****

St Andrew's Church

Orford with Longford

**The Third Sunday of Easter**

**15th April 2018**

**THE GATHERING**

**Introit hymn:** 141 ‘Christ the Lord is risen again’

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, who in your great mercy gladdened the disciples with the sight of the risen Lord: give us such knowledge of his presence with us, that we may be strengthened and sustained by his risen life and serve you continually in righteousness and truth; through Jesus Christ your Son 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 3.12–19*)

Peter addressed the people, ‘You Israelites, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we had made him walk? The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our ancestors has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you handed over and rejected in the presence of Pilate, though he had decided to release him. But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. And by faith in his name, his name itself has made this man strong, whom you see and know; and the faith that is through Jesus has given him this perfect health in the presence of all of you. And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer. Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out.’

This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

**Hymn:** *(remain seated)*  159 ‘The strife is o’er’ ***begins***“Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!”

**A reading from the first letter of John** *(1 John 3.1–7)*

See what love the Father has given us,that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God’s children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure. Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him. Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

**Gradual Hymn:**  162 ‘Ye choirs of New Jerusalem’

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 Luke*(Lk. 24. 36-48)*

All: Glory to you, O Lord

While the eleven and their companions were talking about what they had heard, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, ‘Peace be with you.’ They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. He said to them, ‘Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.’ And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, ‘Have you anything here to eat?’ They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took it and ate in their presence. Then he said to them, ‘These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you – that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.’ Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, ‘Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things.’

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,

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

***Monday:*** Flo Boardman, Richard Braide

***Tuesday***: Brett Metcalfe, Tony Chorley

***Wednesday***: Matthew Thompson, Mary Wells ***Saturday***: Bill Shaw

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:**  ‘God we praise you...’

God, we praise you, God, we bless you! God, we name you sovereign Lord!

Mighty King whom angels worship, Father by your Church adored:

All creation shows your glory, heaven and earth draw near your throne,

Singing, “Holy, holy, holy, Lord of hosts, and God alone!”

True apostles, faithful prophets, saints who set their world ablaze,

Martyrs, once unknown, unheeded, join out growing song of praise,

While your Church on earth confesses one majestic Trinity:

Father, Son and Holy Spirit, God, our hope eternally.

Jesus Christ, the King of glory, everlasting Son of God,

Humble was your virgin mother, hard the lonely path you trod.

By your cross is sin defeated, hell confronted face to face,

Heaven opened to believers, sinners justified by grace.

Christ, at God’s right hand victorious, you will judge the world you made;

Lord, in mercy help your servants for whose freedom you have paid.

Raise us up from dust to glory, guard us from all sin today;

King enthroned above all praises, save your people, God, we pray.

**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:

158 ‘The Lord is risen again’

548 ‘One more step along the world I go’

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

Priest: Let us pray:

**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** 165 ‘Christ is the King! O friends rejoice’

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:

**Today: 11.30am Annual General Meeting in church**

Tues 17th: 7.00pm Parish Office [no choir practice this evening]

Wed 18th: 3.00pm Confirmation Club

7.00pm Eucharist

Thurs 19th: 10.30am Eucharist

Fri 20th: 9.30am Distinctiveness and ethos Committee meeting in school

**Next Sunday The Fourth Sunday of Easter**

**(22nd April) 10.00am Sung Eucharist**

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

**Annual Parochial Meeting**: will take place after this morning’s service. Nominations for church wardens and members of the PCC can be finalised this morning before the meeting. **Please do stay – it usually only takes 30-40 minutes at most.**

**Car Boot sale**: Bank Holiday Monday from 8.45am

**The funeral of Wilf Delooze**: will take place at Walton Lea on Thursday 26th April at 2.2pm. Anyone who would like a lift should have a word with Fr Michael please.

**Concert:** On 28th April at 7.30 pm the Liverpool Festival Choir are coming to St Margaret’s to perform a variety of Church music. Tickets are priced at £5 in advance or on the door with some light refreshments included.

**Easter 3 2018 15th April 2018**

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

Peter addressed the people, ‘You Israelites, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we had made him walk? The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our ancestors has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you handed over and rejected in the presence of Pilate, though he had decided to release him. But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. And by faith in his name, his name itself has made this man strong, whom you see and know; and the faith that is through Jesus has given him this perfect health in the presence of all of you. And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer. Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out.’

This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

**Hymn:** *(remain seated)*  159 ‘The strife is o’er’ ***begins***“Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!”

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

See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God’s children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure. Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him. Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

**Easter 3 2018 15th April 2018**

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

*(all kneel)*

Leader: Father, your risen Son appeared to the disciples and opened their eyes to him. May we experience his presence among us today in bread and wine, and know him as those disciples came to know him, that empowered by this sacrament, we help others in their spiritual journeys.

We pray for the Church of Ireland, for its bishops, priests and people, and for their ministry. Bless Paul our bishop and all who serve you in this diocese.

Lord in your mercy

**All: Hear our prayer.**

Leader: We pray that justice and peace may fill the world, and that we may work for greater understanding and acceptance among and within the nations. Bless those who work for peace and those who risk their lives to protect others. We hold before you the tensions that grip our world at this time, and especially for the people of Syria.

We ask your blessing on our own country, its politicians and leaders. 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 those preparing for baptism at this time and those recently confirmed. Bless all whom we love. May their eyes be opened to see and believe the glory of our risen Lord. We pray for our school at the beginning of this new term.

Lord in your mercy

**All: Hear our prayer.**

Leader: We pray for all who suffer at this time, and for those who care for them.

By name, we remember Vera Wood, Peter O’Connor, Lynn Burman, Michelle Smith, Paul Hogden, Joyce Hetherington, Michael Thackeray, Pauline Smith, Linda Morgan, Val Carter, Bill Lowson, Zenia, Michael Mullen, Rob Mudd, Mark Shepherd, Marion Greatorex, Barbara Boscoe, Jacqueline Willington, Stephen Rawling, Stan Brand, Beryl Bentley, Doreen Bennett … and 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 hold before you all who have died in the knowledge of the resurrection, and especially for Wilf Delooze and Pete Woodward who died recently. Unite us with them in your undying love.

We pray too for Flo Boardman, Richard Braide, Brett Metcalfe, Tony Chorley, Matthew Thompson, Mary Wells, and Bill Shaw whose anniversary of death falls at this time. May they know the joy of the resurrection and the fullness of 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**