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St Andrew's Church

Orford with Longford

**The Fifth Sunday of Easter**

**14th May 2017**

**THE GATHERING**

**Introit hymn:** 160 ‘Thine be the glory’

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: To prepare ourselves to praise and thank God, we must first say we are sorry for the ways in which we hurt Him.

(After a period of silent reflection)

**All: Father, I am sorry for the things I have done wrong:**

**for being unkind and greedy**

**for wanting the best for myself and not for others,**

**for making people unhappy.**

**For these things**

**and the things I can no longer remember,**

**Father, please forgive,**

**through your Son, Jesus Christ. 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 God, who through your only-begotten Son Jesus Christ have overcome death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life: grant that, as by your grace going before us you put into our minds good desires, so by your continual help we may bring them to good effect; through Jesus Christ our risen 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 *7. 55–60)*

Standing before the high priest and the council, Stephen, filled with the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. ‘Look,’ he said, ‘I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!’ But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, ‘Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.’ Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, ‘Lord, do not hold this sin against them.’ When he had said this, he died.

This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

**Hymn:** *(remain seated)*  162 ‘Ye choirs of new Jerusalem’

**A reading from the first letter of Peter** *(1 Pet 2. 2–10)*

Like new-born infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation – if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good. Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God’s sight. Like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For it stands in scripture: ‘See, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious; and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.’ To you then who believe, he is precious; but for those who do not believe, ‘The stone that the builders rejected has become the very head of the corner,’ and ‘A stone that makes them stumble, and a rock that makes them fall.’ They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do. But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvellous light. Once you were not a people, but now you are God’s people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

**Gradual Hymn:**  148 ‘Jesus lives! Thy terrors now’

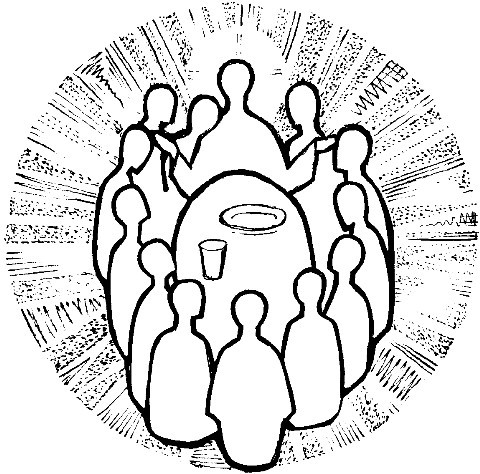
Priest I am the first and the last, says the Lord, and the living one;

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 14. 1–14)*

All: Glory to you, O Lord

Jesus said to his disciples: ‘Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father’s house there are many dwelling-places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going.’ Thomas said to him, ‘Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?’ Jesus said to him, ‘I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.’ Philip said to him, ‘Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.’ Jesus said to him, ‘Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, “Show us the Father”? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.’

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) Lynn Burman, Michael Stringer, Michelle Smith, Paul Hogden, Joyce Hetherington, Michael Thackeray (3) Mary Lowe, Jenson Wright, Barbara Cook, Kirsty Humphries, Val Carter, Bill Lowson (2)Rob Mudd, Mark Shepherd, Marion Greatorex, Eric Tickle, Barbara Boscoe, Jacqueline Willington, Laura Howard (1) Su Williams, Eleanor Moran, Carol Latimer, Kerrie Hadland
* ***those who have died:*** John Garratt, May Jones, Tony Hepworth
* ***those whose year’s mind falls at this time:***

***Tuesday:*** Flo Boardman, Richard Braide

***Wednesday:*** Brett Metcalfe, Tony Chorley

***Thursday:*** Matthew Thompson, Mary Wells

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 Welcome and Peace *(those newly confirmed stand)*

Priest There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism: *N and N*, by one Spirit we are all baptized into one body and confirmed by that same Spirit.

All We welcome you into the fellowship of faith; we are children of the same heavenly Father; we welcome you.

*Confirmation gifts are presented, after which everyone stands:*

Priest We are all one in Christ Jesus. We belong to him through faith, heirs of the promise of the Spirit of peace.

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:**  538 ‘O Jesus, I have promised’

**EUCHARISTIC PRAYER H**

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**

It is right to praise you, Father, Lord of all creation; in your love you made us for yourself. When we turned away you did not reject us, but came to meet us in your Son.

**You embraced us as your children and welcomed us to sit and eat with you.**

In Christ you shared our life that we might live in him and he in us.

**He opened his arms of love upon the cross and made for all the perfect sacrifice for sin.**

On the night he was betrayed, at supper with his friends he took bread, and gave you thanks; he broke it and gave it to them, saying: Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.

**Father, we do this in remembrance of him: his body is the bread of life.**

At the end of supper, taking the cup of wine, he gave you thanks, and said: Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins; do this in remembrance of me.

**Father, we do this in remembrance of him: his blood is shed for all.**

As we proclaim his death and celebrate his rising in glory, send your Holy Spirit that this bread and this wine, may be to us the body and blood of your dear Son.

**As we eat and drink these holy gifts make us one in Christ, our risen Lord**

With your whole Church throughout the world we offer you this sacrifice of praise and lift our voice to join the eternal song of heaven:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

Priest: 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:

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| 1 | As the deer pants for the water,  So my soul longs after you.  You alone are my heart's desire  And I long to worship you. | 2 | I want you more than gold  or silver,  Only you can satisfy.  You alone are the real joy-giver  And the apple of my eye. |
|  | *You alone are my strength, my shield,*  *To you alone may my spirit yield.*  *You alone are my heart's desire*  *And I long to worship you.* | 3 | You're my Friend  and you are my Brother,  Even though you are a King.  I love you more than any other,  So much more than anything. |

136 ‘Alleluia, alleluia, give thanks to the risen Lord’

**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** 628 ‘Ye that know the Lord is gracious’

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

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

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Services and Notices for the coming week:

Tues 16th 7.00pm Parish Office (no choir practice this evening)

Wed 17th: 5.00pm Full Governing Body meeting in school

7.00pm Eucharist

Thurs 18th: 10.30am Eucharist

3.00pm Messy Church in School – helpers please

Fri 19th: 9.00am Big Brekkie in school – for Christian Aid

**Next Sunday The Sixth Sunday of Easter**

**(21st May)** 10.00am Sung Eucharist

2.00pm Concert at St Margaret’s Church

**6.30pm Archdeacon’s Visitation** at St Elphin’s Church. Please meet on Howson Road at 6.00pm if you’d like a lift.

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

**Christian Aid Week**: please consider collecting for Christian Aid – 9th-15th May – or take envelopes for family and friends. Envelopes are available next at the back of church and can be returned today or next Sunday. Thank you

**Messy Church**: we need lots of help and support. Please meet at school at 2.55pm

**Big Brekkie**: led by Year 5 in school on Friday. Come for breakfast and to be entertained! Proceeds to Christian Aid.

**Visitation**: open to everyone and especially wardens, PCC members and sides-people. Lifts from church if required. Please speak to Fr Michael.

**Easter 5 14th May 2017**

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

Standing before the high priest and the council, Stephen, filled with the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. ‘Look,’ he said, ‘I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!’ But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, ‘Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.’ Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, ‘Lord, do not hold this sin against them.’ When he had said this, he died.

This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

**Hymn:** *(remain seated)*  162 ‘Ye choirs of new Jerusalem’

##### A reading from the book of Revelation

Like new-born infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation – if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good. Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God’s sight. Like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For it stands in scripture: ‘See, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious; and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.’ To you then who believe, he is precious; but for those who do not believe, ‘The stone that the builders rejected has become the very head of the corner,’ and ‘A stone that makes them stumble, and a rock that makes them fall.’ They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do. But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvellous light. Once you were not a people, but now you are God’s people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

**Easter 5 14th May 2017**

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

*(a ll kneel)*

Leader: Father, whose Son is the way, the truth and the life: help us to walk in his way, to rejoice in his truth and to live his risen life, now and always. We pray for the church around the world and today for the Diocese of New Jersey in the Episcopal Church of the United States.

We pray for Elizabeth our Queen, giving thanks for her dedication the people of this country and her service to your Church.

Bless Paul our bishop and all your Church in the service of Christ.

Lord in your mercy

**All: Hear our prayer.**

Leader: We pray for the work of Christian Aid, for those in this country and partner organisations overseas, for those preparing for Christian Aid Week and those who help raise awareness of the plight of our neighbour. Help us to respond in faith and love and do all that we can to help those in need. Bless our Big Brekkie later this week.

We pray for the people of east Africa in this time of famine. We pray for all who have fled their homes and lands in search of peace and safety.

Lord in your mercy

**All: Hear our prayer.**

Leader: As we celebrate the confirmation last weekend of eight of our members, we thank you for our own confirmation and renew our commitment to your service. Help us to reflect your love in the places where we live and work. May we call others to your service.

Give grace to us, our families and friends, and to all our neighbours in Christ.

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 Lynn Burman, Michael Stringer, Michelle Smith, Paul Hogden, Joyce Hetherington, Michael Thackeray, Mary Lowe, Jenson Wright, Barbara Cook, Kirsty Humphries, Val Carter, Bill Lowson, Rob Mudd, Mark Shepherd, Marion Greatorex, Eric Tickle, Barbara Boscoe, Jacqueline Willington, Laura Howard, Su Williams, Eleanor Moran, Carol Latimer, Kerrie Hadland and any we now mention in the silence of our own hearts. *(pause)*

Enfold them in your loving arms and surround them with your peace.

Lord in your mercy

**All: Hear our prayer.**

Leader: We hold before you all who have died in the knowledge of the resurrection including John Garratt, Tony Hepworth and May Jones who have died recently. Unite us with all the faithful in your undying love.

We pray for those whose anniversary of death falls this week. May they know the joy of the resurrection and the promise 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**