



www.holytrinitystirling.org

Holy Trinity Church

Albert Place, Stirling, FK8 2RG

Scottish Charity: SC016471

Open
inclusive
inspiring
friendly
deep

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Saturday 8th April 2023
HOLY SATURDAY

9 p.m. Easter Vigil

THE LITURGY OF THE LIGHT

We gather outside the church (weather permitting). All stand to face the Easter fire.

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

The presiding celebrant 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,
the beginning and the end,
Alpha and Omega,
all time belongs to him,
and all ages;
to him be glory and power,
through every age and forever.

Amen.

Incense studs are inserted into the Paschal candle as these words are said:

By his holy and glorious wounds may Christ our Lord guard and keep us. **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 Procession

Carried aloft by the deacon, the Paschal candle leads the congregation into the church.

chant



Deacon: The light of Christ.
All: **Thanks be to God.**

The clergy and servers light their candles from the Paschal candle.

The Paschal candle leads the congregation to the centre of the nave.

Deacon: The light of Christ
All: **Thanks be to God.**


The candles of the congregation are lit from the Paschal candle. The Paschal candle leads the congregation to where its stand has been prepared.

Deacon: The light of Christ
All: **Thanks be to God.**

The Paschal candle is placed on its stand and the deacon sings the Exsultet.

The Exsultet (*please sit*)


Rejoice, heavenly powers! Sing, choirs of angels! Exult all creation around God's throne! Jesus Christ, our King is risen! Sound the trumpet of salvation! Rejoice, O earth, in shining splendour, radiant in the brightness of your King: Christ has conquered, glory fills you! Darkness vanishes forever! Rejoice, O Mother Church! Exult in glory! The risen Saviour shines upon you! Let this place resound with joy, echoing the mighty song of all God's people.




The Lord be with you. And al-so with you.



Lift up your hearts. We lift them up to the Lord.



Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right and good that with full hearts and minds and voices we should praise you, the unseen God, through your only Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who has saved us by his death, paid the price of Adam's sin and reconciled us once again to you. For this is the Passover feast, when Christ, the true Lamb is slain, whose blood consecrates the homes of all the faithful. This is the night, when you first saved our forebears, freeing Israel from slavery and leading them dry-shod through the sea. This truly is the night when the pillar of fire destroyed the darkness of sin. This is the night, when all who trust in Christ are freed from sin, restored to grace and

holiness and share the victory of God. This is the night when Jesus Christ broke the chains of death and rose triumphant from the grave. O God, how wonderful your care for us. O how boundless your merciful love, to ransom a slave you gave away your Son. O happy fault, O necessary sin of Adam, which gained for us so great a redeemer. O most blessed of all nights, chosen by God to see Christ rising from the dead. Of this night scripture says: 'The night will be bright as day, it will become my light and my joy.' The power of this holy night puts evil to flight, washes sin away, restores lost innocence and turns mourning into joy. It cast out hatred, brings us peace and humbles earthly pride. Therefore, in the joy of this night, accept this candle, our sacrifice of praise, the work of bees and of human hands, your Church's solemn offering. May this pillar of fire, a flame, divided but undimmed, glow to the honour of God. Therefore, we pray, accept this Easter candle, consecrated to the honour of your name: let it mingle with the lights of heaven and dispel the darkness of this night. May the Morning Star find it still burning. For Christ, the true Morning Star, is risen from the dead and sheds peaceful light on all the world; who lives and reigns for ever and ever.



A - men.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Throughout the world the Church gathers in prayer, reflecting on holy Scripture as we await the dawn of Easter. Let us listen attentively to the word of God, recalling how again and again God saved the chosen people and, in the fullness of time, sent the only-begotten Son to be our Redeemer.

First Reading Genesis 1.1-2.4a

Psalm 104.1-7



Stephen Dean

Send forth your Spi-rit, O Lord, — and re - new the face of the earth.

Prayer

O God, who wondrously created and yet more wondrously restored our human nature: enlighten our hearts and minds to resist the selfish distractions of sin and so be made worthy to reach the endless joys of eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Second Reading Genesis 7.1-5,11-18; 8.6-19; 9.8-13

Psalm 36



Fintan O'Carroll

I will praise you, Lord, you have res - cued me.

Prayer

Grant, O Lord, that we who are baptised into the death of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ, may continually put to death our evil desires and be buried with him; and that through the grave and gate of death we may pass to our joyful resurrection; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Third Reading Genesis 22.1-18

Psalm 16.7-12



Prayer

Almighty God, whose chosen servant Abraham faithfully obeyed your call and rejoiced in your promise that, in him, all the families of the earth should be blessed: give us a faith like his, that, in us, your promises may be fulfilled; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Fourth Reading Exodus 14.10-31; 15.20-21

Canticle Exodus 15.1b-13, 17-18



Prayer

O God, whose marvellous deeds of old cast their light on our present times, and by the power of whose right hand your chosen people was delivered from slavery under Pharaoh, to signify the saving of all the nations through the waters of rebirth: grant that the whole world may be counted among the offspring of Abraham, and rejoice in the inheritance of Israel; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Fifth Reading Isaiah 55.1-11

Psalm 113



Prayer

Almighty God, you have made us for yourself, and our hearts are restless till they find their rest in you: pour your love into our hearts and draw us to yourself, and so bring us at last to your heavenly city where we shall see you face to face; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sixth Reading Ezekiel 36.24-28

Psalm 42.1-17



Like the deer that yearns for running streams, I long for you, my God.

Prayer

Almighty God, grant that as we keep the Paschal Feast, alight with desire for your kingdom, we may thirst in faith for the well-spring and fountain of life, our Lord Jesus Christ your Son; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end. Amen.

The Gloria (*please stand*)

The candles on the altar are lit and the Gloria in excelsis is sung by all, during which bells may be rung. The church lights are switched on.



Glo - ry to God, to God in the high - est, and



peace to his peo - ple on earth. Lord _____ God,



hea - ven - ly King, al - migh - ty God_ and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, _ we



give you thanks, _ we praise_ you for_ your glo - ry, we wor - ship you, _ we



give you thanks, _ we praise_ you for_ your glo - ry.

20 *f* F B \flat F B \flat F/A C

Glo - ry to God, to God in the high-est, and peace to his peo-ple on earth.

24 F B \flat F B \flat B \flat /D F

Glo - ry to God, to God in the high-est, and peace to his peo-ple on earth.

28 Dm Gm/B \flat Dm *mp* Am

Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther,

32 Dm D Dm Gm C F/A C

Lord_ God, Lamb of God, you take a - way_ the sin of the world: have

36 Dm B \flat Dm/F *mf* Dm Am/C B \flat F/A Gm Dm

mer - cy on us, you are seat - ed at the right_ hand of the Fa - ther:

41 Gm Am *mp* Dm Am Dm *p* Gm Dm Gm/B \flat Dm Dm/F

re - ceive our prayer, _ re - ceive our prayer. _

47 E Am 7 B \flat *mf* *energico* C/B \flat B \flat C/B \flat B \flat C/B \flat B \flat C/B \flat

For you a-lone are the Ho - ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,

52 Dm E $^{\circ}$ /D Dm 7 E $^{\circ}$ /D Dm C F *f* G 7 Am

you a-lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, you a - lone are the Most_ High,

57 Gm/Bb Dm Gm G/A A⁷ Dm Am/C

Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the glo - ry of God, of

61 Bb F/A Gm Dm Gm/F Bb/C F

God — the Fa - ther, A - men, A - men.

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 Romans 6.3-11 (*please sit*)

Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life. ⁵For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. ⁶We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, and we might no longer be enslaved to sin. ⁷For whoever has died is freed from sin. ⁸But if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. ⁹We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. ¹⁰The death he died, he died to sin, once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. ¹¹So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation (*please stand*)

Bernadette Farrell

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, Je - sus, ris - en Lord of life!

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Gospel: Matthew 28.1-10 (*please stand*)

When it is announced: Glory to Christ our Saviour.

After the sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. ²And suddenly there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. ³His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. ⁴For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. ⁵But the angel said to the women, 'Do

not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. ⁶ He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. ⁷ Then go quickly and tell his disciples, "He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him." This is my message for you.' ⁸ So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. ⁹ Suddenly Jesus met them and said, 'Greetings!' And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshipped him. ¹⁰ Then Jesus said to them, 'Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me.'

Give thanks to the Lord for this glorious Gospel. **Praise to Christ our Lord.**

The Easter Sermon of St John Chrysostom

THE RENEWAL OF BAPTISMAL VOWS

The clergy and servers lead the procession to the font. Please assemble around the font.

Processional Hymn

1 Blest be the everlasting God,
the Father of our Lord!
Be his abounding mercy praised,
his majesty adored!

2 When from the dead he raised his Son,
and called him to the sky,
he gave our souls a lively hope
that they should never die.

3 There's an inheritance divine
reserved against that day;
'tis uncorrupted, undefiled,
and cannot fade away.

4 Saints by the power of God are kept,
till that salvation come:
we walk by faith as strangers here,
but Christ shall call us home.

Isaac Watts after 1 Peter 1.3-5

The presiding celebrant says:

Blessed be God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
by whose great mercy we have been born anew to a living hope:
Through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.

The Baptismal Prayer

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 God thanks and praise.**

Praise and thanksgiving be to you, Author of all being; for on this night your only-begotten Son passed through the waters of death, and rose to new life, the firstborn of your new creation. He that died upon the cross, was buried, and descended to the dead; he broke the chains of death, and opened for us the gates of salvation. As you delivered Noah from the waters of the flood, and led the children of Israel through the Red Sea, so you deliver your people from the waters of chaos. As your Son, when he hung upon the cross, gave forth water from his side along with blood, so you grant us a well-spring of life. Look therefore with love upon the face of your Church, and unseal for us, and all the world, the fountain of new birth.

The base of the Paschal candle is lowered into the water.

Send down upon the waters of this font and upon your people your holy and life-giving Spirit. Lead those who are baptised with Christ through the waters of death, to be one with him in his resurrection; and sustain your people by your Spirit to bring hope and strength to the world.

The Paschal candle is removed from the water.

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.**

After the Baptismal Prayer over the waters of the font, all stand holding lighted candles in their hands, and renew the promise of baptismal faith. The presiding president addresses the congregation:

The Christian life means turning from evil and turning to Christ.

Do you renounce evil? **I renounce evil.**

Do you repent of sin? **I repent of sin.**

Do you turn to Christ? **I turn to Christ.**

Will you follow Christ? **I will follow Christ.**

Do you believe in God the Father, who made the world? **I believe.**

Do you believe in God the Son, who redeemed humankind? **I believe.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit, who gives life to God's people? **I believe.**

This is the faith of the Church.

This is our faith. We believe in one God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

As disciples of Christ, will you continue in the Apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread and in the prayers? **With the help of God, I will.**

Will you proclaim the good news by word and deed, serving Christ in all people?

With the help of God, I will.

Will you work for justice and peace, honouring God in all Creation?

With the help of God, I will.

This is the task of the Church.

This is our task: to live and work for the kingdom of God

The presiding president sprinkles holy water over all as a symbol of our renewed baptismal vows.

May Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given us new birth by water and the Holy Spirit, and has bestowed on us forgiveness of all our sins, guard us by his grace, and grant us, when our earthly course is ended, resurrection to eternal life, through the same Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Peace

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

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

THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

Offertory Organ – Giovanni Battista Martini: Verset 10 (21 Versetti)

Offertory Prayer (*please stand*)

As the grain once scattered in the fields, and the grapes once dispersed on the hillside are now reunited on this table in bread and wine, so, Lord, may your whole Church soon be gathered together from the corners of the earth into your kingdom. **Amen.**

The Eucharistic Prayer

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 God 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:

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. (*please 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 dawned 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 his fearful disciples, welcoming weary fisherman on the shore, he renewed his promise of his presence and of a 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 his 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.**

The Breaking of the Bread

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

The Lord's Prayer

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.**

Agnus Dei



Je - sus, Lamb of God and source of life,



Je - sus, lov - ing bear - er of our sins,



Hear our prayer, have mer - cy, hear our prayer, have mer - cy,



give us your peace.

Communion is administered in both kinds at the bottom of the chancel steps. Hand sanitiser is provided. It is perfectly acceptable to only receive the bread, should you so wish. Please do not intinct (dip the bread into the wine) as this is not considered to be a hygienic practice. The communicant may respond with Amen when receiving the bread and wine.

Communion Hymn

1 O Tree of Life, by running stream,
your roots sink deep in ancient dream
of life reborn from death's dark flood
turned crystal clear by paschal blood.

2 O Tree of Life, we hunger still
for fruit that grows on that far hill.
We seek the One who rose alone
from throne of wood to glory's Throne.

3 O Tree of Life, we bow in praise
before the One to glory raised
in love to reign in majesty
through your bright wood, O living Tree!

Genevieve Glen OSB
© The Benedictine Nuns of the Abbey of St Walburga

THANKSGIVING AND SENDING OUT

Post Communion Prayer

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.

Final Hymn (*please stand*)

1 Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son,
endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won;
angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away,
kept the folded grave-clothes where thy body lay.

*Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son,
endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won.*

2 Lo, Jesus meets us, risen from the tomb;
lovingly he greets us, scatters fear and gloom;
let the church with gladness hymns of triumph sing,
for her Lord now liveth, death hath lost its sting:

3 No more we doubt thee, glorious Prince of Life;
life is naught without thee: aid us in our strife;
make us more than conquerors through thy deathless love;
bring us safe through Jordan to thy home above:

The Blessing & Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord, alleluia, alleluia.

In the name of Christ, alleluia, alleluia.

Organ Postlude Théodore Dubois: Toccata (*Douze Pièces*)