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St Andrew's Church

Orford with Longford

**The Second Sunday of Easter**

**8th April 2018**

**THE GATHERING**

**Introit hymn:** 409 ‘Come, ye faithful, raise the anthem’

Priest: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen**

Priest: Alleluia. Christ is risen.

All: He is risen indeed. Alleluia.

All: 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.

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

(After a period of silent reflection)

All: Most merciful God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we confess that we have sinned in thought, word and deed. We have not loved you with our whole heart. We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves. In your mercy forgive what we have been, help us to amend what we are, and direct what we shall be; that we may do justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with you, our God. Amen.

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

All (sing): Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth. Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

**The Collect:** Almighty Father, you have given us your only Son to die for our sins and to rise again for our justification: grant us so to put away the leaven of malice and wickedness that we may always serve you in pureness of living and truth; through the merits of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

**THE LITURGY OF THE WORD**

**A reading from the Acts of the Apostles** *(Acts 4. 32–35)*

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

This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

**Hymn:** *(remain seated)*

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| --- | --- |
| 1. We walk by faith and not by sight  no gracious words we hear  of him who spoke as none e’er spoke,  but we believe him near. | 2. We may not touch his hands and  side,  nor follow where he trod;  yet in his promise we rejoice,  and cry “My Lord and God!” |
| 3. Help then, O Lord, our unbelief,  and may our faith abound;  to call on you when you are near,  and seek where you are found: | 4. That when our life of faith is done  in realms of clearer light  we may behold you as you are  in full and endless sight. |
| 5. We walk by faith, and not by sight:  no gracious words we hear  of him who spoke as none e’er spoke  but we believe him near. | |

**A reading from the first letter of John** *(1 John 1.1 – 2.2)*

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

This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

**Gradual Hymn:**  149 ‘That Eastertide with joy was bright’ vv 9-13

# THE GOSPEL

Priest I am the first and the last, says the Lord, and the living one;

I was dead, and behold I am alive for evermore.

All: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John*(Jn 20. 19–31)*

All: Glory to you, O Lord

It was evening on the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them and said, ‘Peace be with you.’ After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, ‘Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.’ When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, ‘Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.’ But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, ‘We have seen the Lord.’ But he said to them, ‘Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.’ A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, ‘Peace be with you.’ Then he said to Thomas, ‘Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.’ Thomas answered him, ‘My Lord and my God!’ Jesus said to him, ‘Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.’ Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

This is the Gospel of the Lord

All: Praise to you, O Christ

**The Sermon**

All stand to say the Nicene Creed:

Priest: We believe in one God,

**All: the Father, the almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

THE INTERCESSION

Priest: In the power of the Spirit and in union with Christ, let us pray to the Father

The prayers are led by a member of the congregation. Each section ends:

Intercessor: Lord, in your mercy

All: Hear our prayer.

**Please remember in your prayers:**

* **those who are ill:** (4)Rob Mudd, Mark Shepherd, Marion Greatorex, Barbara Boscoe, Jacqueline Willington, Eileen Whitehead, Stephen Rawling, Stan Brand, Beryl Bentley, Doreen Bennett (3) Su Williams, Vera Wood, Michael Holland, Peter O’Connor (2) Lynn Burman, Michael Stringer, Michelle Smith, Paul Hogden, Joyce Hetherington, Michael Thackeray, Pauline Smith, Linda Morgan (1) Mary Lowe, Jenson Wright, Val Carter, Bill Lowson, Eileen Chorley, Zenia, Michael Mullen, Wilf Delooze
* ***those who have died:***
* ***those whose year’s mind falls at this time:***

***Sunday:*** Maurice Cook ***Monday:*** Bernard Hickey

***Tuesday***: Gill Clarke ***Saturday:*** James Cooper, Wilf Rowan

After the final petition:

Intercessor: Merciful Father, **accept these prayers**

for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

The Peace *(please stand)*

Priest: The risen Christ came and stood among his disciples and said, ‘Peace be with you.’ Then were they glad when they saw the Lord.

The peace of the Lord be always with you

All: And also with you

Priest: Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

Everyone is invited to exchange a sign of peace.

**Offertory Hymn:**  154 vv 1, 5-8 ‘O sons and daughters, let us sing’

**EUCHARISTIC PRAYER E**

Priest: The Lord is here

All: His spirit is with us

Priest Lift up your hearts

All: We lift them to the Lord

Priest: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

All: It is right to give thanks and praise

Priest: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, always and everywhere to give you thanks, almighty and eternal Father, and in these days of Easter to celebrate with joyful hearts the memory of your wonderful works.

For by the mystery of his passion Jesus Christ, your risen Son, has conquered the powers of death and hell and restored in men and women the image of your glory. He has placed them once more in paradise and opened to them the gate of life eternal. And so, in the joy of this Passover, earth and heaven resound with gladness, while angels and archangels and the powers of all creation sing for ever the hymn of your glory:

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

*(sing)* are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Priest: We praise and bless you, loving Father, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; and as we obey his command, send your Holy Spirit, that broken bread and wine outpoured may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

On the night before he died he had supper with his friends and, taking bread, he praised you. He broke the bread, gave it to them and said: Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.

When supper was ended he took the cup of wine. Again he praised you, gave it to them and said: Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did, in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice made once for all upon the cross. Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation, we proclaim his death and resurrection until he comes in glory.

Great is the mystery of faith:

All *(sing)*: Christ has died: Christ is risen: Christ will come again.

Priest: Lord of all life, help us to work together for that day when your kingdom comes and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth. Look with favour on your people, gather us in your loving arms and bring us with the Blessed Virgin Mary, St Andrew and all the saintsto feast at your table in heaven. Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father, for ever and ever. **Amen**.

Priest: Rejoicing in God’s new creation, let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us:

All: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done; on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

Priest: We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

All: Though we are many, we are one body,

because we all share in one bread.

All: Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.

*(sing)* Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, grant us peace.

Priest: Alleluia. Christ our passover is sacrificed for us.

All: Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Holy Communion is administered at the front of Church. Everyone is warmly invited to receive Holy Communion at this Eucharist. Those who prefer to receive a blessing are also invited to come forward at the same time.

During the distribution of the Sacrament, the following hymns are sung:

150 ‘Love’s redeeming work is done’

433 ‘Give me joy in my heart’

**After Communion,** and a short period of silence:

Priest: Let us pray:

All: Father of all, we give you thanks and praise, that when we were still far off you met us in your Son and brought us home. Dying and living he declared your love, gave us grace and opened the gate of glory. May we who share Christ’s body live his risen life; we who drink his cup bring life to others; we whom the Spirit lights give light to the world. Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us, so we and all your children shall be free, and the whole earth live to praise your name; through Christ our Lord. Amen

Priest: 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.**

**Recessional Hymn** 160 ‘Thine be the glory’

Priest: Go in joy and peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia! Alleluia!

All: In the name of Christ. Alleluia! Alleluia!

**Services and Notices for the coming week:**

Tues 10th: 7.00pm Parish Office and Choir Practice

Wed 11th: 7.00pm Eucharist

Thurs 12th: 10.30am Eucharist

8.00pm Thursday Ladies' Club meet at the vicarage

**Next Sunday The Third Sunday of Easter**

**(15th April) 10.00am Sung Eucharist**

**followed by the Annual General Meeting**

**After the service**: tea and coffee is served. Everyone welcome.

**Nominations for Church Warden and Members of PCC**: please complete the forms at the back of church and return to Fr Michael. **Please stay for the meeting next week.**

**Easter 2 8th April 2018**

##### A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

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

This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

**Hymn:** *(remain seated)*  ‘We walk by faith and not by sight’

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| --- |
| 1. We walk by faith and not by sight  no gracious words we hear  of him who spoke as none e’er spoke,  but we believe him near. |
| 2. We may not touch his hands and side,  nor follow where he trod;  yet in his promise we rejoice,  and cry “My Lord and God!” |
| 3. Help then, O Lord, our unbelief,  and may our faith abound;  to call on you when you are near,  and seek where you are found: |
| 4. That when our life of faith is done  in realms of clearer light  we may behold you as you are  in full and endless sight. |
| 5. We walk by faith, and not by sight:  no gracious words we hear  of him who spoke as none e’er spoke  but we believe him near. |

**continued overleaf/**

##### A reading from the first letter of John

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

This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

**Easter 2 8th April 2018**

Priest: In the power of the Spirit, and in union with Christ, let us pray to the Father.

*(all kneel)*

Leader: Father, we thank you for the resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ from the dead. May his glorious light shine upon us and all your Church that we might fully believe and live lives worthy of our calling.

Lord in your mercy

**All: Hear our prayer.**

Leader: We pray that your peace may descend upon the world, and for greater understanding and justice among and within the nations. Bless those who promote justice and those who risk their own lives to protect others. Bring peace to Syria at this time and be with those who have fled to find a better life.

We ask your blessing on our own country, its politicians and leaders, and for those who represent this part of Warrington. Give us all a spirit of discernment and a vision of your Kingdom here on earth.

Lord in your mercy

**All: Hear our prayer.**

Leader: We pray for all whom we love, both those who live locally and those live at a distance. May their eyes be opened to see and believe the glory of our risen Lord.

Help us to discern your will for us here at St Andrew’s as we prepare for our Annual Meeting next week. Bless the children, families and staff of our school at this time.

Lord in your mercy

**All: Hear our prayer.**

Leader: We pray for all who suffer pain and anguish, and for those who care for them.

We continue to pray for Rob Mudd, Mark Shepherd, Marion Greatorex, Barbara Boscoe, Jacqueline Willington, Eileen Whitehead, Stephen Rawling, Stan Brand, Beryl Bentley, Doreen Bennett, Su Williams, Vera Wood, Michael Holland, Peter O’Connor, Lynn Burman, Michael Stringer, Michelle Smith, Paul Hogden, Joyce Hetherington, Michael Thackeray, Pauline Smith, Linda Morgan, Mary Lowe, Jenson Wright, Val Carter, Bill Lowson, Eileen Chorley, Zenia, Michael Mullen, Wilf Delooze ... and for any we now mention in the silence of our own hearts. *(pause)*

Grant them the faith to reach out towards the healing wounds of Christ and be filled with his peace.

Lord in your mercy

**All: Hear our prayer.**

Leader: We remember before you all who have died in the hope of the resurrection. Unite us with all the faithful in your undying love.

We pray too for Maurice Cook, Bernard Hickey, Gill Clarke, James Cooper and Wilf Rowan whose anniversary of death falls this week and who share the joy of the resurrection and life eternal.

Lord in your mercy

**All: Hear our prayer.**

Leader: Join our voices, we pray, Lord our God, to the songs of all your saints in proclaiming that you give us the victory through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Merciful Father,

**All: accept these prayers**

**for the sake of your Son,**

**our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen**