

*St Peter and St Paul,
Flitwick*



PARISH EUCHARIST
EASTER

Welcome!

For over eight hundred years Christian worship and ministry
have been offered in this building,
the Parish Church of Flitwick.

It is our pleasure to welcome you here today.

Happy Easter! This is the most joyful season of the Church's year. Easter Day, the day of resurrections, the Sunday of all Sundays, is the cornerstone of Christianity on which our faith is built. Our celebrations don't just last for a day; there are seven whole weeks from Easter Day through to the Ascension, when the risen Jesus returns to his Father, and ending at Pentecost, when we celebrate Jesus' parting gift to the Church, the Holy Spirit. This is a season of joy, Alleluias and thanksgiving. Our Paschal candle, first lit on Easter morning, remains burning for the whole of this season, a sign that the glorious light of God has conquered the darkness of this world through the resurrection of Jesus.

How to follow the various parts of the service:

You can use this booklet to follow the service. The following symbols will help you to stand, sit or kneel at the times which are usual in this church; if you find it more comfortable to sit throughout, please do so.



The numbers of today's hymns, which are sung from the orange hymn book, can be found on the hymn boards or in the pew sheet.

The words and music for the Psalm are on the sheet with today's readings.

For Younger Worshippers

Children's Church meets today in the Chapter House. Children aged 3+ are very welcome to the group for games, stories, crafts and prayer. The children will join us in church during Communion.



The Greeting

In the name of the Father,
and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

All **Amen.**

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

All

Alleluia! Christ is risen!
He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

All



Opening Hymn



Prayer of Preparation

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.



Confession

Confession is introduced with these or other appropriate words

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.



Jesus Christ, risen Master and triumphant Lord,
we come to you in sorrow for our sins,
and confess to you our weakness and unbelief.



All

We have lived by our own strength,
and not by the power of your resurrection.
In your mercy, forgive us.
Lord, hear us and help us.

All

We have lived by the light of our own eyes,
as faithless and not believing.
In your mercy, forgive us.
Lord, hear us and help us.

All

We have lived for this world alone,
and doubted our home in heaven.
In your mercy, forgive us.
Lord, hear us and help us.



Absolution

The priest uses these or other appropriate words

All

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.



Gloria

**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.**



Collect

The priest prays the special prayer for today.



Readings

One or two readings from the Bible precede the Gospel.

At the end of each the reader says

All This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.



Psalm

The choir leads us as together we sing the psalm, found on the readings sheet.



Gospel Reading

All Alleluia, alleluia!
I am the first and the last, says the Lord, and the living one;
I was dead, and behold I am alive for evermore.
Alleluia!

When the Gospel is announced the reader says

All Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to...
Glory to you, O Lord.

At the end

All This is the Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you O Christ.



Sermon



Creed

All

**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.**



Intercessions

These responses may be used

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

or

Lord, hear us.
All **Lord, graciously hear us.**

At the end

All Merciful Father,
**accept these prayers
for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ.
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!

All The peace of the Lord be always with you
and also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

We exchange a sign of peace



Offertory Hymn

*During the singing of this hymn, a collection towards the ministry of
this church is taken, the altar is prepared, and the bread and wine are
brought up.*



Prayer over the Gifts

This or another suitable prayer is offered

Be present, be present, Lord Jesus Christ,
our risen high priest;
make yourself known in the breaking of bread.
All **Amen**



Eucharistic Prayer

All The Lord is here.
His Spirit is with us.

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

All Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give thanks and praise.

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 full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

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.

All

**Christ has died:
Christ is risen:
Christ will come again.**

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 [N and] all the saints
to 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

All

Amen.



The Lord's Prayer

All

**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.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever.
Amen.**



Breaking of Bread

All

**We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.
Though we are many, we are one body,
because we all share in one bread.**

All

**Jesus, Lamb of God,
have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, bearer of our sins,
have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, redeemer of the world,
grant us peace.**



Giving of Communion

All

**Alleluia!
Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us.
Therefore let us keep the feast.
Alleluia!**

If you receive Communion at your own church, please do come and share bread and wine with us today. If you would prefer to receive a blessing, come to altar rail, bringing this service book with you.



Hymn

Choir Piece



Prayer after Communion

The priest says the Post Communion Prayer for the day. All respond

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.**



Blessing

The priest uses this or another suitable blessing

All **The God of peace, who brought again from the dead
our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep,
make you perfect in every good work to do his will;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.
Amen.**



Hymn

Dismissal

All **He is not here. He is risen!
Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia! Alleluia!
In the name of Christ. Alleluia! Alleluia**

Please help us by replacing your kneeler on the pew, and returning this service booklet and your hymn book to the back of church. Thank you.

Please join us after the service as we enjoy fellowship and refreshments in the Chapter House