



Welcome

Easter Day

31 March



actorschurch



St. Paul's Covent Garden



@actorschurch

Please switch off all mobile phones.

BEWARE: We do occasionally suffer from theft: take care of your belongings

Accessibility

Large Print versions of the Order of Service are available.

Gluten free wafers are available.

Hearing loop installed; collect a receiver from the back of church.

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The Altar Party gathers at the fire outside the church and the Easter Candle is marked as we say:

Priest Christ yesterday and today,
All the beginning and the end,

Priest Alpha and Omega, all time belongs to him, and all ages;
All to him be glory and power, through every age and for ever. Amen.

Priest
This is the day when our Lord Jesus Christ passed from death to life. Throughout the world Christians celebrate the awesome power of God. As we hear his word and proclaim all that God has done, we can be confident that we shall share his victory over death and live with him for ever.

The Priest lights the Easter Candle, saying
May the light of Christ, rising in glory, banish all darkness from our hearts and minds.

*We stand to sing the **Hymn**, as the Easter Candle is brought into church, placed in its stand and censed.*

Jesus Christ is risen today, Alleluia!
Our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!
Who did once, upon the cross, Alleluia!
Suffer to redeem our loss. Alleluia!

2 Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluia!
Unto Christ, our heavenly King, Alleluia!
Who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia!
Sinners to redeem and save. Alleluia!

3 But the pains that he endured, Alleluia!
Our salvation have procured; Alleluia!
Now above the sky he's King, Alleluia!
Where the angels ever sing. Alleluia!

The Priest goes to the Lectern and says:

Priest Alleluia, Christ is Risen
All He is Risen indeed. Alleluia.

The organ plays a fanfare, and we all shout, Alleluia, ring bells, clap and make a great sound unto the Lord. The service continues with the Gloria, from the Music Sheet

*The prayer of the day – the **Collect** – is sung.*

Lord of all life and power, who through the mighty resurrection of your Son overcame the old order of sin and death to make all things new in him: grant that we, being dead to sin and alive to you in Jesus Christ, may reign with him in glory; to whom with you and the Holy Spirit be praise and honour, glory and might, now and in all eternity.
Amen.

*We sit for the **first and second readings**.*

First Reading

Acts 10.34-43, read by Margaret

Then Peter began to speak: "I now realise how true it is that God does not show favouritism but accepts men from every nation who fear him and do what is right. You know the message God sent to the people of Israel, telling the good news of peace through Jesus Christ, who is Lord of all. You know what has happened throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John preached – how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and power, and how he went around doing good and healing all who were

under the power of the devil, because God was with him.

“We are witnesses of everything he did in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They killed him by hanging him on a tree, but God raised him from the dead on the third day and caused him to be seen. He was not seen by all the people, but by witnesses whom God had already chosen – by us who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one whom God appointed as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.”

At the end:

Reader This is the word of the Lord.
All Thanks be to God.

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 15.1-11, read by Arabella

¹I would remind you, brothers and sisters, of the good news that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand, ²through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you – unless you have come to believe in vain.

³For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, ⁴and that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures, ⁵and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. ⁶Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. ⁷Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. ⁸Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. ⁹For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. ¹⁰But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace towards me has not been in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them – though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. ¹¹Whether then it was I or they, so we proclaim and so you have come to believe.

At the end:

Reader This is the word of the Lord.
All Thanks be to God

*We sing the **hymn** as we turn to face the Gospel book*

**Love’s redeeming work is done;
fought the fight, the battle won:
lo, our sun’s eclipse is o’er!
Lo, he sets in blood no more!**

**2 Vain the stone, the watch, the seal!
Christ has burst the gates of hell;
death in vain forbids his rise;
Christ has opened Paradise.**

**3 Lives again our glorious King;
where, O death, is now thy sting?
Dying once, he all doth save;
where thy victory, O grave?**

**4 Soar we now where Christ has led,
following our exalted head;
made like him, like him we rise;
ours the cross, the grave, the skies.**

**5 Hail the Lord of earth and heaven!
Praise to thee by both be given:
thee we greet triumphant now;
hail, the resurrection thou!**

*We stand (if able) for the **Gospel** reading*

Prest The Lord be with you
All And also with you

Priest Hear the Gospel of our Lord
Jesus Christ according to John
(20, 1-18)

All Glory to you, O Lord.

¹Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. ²So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, ‘They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him.’ ³Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went towards the tomb. ⁴The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. ⁵He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. ⁶Then Simon Peter

came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, ⁷and the cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. ⁸Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; ⁹for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. ¹⁰Then the disciples returned to their homes.

¹¹But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; ¹²and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. ¹³They said to her, 'Woman, why are you weeping?' She said to them, 'They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him.' ¹⁴When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. ¹⁵Jesus said to her, 'Woman, why are you weeping? For whom are you looking?' Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, 'Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away.' ¹⁶Jesus said to her, 'Mary!' She turned and said to him in Hebrew, 'Rabbouni!' which means Teacher. ¹⁷Jesus said to her, 'Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, "I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God."' ¹⁸Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, 'I have seen the Lord'; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

At the end:

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

*We sit for the **Sermon***

*The **Prayers of Intercession** follow*

At the end:

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

*We process to the Font, with the Easter Candle, for the **Blessing of the Font** and the renewal of **Baptismal Vows**. We sing the hymn*

**Ye choirs of new Jerusalem,
your sweetest notes employ,
the Paschal victory to hymn
in strains of holy joy.**

**2 How Judah's lion burst his chains,
and crushed the serpent's head;
and brought with him, from death's domains,
the long-imprisoned dead.**

**3 From hell's devouring jaws the prey
alone our leader bore;
his ransomed hosts pursue their way
where he hath gone before.**

**4 Triumphant in his glory now
his sceptre ruleth all,
earth, heaven, and hell before him bow,
and at his footstool fall.**

**5 While joyful thus his praise we sing,
his mercy we implore,
into his palace bright to bring
and keep us evermore.**

After the Blessing of the Font, the Priest says

Priest Brothers and sisters, I ask you to
profess the faith of the Church.
Do you believe and trust in God
the Father?

**All I believe in God, the Father
almighty, creator of heaven
and earth.**

Priest Do you believe and trust in his Son
Jesus Christ?

**All I believe in Jesus Christ, his
only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the
Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin
Mary, suffered under Pontius
Pilate, was crucified, died, and
was buried; he descended to
the dead.**

On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand
of the Father,
and he will come to judge the
living and the dead.

Priest Do you believe and trust in the
Holy Spirit?

All I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.
Amen.

*The Priest introduces the **Peace**:*

Priest: The peace of the Lord be with
you always

All **And also with you**

Priest Let us offer one another a
sign of peace.

*We sing the **Hymn** as the Altar is prepared
for the **Eucharistic Prayer**.*

**Jesus lives! Thy terrors now
can no more, O death, appal us;
Jesus lives! By this we know
thou, O grave, canst not enthrall us.
Alleluia!**

**2 Jesus lives! Henceforth is death
but the gate of life immortal:
this shall calm our trembling breath,
when we pass its gloomy portal.
Alleluia!**

**3 Jesus lives! For us he died;
then, alone to Jesus living,
pure in heart may we abide,
glory to our Saviour giving.
Alleluia!**

**4 Jesus lives! Our hearts know well
naught from us his love shall sever;
life nor death nor powers of hell
tear us from his keeping ever.
Alleluia!**

**5 Jesus lives! To him the throne
over all the world is given:
may we go where he is gone,
rest and reign with him in heaven.
Alleluia!**

Priest Blessed are you Lord God of
all creation. Through your
goodness we have this bread
to offer, which earth has
given and human hands have
made. It will become for us
the bread of life.

All **Blessed be God for ever**
Priest Blessed are you Lord God of
all creation. Through your
goodness we have this wine
to offer. Fruit of the vine and
work of human hands, it will
become our spiritual drink
All **Blessed be God for ever**

Priest Pray my sisters and brothers
that our sacrifice may be
acceptable to God the
Almighty Father
All **May the Lord accept the
sacrifice at your hand, for
the praise and glory of his
name, for our good and
the good of all his Church.**

*The Priest adds the prayer over the gifts to which
we reply **Amen***

Priest The Lord be with you
All **And also with you.**
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...**

*The Eucharistic Prayer continues until we sing
the **Sanctus** and **Benedictus***

The **Eucharistic Prayer** continues until...

Priest: Great is the mystery of faith
All: Christ has died
Christ is risen
Christ will come again

The Eucharistic Prayer continues until

Priest ...for ever and ever
All: Amen

Priest: As our Saviour taught us, so
we pray:

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

We sing the **Agnus Dei**

Priest Jesus is the Lamb of God who
takes away the sin of the
world, blessed are those who
are called to his supper.
All Lord, I am not worthy to
receive you,
but only say the word,
and I shall be healed.

The congregation approaches the Altar to receive
Communion.

*All those who are in good standing with their
own Church are invited to receive Communion.
Those who prefer to ask for a Blessing are
invited to bow their heads at the Altar rail, or
bring this booklet as a sign to the Priest.*

Please receive in your hand ONLY.

**If you prefer to receive in one kind
only, please return to your seat
after receiving the Host.**

**Please keep absolute silence during
Communion**

*After Communion, we remain seated to sing
the Hymn*

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

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

Post Communion Prayers:

God of Life, who for our redemption gave your only-begotten Son to the death of the cross, and by his glorious resurrection have delivered us from the power of our enemy: grant us so to die daily to sin, that we may evermore live with him in the joy of his risen life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

We say together
**Almighty God,
we thank you for feeding us
with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ.
Through him we offer you our souls and bodies
to be a living sacrifice.
Send us out
in the power of your Spirit
to live and work
to your praise and glory.
Amen.**

*Any Banns of marriage and notices are given.
The children are invited to collect an **Easter Egg** and then the Priest says:*

Priest The Lord be with you
All And also with you

*The **Blessing** is given to which all reply: **Amen**
We sing the **hymn** and turn to face the
back for the dismissal*

**The strife is o'er, the battle done;
now is the victor's triumph won;
O let the song of praise be sung.
Alleluya!**

**2 Death's mightiest powers have done their worst,
and Jesus hath his foes dispersed;
let shouts of praise and joy outburst.
Alleluya!**

**3 On the third morn he rose again
glorious in majesty to reign;
O let us swell the joyful strain.
Alleluya!**

**4 He brake the age-bound chains of hell;
the bars from heaven's high portals fell;
let hymns of praise his triumph tell.
Alleluya!**

**5 Lord, by the stripes which wounded thee
from death's dread sting thy servants free,
that we may live, and sing to thee.
Alleluya!**

Priest. Go in peace to love and serve the Lord, Alleluia, Alleluia
**All Thanks be to God,
Alleluia, Alleluia.**

‘What’s On’ this week

Wednesday 3 April

12.00 Community Lunch, *all welcome*

1.10pm Holy Eucharist

Thursday 4 April

6pm & 8pm Vivaldi’s Four Seasons by Candlelight **

Friday 5 April

10.00-4pm We buy! Second Life Fashion

6.30pm & 8.30pm Musicals by Candlelight **

Saturday 6 April

10.00-4pm We buy! Second Life Fashion

6.30pm & 8.30pm Musicals by Candlelight **

Sunday 7 April

Please note that there is a ‘fun run’ in central London this morning. You may need to adjust your journey

11.00 Parish Sung Eucharist, for the Second Sunday of Easter

7.30pm The Show Shanties **

*** Tickets for all paid events are available at www.actorschurch.org*