then fire is blessed, and the candle is prepared.*

**Address**

Dear friends in Christ, let us begin our solemn Vigil.

On this most holy night when our Saviour Jesus Christ passed from death to life, we gather, with all the Church throughout the world, to watch and pray.

This is the Passover of Jesus Christ.

Through light and word, let us celebrate the new life that Christ shares with us.

**The Blessing of the Fire and Preparation of the Candle**

*The fire is ignited in silence*

*The Priest blesses the fire*

Almighty God, who gloriously raised your only-begotten Son from the dead: sanctify this fire,

that it may be a sign of life and hope; may we, who celebrate the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ,

be set aflame with love, and renewed in faith, so that we may shine as a light in the world, and glorify you in our lives; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*The Presiding Celebrant traces a cross in the Paschal Candle, Alpha and Omega, and the numerals of the current year, saying,*

Christ yesterday and today

(*tracing the vertical arm of the cross*)

the beginning and the end

(*the horizontal arm*)

Alpha and Omega

(*these letters, above and below the cross*)

All time

(*the first numeral, in the upper left corner of the cross*)

and all ages belong to him

(*the second numeral in the upper right corner*)

to whom be glory and power

(*the third numeral in the lower left corner*)

through every age and for ever. Amen.

(*the last numeral in the lower right corner*).

*Grains of incense to commemorate the five wounds of Christ are inserted into the candle in the form of a cross, the following may be said:*

By his holy

and glorious wounds

may Christ our Lord

strengthen us

and make us whole. Amen.

*The Paschal Candle is lit from the Easter fire. The Presiding Celebrant says:*

May the light of Christ, rising in glory,

dispel the darkness of our hearts and minds.

*The Paschal Candle is raised*

The light of Christ.

**Thanks be to God.**

*The people light their candles from the Paschal candle.*

*The Paschal Candle is raised.*

The light of Christ.

**Thanks be to God.**

*The candles of the congregation continue to be lit from the Paschal Candle.*

*The Paschal Candle is raised.*

The light of Christ.

**Thanks be to God.**

*The Paschal Candle is placed on its stand.*

**The Easter Proclamation**

*Metrical version of the Exultet*

Sing choirs of heaven! Let Saints and angels sing!

Around God's throne exalting harmony.

Now Jesus Christ is risen from the grave.

Salute your King in glorious symphony.

Sing choirs of earth! Behold, your light has come!

The glory of the Lord shines radiantly.

Lift up your heart, for Christ has conquered death.

The night is past; the day of life is here.

Sing Church of God! Exalt with joy outpoured!

The gospel trumpets tell of victory won.

Your saviour lives: he's with you evermore.

Let all God's people shout the long Amen.

**Liturgy of the word**

*The candles of the altar are lit and* Gloria in excelsis *(Glory to God in the highest)* *is sung by all.*

*Gloria, gloria in excelsis, in excelsis*

*Gloria, gloria in excelsis Deo.*

Peace on earth to all your people,

Lord God, heavenly King.

We worship you, almighty Father,

let our voices ring! Sing:

*Gloria, gloria in excelsis, in excelsis*

*Gloria, gloria in excelsis Deo.*

Jesus, blessed Lamb of God,

to you our voice we raise.

You take away our sins, O Lord,

receive our song of praise! Sing:

*Gloria, gloria in excelsis, in excelsis*

*Gloria, gloria in excelsis Deo.*

Holy Lord in highest heaven,

how our hearts rejoice

in God the Father, Son and Spirit,

so with loudest voice sing:

*Gloria, gloria in excelsis, in excelsis*

*Gloria, gloria in excelsis Deo.*

**The Collect**

**O God, who made this most holy night to shine with the glory of the Lord’s resurrection: stir up in your Church that Spirit of adoption given to us in baptism; that, being renewed both in body and mind, we may worship you in sincerity and truth; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end. Amen.**

**The Epistle**

**I Corinthians 15. 19–26**

If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied. But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died. For since death came through a human being, the resurrection of the dead has also come through a human being; for as all die in Adam, so all will be made alive in Christ. But each in his own order: Christ the first fruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. Then comes the end, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father, after he has destroyed every ruler and every authority and power. For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. The last enemy to be destroyed is death.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**Alleluia**

*After the Epistle has been read, all rise, then all sing the* Alleluia*.*

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Christ, our Passover, has been sacrificed for us;

let us celebrate the feast, then, in the Lord.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

**Gospel**

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

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke.

**Glory to Christ our Saviour.**

On the first day of the week, at early dawn, they came to the tomb, taking the spices that they had prepared. They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they went in, they did not find the body. While they were perplexed about this, suddenly two men in dazzling clothes stood beside them. The women were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, ‘Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen. Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, that the Son of Man must be handed over to sinners, and be crucified, and on the third day rise again.’ Then they remembered his words, and returning from the tomb, they told all this to the eleven and to all the rest. Now it was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the other women with them who told this to the apostles. But these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them. But Peter got up and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; then he went home, amazed at what had happened.

Give thanks to the Lord for his glorious Gospel.

**Praise to Christ our Lord.**

**Reflection**

**Conclusion**

**The Lord’s Prayer**

As our Saviour has 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.**

**Do not bring us to the time of trial**

**but deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power**

**and the glory are yours,**

**now and for ever. Amen.**

Let us go into the world in the joy of Easter,

sharing the peace of Christ with one another.

We meet in Christ’s name

**Let us share his peace.**

*A sign of peace is shared*

**Hymn**

Now the green blade rises from the buried grain,

wheat that in the dark earth many days had lain;

love lives again, that with the dead has been:

*Love is come again, like wheat that springs up green.*

In the grave they laid him, Love who had ben slain,

thinking that he never would awake again,

laid in the earth like grain that sleeps unseen:

*Love is come again, like wheat that springs up green.*

Forth he came at Easter, like the risen grain,

he that for three days in the grave had lain,

back from the dead my risen Lord is seen:

*Love is come again, like wheat that springs up green.*

When our hearts are wintry, grieving, or in pain,

then your 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 springs up green.*

*John Macleod Campbell Crum*

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**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, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,

be among you and remain with you always.

**Amen.**

Let us go in peace, to love and serve the Lord,

alleluia, alleluia.

**In the name of Christ, alleluia, alleluia.**

**Notices**

**Easter Sunday** 8.00am Service at Elie harbour followed by bacon rolls in the church hall

Easter communion at 9.45am in St Michael’s and 1130am at St John’s led by Revd David Gordon

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**East Neuk Episcopal Churches**

**20 April 2025 —Easter Day**

9.45am at St Michael’s led by Revd David Gordon

All baptised Christians are welcome to share in communion with us

Grace and peace to you from God our
Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

**Address**

Dear friends in Christ, let us begin our celebration of Easter.

At this most holy season when our Saviour Jesus Christ passed from death to life, we gather, with all the Church throughout the world, to celebrate his resurrection.

This is the Passover of Jesus Christ.

Through light and word,through bread and wine, let us celebrate the new life that Christ shares with us.

**The Preparation of the Candle**

*The Presiding Celebrant may trace a cross in the Paschal Candle, Alpha and Omega, and the numerals of the current year, saying,*

Christ yesterday and today

(*tracing the vertical arm of the cross*)

the beginning and the end

(*the horizontal arm*)

Alpha and Omega

(*these letters, above and below the cross*)

All time

(*the first numeral, in the upper left corner of the cross*)

and all ages belong to him

(*the second numeral in the upper right corner*)

to whom be glory and power

(*the third numeral in the lower left corner*)

through every age and for ever. Amen.

(*the last numeral in the lower right corner*).

As grains of incense are inserted into the candle in the form of a cross, the following is said:

By his holy

and glorious wounds

may Christ our Lord

strengthen us

and make us whole. Amen.

*The Paschal Candle is lit.*

*The Presiding Celebrant says:*

May the light of Christ, rising in glory,

dispel the darkness of our hearts and minds.

**The Easter Proclamation**

*Metrical version of the Exultet*

Sing choirs of heaven! Let Saints and angels sing!

Around God's throne exalting harmony.

Now Jesus Christ is risen from the grave.

Salute your King in glorious symphony.

Sing choirs of earth! Behold, your light has come!

The glory of the Lord shines radiantly.

Lift up your heart, for Christ has conquered death.

The night is past; the day of life is here.

Sing Church of God! Exalt with joy outpoured!

The gospel trumpets tell of victory won.

Your saviour lives: he's with you evermore.

Let all God's people shout the long Amen.

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

**Gloria in excelsis**

*Gloria, gloria in excelsis, in excelsis*

*Gloria, gloria in excelsis Deo.*

Peace on earth to all your people,

Lord God, heavenly King.

We worship you, almighty Father,

let our voices ring! Sing:

*Gloria, gloria in excelsis, in excelsis*

*Gloria, gloria in excelsis Deo.*

Jesus, blessed Lamb of God,

to you our voice we raise.

You take away our sins, O Lord,

receive our song of praise! Sing:

*Gloria, gloria in excelsis, in excelsis*

*Gloria, gloria in excelsis Deo.*

Holy Lord in highest heaven,

how our hearts rejoice

in God the Father, Son and Spirit,

so with loudest voice sing:

*Gloria, gloria in excelsis, in excelsis*

*Gloria, gloria in excelsis Deo.*

**The Collect**

**Lord of life and power, through the mighty resurrection of your Son you have overcome the old order of sin and death and have made all things new in him. May we, being dead to sin and alive to you in Jesus Christ, reign with him in glory, who with you and the Holy Spirit is alive, one God, now and for ever.** **Amen**.

**Readings**

**Acts 10: 34-43**

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

**Psalm 118: 1-2, 14-24**

O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;
his steadfast love endures for ever!

Let Israel say, ‘His steadfast love endures for ever.’

**This is the day that the Lord has made;**

**we will rejoice and be glad in it.**

The Lord is my strength and my might;
he has become my salvation.

There are glad songs of victory in the tents of the righteous:
‘The right hand of the Lord does valiantly;
the right hand of the Lord is exalted;
the right hand of the Lord does valiantly.’

**This is the day that the Lord has made;**

**we will rejoice and be glad in it.**

I shall not die, but I shall live,
and recount the deeds of the Lord.
The Lord has punished me severely,
but he did not give me over to death.

Open to me the gates of righteousness,
that I may enter through them
and give thanks to the Lord.

**This is the day that the Lord has made;**

**we will rejoice and be glad in it.**

This is the gate of the Lord;
 the righteous shall enter through it.

I thank you that you have answered me
and have become my salvation.
The stone that the builders rejected
has become the chief cornerstone.
**This is the day that the Lord has made;**

**we will rejoice and be glad in it.**

This is the Lord’s doing;
it is marvellous in our eyes.
This is the day that the Lord has made;
let us rejoice and be glad in it.

**This is the day that the Lord has made;**

**we will rejoice and be glad in it.**

**1 Corinthians 15: 19-26**

If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied. But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died. For since death came through a human being, the resurrection of the dead has also come through a human being; for as all die in Adam, so all will be made alive in Christ. But each in his own order: Christ the first fruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. Then comes the end, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father, after he has destroyed every ruler and every authority and power. For he must reign until he has put

all his enemies under his feet. The last enemy to be destroyed is death.

**Gradual 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 heavrnly King, alleluia!

who endured the cross and grave, alleluia!

sinners to redeem and save, alleluia!

But the pains that he endured, alleluia!

our salvation have procured; alleluia!

now above the sky he's King, alleluia!

where the angels ever sing, alleluia!

*Lyra Davidica*

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

Christ, our Passover, has been sacrificed for us;

let us celebrate the feast, then, in the Lord.

**Alleluia!**

**Gospel**

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John*.*
**Glory to Christ our Saviour.**

**John 20.1-18**

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, ‘They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him.’ Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went towards the tomb. The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, and the cloth that had been on Jesus’ head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. Then the disciples returned to their homes. But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. They said to her, ‘Woman, why are you weeping?’ She said to them, ‘They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him.’ When she had said this, she turned round and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, ‘Woman, why are you weeping? For whom are you looking?’ Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, ‘Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away.’ Jesus said to her, ‘Mary!’ She turned and said to him in Hebrew, ‘Rabbouni!’ (which means Teacher). Jesus said to her, ‘Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, “I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.” ’ Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, ‘I have seen the Lord’; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

Give thanks to the Lord for his glorious

Gospel. **Praise to Christ our Lord.**

**Sermon**

 **Nicene 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 substance with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and was made**

**human. 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, 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.**

**Intercessions**

**The peace**The risen Jesus came and stood among his disciples saying, “Peace be with you.”

Then were they glad when they saw the Lord.

We meet in Christ’s name.
**Let us share his peace.**

**Offertory hymn**

At the Lamb's high feast we sing

praise to our victorious King,

who hath washed us in the tide

flowing from his pierced side;

praise we him, whose love divine

gives his sacred blood for wine,

gives his body for the feast,

Christ the victim, Christ the priest.

Where the paschal blood is poured,

death's dark angel sheathes his sword;

faithful hosts triumphant go

through the wave that drowns the foe.

Praise we Christ, whose blood was shed,

paschal victim, paschal bread;

with sincerity and love

eat we manna from above.

Mighty victim from above,

conquering by the power of love;

thou hast triumphed in the fight,

thou hast brought us life and light.

Now no more can death appal,

now no more the grave enthral:

thou hast opened paradise,

and in thee thy saints arise.

Easter triumph, Easter joy,

nothing now can this destroy;

from sin's power do thou set free

souls new-born, O Lord, in thee.

Hymns of glory and of praise,

risen Lord, to thee we raise;

holy Father, praise to thee,

with the Spirit, ever be.

*Latin*

**Liturgy of the sacrament**

**Prayers of offering**

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation; through your goodness we have this bread to offer, 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 offer, fruit of the vine and work of human hands; it will become the cup of our salvation.

**Blessed be God for ever.**

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 our thanks and praise.**

Worship and praise belong to you, Author of all being. Your power sustains, your love restores, our broken world. You are unceasingly at work, from chaos bringing order and filling emptiness with life.

Christ, raised from the dead, proclaims the dawn of hope. He lives in us that we may walk in light.

Your Spirit is fire in us, your breath is power to purge our sin and warm our hearts to love.

As children of your redeeming purpose, freed by him who burst from the tomb and opened the gate of life, we offer you our praise, with angels and archangels and the whole company of heaven, singing the hymn of your unending glory:

*(Sung)*

Holy, holy, holy Lord
God of power and might,
heaven and earth

are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he, O blessed is he

who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.
Hosanna in the highest.

*(Please feel free to sit)*

Praise and thanksgiving be to you, Lord of all, for by the Cross eternal life is ours and death is swallowed up in victory. In the first light of Easter glory broke from the tomb and changed the women's sorrow into joy. From the Garden the mystery shone clear that he whom they had loved and lost is with us now in every place for ever.

Making himself known in the breaking of the bread, speaking peace to the fearful disciples, greeting fishermen on the shore, he renewed the promise of his presence and of new birth in the Spirit who sets the seal of freedom on your sons and daughters.

Before he was given up to suffering and death, recalling the night of Israel's release, the night in which slaves walked free, at supper with his disciples he took bread and offered you thanks. He broke the bread, and gave it to them, saying: "Take, eat. This is my Body: it is broken for you."

After supper, he took the cup, he offered you thanks, and gave it to them saying: "Drink this, all of you. This is my Blood of the new covenant; it is poured out for you, and for all, that sins may be forgiven. Do this in remembrance of me."

**We now obey your Son's command. We recall his blessed passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension; and we look for the coming of his Kingdom. Made one with him, we offer you these gifts and with them ourselves, a single, holy, living sacrifice.**

Hear us, most merciful Father, and send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon this bread and this wine, that, overshadowed by the Spirit’s life-giving power, they may be the Body and Blood of your Son, and we may be kindled with the fire of your love and renewed for the service of your Kingdom.

**Help us, who are baptised into the fellowship of Christ's Body to live and work to your praise and glory; may we grow together in unity and love until at last, in your new creation, we enter into our heritage in the company of the Virgin Mary, the apostles, and prophets, and of all our brothers and sisters living and departed.**

Through Jesus Christ our Lord, with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory be to you, Lord of all ages, world without end. **Amen.**

**Breaking of the bread**

The living bread is broken for the life of the world.
**Lord, unite us in this sign.**

**Lord’s prayer**

As our Saviour has 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. Do not bring us to the time of trial but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours, now and for ever. Amen.**

**Lamb of God, you take away
the sins of the world:**

**have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away
the sins of the world:**

**have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away
the sins of the world:**

**grant us peace.**

**Invitation to communion**

Christ our Passover has been sacrificed, alleluia, alleluia.

**Therefore, let us celebrate the feast, alleluia, alleluia.**

**Communion**

**Thanksgiving**

God of life, bring us to the glory of the resurrection promised in this Easter sacrament. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the risen Lord. **Amen.**

Give thanks to our gracious God,
**whose mercy endures for ever.**

**Father, we have broken the bread which is Christ’s body, we have tasted the wine of his new life. We thank you for these gifts by which we are made one in him and drawn into that new creation which is your will for all the world; through him who died for us and rose again, your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ.** **Amen.**

**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; working in *you* that which is pleasing and good; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon *you*, and remain with *you* always. **Amen.**

**Closing hymn**

Jesus lives! thy terrors now

can no more, O death, appal us;

Jesus lives! by this we know

thou, O grave, can not enthral us.

Alleluia.

Jesus lives! henceforth is death

but the gate of life immortal:

this shall calm our trembling breath,

when we pass its gloomy portal.

Alleluia.

Jesus lives! for us he died;

then, alone to Jesus living,

pure in heart may we abide,

glory to our Saviour giving.

Alleluia.

Jesus lives! our hearts know well

naught from us his love shall sever;

life nor death nor powers of hell

tear us from his keeping ever.

Alleluia.

Jesus lives! to him the throne

over all the world is given:

may we go where he is gone,

rest and reign with him in heaven.

Alleluia.

*Christian Fürchtegott Gellert*

**Sending out**
Let us go in peace to love and serve the Lord,

alleluia, alleluia.

**In the name of Christ, alleluia, alleluia.**

**Notices**

**Next Sunday** services will be led by Very Revd Dr Graham Forbes CBE

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**East Neuk Episcopal Churches**

**20 April 2025 —Easter Day**

11.30am at St John’s led by Revd David Gordon

All baptised Christians are welcome to share in communion with us

Grace and peace to you from God our
Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

**Opening 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 heavrnly King, alleluia!

who endured the cross and grave, alleluia!

sinners to redeem and save, alleluia!

But the pains that he endured, alleluia!

our salvation have procured; alleluia!

now above the sky he's King, alleluia!

where the angels ever sing, alleluia!

*Lyra Davidica*

**Collect for purity**

**Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hidden: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**Confession and absolution**

God is love and we are God’s children. There is no room for fear in love. We love because God loved us first. Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith.

*Silence*

**God our Father, we confess to you and to our fellow members in the Body of Christ that we have sinned in thought, word and deed, and in what we have failed to do. We are truly sorry. Forgive us our sins, and deliver us from the power of evil, for the sake of your Son who died for us, Jesus Christ, our Lord.**

God, who is both power and love,

forgive you and free *you* from *your* sins, heal and strengthen *you* by the Holy Spirit, and raise *you* to new life in Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**Gloria in excelsis**

*Gloria, gloria in excelsis, in excelsis*

*Gloria, gloria in excelsis Deo.*

Peace on earth to all your people,

Lord God, heavenly King.

We worship you, almighty Father,

let our voices ring! Sing:

*Gloria, gloria in excelsis, in excelsis*

*Gloria, gloria in excelsis Deo.*

Jesus, blessed Lamb of God,

to you our voice we raise.

You take away our sins, O Lord,

receive our song of praise! Sing:

*Gloria, gloria in excelsis, in excelsis*

*Gloria, gloria in excelsis Deo.*

Holy Lord in highest heaven,

how our hearts rejoice

in God the Father, Son and Spirit,

so with loudest voice sing:

*Gloria, gloria in excelsis, in excelsis*

*Gloria, gloria in excelsis Deo.*

**The Collect**

**Lord of life and power, through the mighty resurrection of your Son you have overcome the old order of sin and death and have made all things new in him. May we, being dead to sin and alive to you in Jesus Christ, reign with him in glory, who with you and the Holy Spirit is alive, one God, now and for ever.** **Amen**.

**Readings**

**Acts 10: 34-43**

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

**Psalm 118: 1-2, 14-24**

O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;
his steadfast love endures for ever!

Let Israel say, ‘His steadfast love endures for ever.’

**This is the day that the Lord has made;**

**we will rejoice and be glad in it.**

The Lord is my strength and my might;
he has become my salvation.

There are glad songs of victory in the tents of the righteous:
‘The right hand of the Lord does valiantly;
the right hand of the Lord is exalted;
the right hand of the Lord does valiantly.’

**This is the day that the Lord has made;**

**we will rejoice and be glad in it.**

I shall not die, but I shall live,
and recount the deeds of the Lord.
The Lord has punished me severely,
but he did not give me over to death.

Open to me the gates of righteousness,
that I may enter through them
and give thanks to the Lord.

**This is the day that the Lord has made;**

**we will rejoice and be glad in it.**

This is the gate of the Lord;
 the righteous shall enter through it.

I thank you that you have answered me
and have become my salvation.
The stone that the builders rejected
has become the chief cornerstone.
**This is the day that the Lord has made;**

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This is the Lord’s doing;
it is marvellous in our eyes.
This is the day that the Lord has made;
let us rejoice and be glad in it.

**This is the day that the Lord has made;**

**we will rejoice and be glad in it.**

**1 Corinthians 15: 19-26**

If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied. But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died. For since death came through a human being, the resurrection of the dead has also come through a human being; for as all die in Adam, so all will be made alive in Christ. But each in his own order: Christ the first fruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. Then comes the end, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father, after he has destroyed every ruler and every authority and power. For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. The last enemy to be destroyed is death.

**Gradual hymn**

Now the green blade rises

from the buried grain,

wheat that in the dark earth

many days has lain;

Love lives again,

that with the dead has been:

*Love is come again,*

*like wheat that springs up green.*

In the grave they laid him,

Love by hatred slain,

thinking that he never

would awake again,

laid in the earth

like grain that sleeps unseen:

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:

When our hearts are wintry,

Grieving, or in pain,

Then your touch can call us

back to life again;

fields of our hearts,

that dead and bare have been:

*John Macleod Campbell Crum © Oxford University Press*

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

Christ, our Passover, has been sacrificed for us;

let us celebrate the feast, then, in the Lord.

**Alleluia!**

**Gospel**

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John*.*
**Glory to Christ our Saviour.**

**John 20.1-18**

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, ‘They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him.’ Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went towards the tomb. The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, and the cloth that had been on Jesus’ head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. Then the disciples returned to their homes. But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. They said to her, ‘Woman, why are you weeping?’ She said to them, ‘They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him.’ When she had said this, she turned round and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, ‘Woman, why are you weeping? For whom are you looking?’ Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, ‘Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away.’ Jesus said to her, ‘Mary!’ She turned and said to him in Hebrew, ‘Rabbouni!’ (which means Teacher). Jesus said to her, ‘Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, “I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.” ’ Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, ‘I have seen the Lord’; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

Give thanks to the Lord for his glorious

Gospel. **Praise to Christ our Lord.**

**Sermon**

 **Nicene 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 substance with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and was made**

**human. 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, 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.**

**Intercessions**

**The peace**The risen Jesus came and stood among his disciples saying, “Peace be with you.”

Then were they glad when they saw the Lord.

We meet in Christ’s name.
**Let us share his peace.**

**Offertory hymn**

At the Lamb's high feast we sing

praise to our victorious King,

who hath washed us in the tide

flowing from his pierced side;

praise we him, whose love divine

gives his sacred blood for wine,

gives his body for the feast,

Christ the victim, Christ the priest.

Where the paschal blood is poured,

death's dark angel sheathes his sword;

faithful hosts triumphant go

through the wave that drowns the foe.

Praise we Christ, whose blood was shed,

paschal victim, paschal bread;

with sincerity and love

eat we manna from above.

Mighty victim from above,

conquering by the power of love;

thou hast triumphed in the fight,

thou hast brought us life and light.

Now no more can death appal,

now no more the grave enthral:

thou hast opened paradise,

and in thee thy saints arise.

Easter triumph, Easter joy,

nothing now can this destroy;

from sin's power do thou set free

souls new-born, O Lord, in thee.

Hymns of glory and of praise,

risen Lord, to thee we raise;

holy Father, praise to thee,

with the Spirit, ever be.

*Latin*

**Liturgy of the sacrament**

**Prayers of offering**

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation; through your goodness we have this bread to offer, 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 offer, fruit of the vine and work of human hands; it will become the cup of our salvation.

**Blessed be God for ever.**

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 our thanks and praise.**

Worship and praise belong to you, Author of all being. Your power sustains, your love restores, our broken world. You are unceasingly at work, from chaos bringing order and filling emptiness with life.

Christ, raised from the dead, proclaims the dawn of hope. He lives in us that we may walk in light.

Your Spirit is fire in us, your breath is power to purge our sin and warm our hearts to love.

As children of your redeeming purpose, freed by him who burst from the tomb and opened the gate of life, we offer you our praise, with angels and archangels and the whole company of heaven, singing the hymn of your unending glory:

*(Sung)*

Holy, holy, holy Lord
God of power and might,
heaven and earth

are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he, O blessed is he

who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.
Hosanna in the highest.

*(Please feel free to sit)*

Praise and thanksgiving be to you, Lord of all, for by the Cross eternal life is ours and death is swallowed up in victory. In the first light of Easter glory broke from the tomb and changed the women's sorrow into joy. From the Garden the mystery shone clear that he whom they had loved and lost is with us now in every place for ever.

Making himself known in the breaking of the bread, speaking peace to the fearful disciples, greeting fishermen on the shore, he renewed the promise of his presence and of new birth in the Spirit who sets the seal of freedom on your sons and daughters.

Before he was given up to suffering and death, recalling the night of Israel's release, the night in which slaves walked free, at supper with his disciples he took bread and offered you thanks. He broke the bread, and gave it to them, saying: "Take, eat. This is my Body: it is broken for you."

After supper, he took the cup, he offered you thanks, and gave it to them saying: "Drink this, all of you. This is my Blood of the new covenant; it is poured out for you, and for all, that sins may be forgiven. Do this in remembrance of me."

**We now obey your Son's command. We recall his blessed passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension; and we look for the coming of his Kingdom. Made one with him, we offer you these gifts and with them ourselves, a single, holy, living sacrifice.**

Hear us, most merciful Father, and send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon this bread and this wine, that, overshadowed by the Spirit’s life-giving power, they may be the Body and Blood of your Son, and we may be kindled with the fire of your love and renewed for the service of your Kingdom.

**Help us, who are baptised into the fellowship of Christ's Body to live and work to your praise and glory; may we grow together in unity and love until at last, in your new creation, we enter into our heritage in the company of the Virgin Mary, the apostles, and prophets, and of all our brothers and sisters living and departed.**

Through Jesus Christ our Lord, with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory be to you, Lord of all ages, world without end. **Amen.**

**Breaking of the bread**

The living bread is broken for the life of the world.
**Lord, unite us in this sign.**

**Lord’s prayer**

As our Saviour has 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. Do not bring us to the time of trial but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours, now and for ever. Amen.**

**Lamb of God, you take away
the sins of the world:**

**have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away
the sins of the world:**

**have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away
the sins of the world:**

**grant us peace.**

**Invitation to communion**

Christ our Passover has been sacrificed, alleluia, alleluia.

**Therefore, let us celebrate the feast, alleluia, alleluia.**

**Communion**

**Thanksgiving**

God of life, bring us to the glory of the resurrection promised in this Easter sacrament. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the risen Lord. **Amen.**

Give thanks to our gracious God,
**whose mercy endures for ever.**

**Father, we have broken the bread which is Christ’s body, we have tasted the wine of his new life. We thank you for these gifts by which we are made one in him and drawn into that new creation which is your will for all the world; through him who died for us and rose again, your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ.** **Amen.**

**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; working in *you* that which is pleasing and good; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon *you*, and remain with *you* always. **Amen.**

**Closing hymn**

Jesus lives! thy terrors now

can no more, O death, appal us;

Jesus lives! by this we know

thou, O grave, can not enthral us.

Alleluia.

Jesus lives! henceforth is death

but the gate of life immortal:

this shall calm our trembling breath,

when we pass its gloomy portal.

Alleluia.

Jesus lives! for us he died;

then, alone to Jesus living,

pure in heart may we abide,

glory to our Saviour giving.

Alleluia.

Jesus lives! our hearts know well

naught from us his love shall sever;

life nor death nor powers of hell

tear us from his keeping ever.

Alleluia.

Jesus lives! to him the throne

over all the world is given:

may we go where he is gone,

rest and reign with him in heaven.

Alleluia.

*Christian Fürchtegott Gellert*

**Sending out**

Let us go in peace to love and serve the Lord,

alleluia, alleluia.

**In the name of Christ, alleluia, alleluia.**

**Notices**

**Next Sunday** services will be led by Very Revd Dr Graham Forbes CBE

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