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St Andrew's Church

Orford with Longford

**The Sixth Sunday of Easter**

**21st May 2017**

**THE GATHERING**

**Introit hymn:** 258 ‘Lord of beauty, thine the splendour’

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:** God our redeemer, you have delivered us from the power of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of your Son: grant, that as by his death he has recalled us to life, so by his continual presence in us he may raise us to eternal joy; 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 17. 22–31)*

Then Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, ‘Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way. For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, “To an unknown god.” What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. From one ancestor he made all nations to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, so that they would search for God and perhaps grope for him and find him – though indeed he is not far from each one of us. For “In him we live and move and have our being”; as even some of your own poets have said, “For we too are his offspring.” Since we are God’s offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold, or silver, or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.’

This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

**Hymn:** *(remain seated)* 391 ‘Blest are the pure in heart’

**A reading from the first letter of St Peter** *(1 Pet 3 .13–22)*

Who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defence to anyone who demands from you an account of the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and reverence. Keep your conscience clear, so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God’s will, than to suffer for doing evil. For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you – not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

**Gradual Hymn:**  213 ‘Christ is the world’s light’

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. 15–21)*

All: Glory to you, O Lord

Jesus said to his disciples: ‘If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you for ever. This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you. I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them.’

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

***Sunday:*** Bill Ellison, Harry Rowan

***Wednesday:*** Mary Rowles

***Thursday:*** Lilian Delooze, Florrie Preece

***Friday:*** Jack Hollingsworth, Linda Hassall

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:**  175 ‘Come down, O love divine’

**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 are

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

**Hymns during communion:**

305 ‘I come with joy, a child of God’

When I needed a neighbour, were you there, were you there?

When I needed a neighbour were you there?

*And the creed and the colour and the name won't matter,*

*Were you there?*

I was hungry and thirsty, were you there, were you there?

I was hungry and thirsty, were you there?

I was cold, I was naked, were you there, were you there?

I was cold, I was naked, were you there?

When I needed a shelter, were you there, were you there?

When I needed a shelter, were you there, were you there?

When I needed a healer, were you there, were you there?

When I needed a healer, were you there, were you there?

Wherever you travel, I'll be there I'll be there,

Wherever you travel, I'll be there I'll be there,

*And the creed and the colour and the name won't matter,*

*I'll be there!*

**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** 137 ‘Alleluia, alleluia, hearts to heaven…’

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:

**Today 6.30pm Visitation Service at St Elphin’s** (meet at 6pm if you’d like a lift)

Mon 22nd 9.00am Coach leaves for Scarborough!

Tues 23rd No Parish Office or Choir Practice

Wed 24th: No Eucharist this evening.

**Thurs 25th:** **Ascension Day**

**7.00pm Eucharist** at St Margaret’s. No services at St Andrew’s today.

**Next Sunday The Seventh Sunday of Easter**

**(28th May) 10.00am Sung Eucharist**

**12 noon Holy Baptism**

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

**Concert at St Margaret’s Church**: at 2-4pm. Everyone welcome. Tickets £5 at the door.

**Christian Aid Week envelopes**: please return you envelope this morning. There are plenty of spares on the table in church..

**Ascension Day (25th)**: there will be a celebration at St Margaret’s at 7pm and everyone is welcome to attend..

**May Jones’ funeral**: at Walton Lea at 1.40pm on Thursday 25th. All welcome to attend.

**Easter 6 21st May 2017**

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

Then Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, ‘Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way. For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, “To an unknown god.” What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. From one ancestor he made all nations to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, so that they would search for God and perhaps grope for him and find him – though indeed he is not far from each one of us. For “In him we live and move and have our being”; as even some of your own poets have said, “For we too are his offspring.” Since we are God’s offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold, or silver, or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.’

This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

**Hymn:** *(remain seated)*  391 ‘Blest are the pure in heart’

**second reading on following page/**

##### A reading from the first letter of St Peter

Who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defence to anyone who demands from you an account of the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and reverence. Keep your conscience clear, so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God’s will, than to suffer for doing evil. For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you – not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

**Easter 6 1st May 2016**

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

*(all kneel)*

Leader: Father, your Son taught us to love one another as he first loved us. Send your Spirit upon your Church and endow us with grace, that knowing your presence in our daily lives, we may reveal your love to the world around us.

We pray for the Anglican Communion, for its leaders and peoples, and especially today for the diocese of Ngbo in Nigeria. Bless all who minister and serve there.

Lord in your mercy

**All: Hear our prayer.**

Leader: Hear our prayers, heavenly Father, for the nations of our world. We continue to pray for the work of Christian Aid; for those who are affected by the famine in East Africa and for all who have been displaced from their homes and lands.

We pray for those who are standing for election at this time; and especially for those hoping to represent this town.

Lord in your mercy

**All: Hear our prayer.**

Leader: We thank you for those who were confirmed recently and pray that you will nurture them and us to grow in faith. Bless *Thy Kingdom Come* both in this parish and across the Church of England. May we have patience and faith to bring others to know you love for them.

We pray for your continued love and guidance to our families, friends and neighbours.

Lord in your mercy

**All: Hear our prayer.**

Leader: We pray for all who are ill, and for those who care for them. May your Spirit dwell in their hearts and bring them comfort and peace.

By name, we remember: 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, Lynn Burman, Michael Stringer, Michelle Smith, Paul Hogden, Joyce Hetherington, Michael Thackeray and for any we now mention in the silence of our own hearts. *(pause)*

Lord in your mercy

**All: Hear our prayer.**

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

We pray too for Bill Ellison, Harry Rowan, Mary Rowles, Lilian Delooze, Florrie Preece, Jack Hollingsworth, and Linda Hassall whose anniversaries of death fall 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**