www.holytrinitystirling.org

Holy Trinity Church

Albert Place, Stirling, FK8 2RG

Scottish Charity: SC016471

Open
inclusive
inspiring
friendly
deep

Rector: The Revd Canon Christoph Wutscher · Tel: 01786 359821 · rector@holytrinitystirling.org

Sunday 19th April 2026

Easter 3 — 10.30 a.m. Sung Eucharist

Celebrant: The Revd Ian Boa

Readings: Mary Kenyon

Sidespeople: Libby Coats and Rachel Campbell

PREPARATION

Organ Prelude François Couperin: Récit de Chromhorne (*Messe pour les Paroisses*: Kyrie 3e couplet)

Opening Hymn

stand

1 The dark enclosing tomb of night
is pierced by morning's promised light;
fire bursts aside the chill dark stone;
a single flame burns all alone.

The torch is passed from hand to hand
until it burns in every land
to break the stranglehold of death
and warm cold clay with burning breath.

2 The earth afire shouts back its praise
to you the flint who strikes our days
from the unyielding heart of rock
imprisoned under ancient lock.

3 O Christ, strike from our clay new song
that we may praise you all life long
in alleluias ringing free
to God, our God the One in Three.

Genevieve Glen OSB alt. © The Benedictine Nuns of the Abbey of St Walburga OneLicense # A-632863

Opening

Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Collect for Purity

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.

Confession and Absolution

God is love and we are God's children. There is no room for fear in love.
We love because God loved us first. Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith. *Silence*

God our Father, we confess to you
and to our fellow members in the Body of Christ
that we have sinned in thought, word and deed,
and in what we have failed to do. We are truly sorry.
Forgive us our sins,
and deliver us from the power of evil.
For the sake of your Son who died for us,
Jesus Christ, our Lord.

God, who is both power and love, forgive us and free us from our sins,
heal and strengthen us by the Holy Spirit and raise us to new life in Christ our Lord. Amen.

Gloria Kilcreggan Mass (*see separate music sheet*)

stand

Glory to God, 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, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Glory to God, to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth. Glory to God, to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth. 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, receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, you alone are the Most High Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God, of God the Father. Amen, Amen.

Collect

O God, who, in the death and resurrection of your Son, have raised up this fallen world: may we and all your people, whom you have saved from the gates of everlasting death, rejoice in your eternal presence; 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 LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading: Acts 2.14*a*, 36-41

sit

Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them: 'Let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified.' [37]Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, 'Brothers, what should we do?' [38]Peter said to them, 'Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. [39]For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him.' [40]And he testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, 'Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.' [41]So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added.

Gradual Hymn

Bright you break the bars of darkness
radiant rise, our day's new Dawn.
Sharp the shards that fall around you,
fragments of a world now gone.

2 At your feet, death's chains lie severed,
underfoot, sin's sceptre cleft;
all creation sovereign claims you,
evil of its power bereft.

3 Let your light fall full upon us
where we cower, cloaked in dread.
Coax the fearful from their hiding,
rouse the sleepers, wake the dead!

4 Make the earth ring with rejoicing;
see, the winter storms are past.
Cast our sorrow, banish mourning:
all things are made new to last!

5 Pierced, the rock pours forth fresh waters,
swift they flow through all the earth,
till dry desert blooms with fragrance,
till dead landscape comes to birth.

6 Green the garden springs around you,
Tree of Life now wreathed in leaf;
wheat fields promise gold of harvest:
glory radiant in the sheaf.

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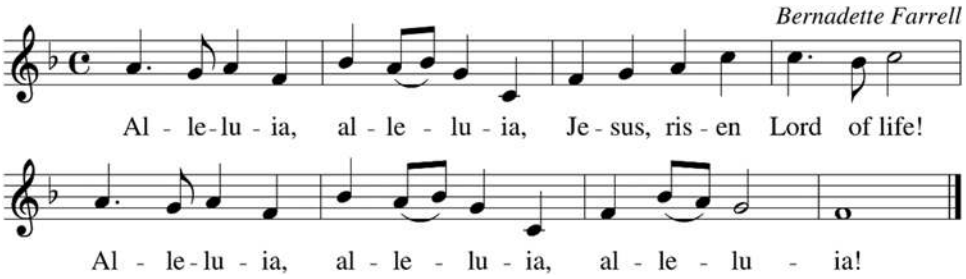
Second Reading: 1 Peter 1.17-23 *sit*

If you invoke as Father the one who judges all people impartially according to their deeds, live in reverent fear during the time of your exile. [18]You know that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold, [19]but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish. [20]He was destined before the foundation of the world, but was revealed at the end of the ages for your sake. [21]Through him you have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are set on God. [22]Now that you have purified your souls by your obedience to the truth so that you have genuine mutual love, love one another deeply from the heart. [23]You have been born anew, not of perishable but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God.

Gospel Acclamation *stand*

Gospel: Luke 24.13-35 *When it is announced:* Glory to Christ our Saviour.

Now on that same day two of the disciples were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, [14]and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. [15]While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, [16]but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. [17]And he said to them, 'What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?' They stood still, looking sad. [18]Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, 'Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?' [19]He asked them,

‘What things?’ They replied, ‘The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, [20]and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. [21]But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. [22]Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, [23]and when they did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. [24]Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but they did not see him.’ [25]Then he said to them, ‘Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! [26]Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?’ [27]Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures. [28]As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. [29]But they urged him strongly, saying, ‘Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over.’ So he went in to stay with them. [30]When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. [31]Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. [32]They said to each other, ‘Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?’ [33]That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. [34]They were saying, ‘The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!’ [35]Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

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

Sermon: The Revd Canon Christoph Wutscher *sit*

Nicene Creed *stand*

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 substance with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven;
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, and was made human.
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.
With the Father and the Son, he is worshipped and glorified.
He 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.

Intercessions led by Tony Mitchell *sit or kneel*

The Peace

stand

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

THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

Offertory Hymn

1 Sing of one who walks beside us
and this day is living still,
one who now is closer to us
than the thoughts our hearts distil.
One who once upon a hilltop
raised against the power of sin,
died in love as his own creatures
crucified their God and King!

2 Strangers we have walked beside him
the long journey of the day,
and have told him of the darkness
that has swept our hope away.
He has offered words of comfort,
words of energy and light,
and our hearts have blazed within us
as he saved us from the night.

3 Stay with us, dear Lord, and raise us,
once again the night is near.
Dine with us and share your wisdom,
free our hearts from every fear.
In the calm of each new evening,
in the freshness of each dawn,
if you hold us fast in friendship
we will never be alone.

Ralph Wright
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Offertory Prayer

Let us present our offerings to the Lord. Yours, Lord, is the greatness, the power, the glory, the splendour and the majesty; for everything in heaven and on earth is yours. All things come from you, and of your own we give you.

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 our 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.

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 the Spirit's 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

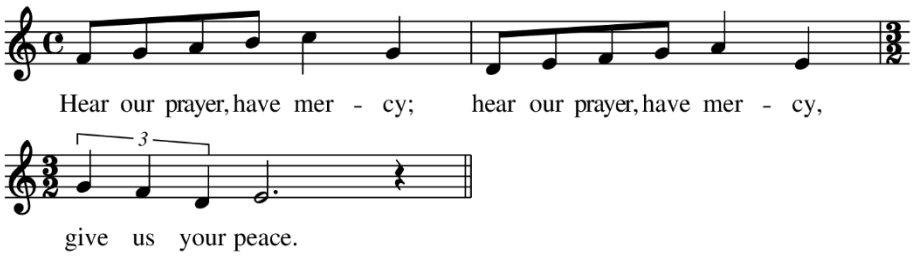
The living bread is broken for the life of the world. Lord, unite us in this sign.

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

We sing the following refrain after each verse sung by the cantor



Paul Inwood
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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.*

Seonaid Mackay: Air 'Mrs Mary Cooper of Stirling' from Lewis

Communion Hymn

1 Now is eternal life,
if ris'n with Christ we stand,
in him to life reborn,
and held within his hand;
no more we fear death's ancient dread,
in Christ arisen from the dead.

2 Man long in bondage lay,
brooding o'er life's brief span;
was it, O God, for naught,
for naught, thou madest man?
Thou art our hope, our vital breath;
shall hope undying end in death?

3 And God, the living God,
stooped down to man's estate;
by death destroying death,
Christ opened wide life's gate.
He lives, who died; he reigns on high;
who lives in him shall never die.

4 Unfathomed love divine,
reign thou within my heart;
from thee nor depth nor height,
nor life nor death can part;
my life is hid in God with thee,
now and through all eternity.

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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

stand

1 Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father,
there is no shadow of turning with thee;
thou changest not, thy compassions they fail not;
as thou hast been, thou forever wilt be:

Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
all I have needed thy hand hath provided,
great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

2 Summer and winter and springtime and harvest,
sun, moon and stars in their courses above,
join with all nature in manifold witness
to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love:

3 Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!

Thomas Chisholm 1886-1960 CCLI Licence # 237731

The Blessing & Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. In the name of Christ. Amen.

Organ Postlude François Couperin: Dialogue sur les Trompettes
(*Messe pour les Paroisses*: Gloria 4e Couplet)

Tea and coffee. *All are welcome, especially visitors, for tea, coffee and biscuits in the hall, just behind our church building.*

NOTICES

Monday 20th April
10 – 11.30 a.m. HT Tots Café

Thursday 23rd April
11 a.m. Holy Communion

Sunday 26th April
EASTER 4
10.30 a.m. Sung Eucharist

Readings
Acts 2.42-47; 1 Peter 2.19-25;
John 10.1-10