

# DIOCESE OF ELY



# ST ANDREW'S GIRTON



# HOLY COMMUNION IN EASTER

## Welcome to this service from St Andrew's Church

*If you are new or visiting please make yourself known to the ministers or sidespeople. We'd love to say "Hello".*

The Great Fifty Days of Eastertide form a single festival period in which the tone of joy created at the Easter Vigil is sustained through the following seven weeks, and the Church celebrates the gloriously risen Christ:

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

(Fulbert of Chartres)

Early Christians gave the name Pentecost to this whole fifty-day span of rejoicing, which Tertullian calls 'this most joyful period'. It is sometimes also called 'Great Sunday'. In those places where the custom of lighting the Easter Candle at the beginning of Easter is followed, the lit Candle stands prominently in church for all the Eastertide services. The Alleluia appears frequently in liturgical speech and song; white or gold vestments and decorations emphasize the joy and brightness of the season.

On the fortieth day there has from the late fourth century been a particular celebration of Christ's ascension. He commissions his disciples to continue his work, he promises the gift of the Holy Spirit, and then he is no longer among them in the flesh. The ascension is therefore closely connected with the theme of mission. The arrival of the promised gift of the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost completes and crowns the Easter Festival.

# The Gathering

*Please stand. A hymn may be sung.*

Alleluia. Christ is risen!

**He is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

## The Greeting

Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father  
and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you  
**and also with you.**

*Please be seated.*

*Words of welcome may be said.*

## Prayer of Preparation

*This prayer may be said.*

**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.**

## Prayers of Penitence

*A minister invites the people to confess their  
sins and then we pray:*

**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.**

*The president declares the absolution of sins.*

## Gloria in Excelsis

*The Gloria in Excelsis may be used*

**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

Let us pray that we may reign with the risen  
Christ in glory.

*Silence is kept before the prayer for the day.*

## Readings

*Either one or two readings from Scripture precede the Gospel. At the end of each:*

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*A hymn may be sung before the Gospel.*

## Gospel reading

*Please stand.*

*When the Gospel is announced:*

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.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to N.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*At the end:*

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## The Sermon

*Please sit down.*

*The Apostle's Creed may be declared.*

*Please stand.*

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

**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.**

**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.**

## Prayers of Intercession

*These responses may be used:*

Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

(or)

Lord, hear us: **Lord, graciously hear us.**

*And at the end:*

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

# The Liturgy of the Sacrament

## The Peace

*A minister introduces the peace, then says:*

Alleluia! The peace of the risen Christ be  
always with you:

**and also with you. Alleluia!**

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

*All may exchange a sign of peace.*

*A hymn may be sung.*

## Preparation of the Table

Be present, be present,

Lord Jesus Christ,

our risen high priest;

make yourself known

in the breaking of bread. **Amen.**

## The Eucharistic Prayer

*Please stand.*

The Lord is here.

**His Spirit is with us.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give thanks and praise.**

*The priest praises God for his mighty acts.*

... Forever praising you and saying:

**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.**

*The minister continues to praise God, and  
recalls the Last Supper. One of these  
acclamations may be used:*

Jesus Christ is Lord:

**Lord, by your cross and resurrection  
you have set us free.**

**You are the Saviour of the world.**

(or)

Praise to you, Lord Jesus:

**Dying you destroyed our death,  
rising you restored our life:**

**Lord Jesus, come in glory.**

*The minister continues the prayer...*

## The Lord's Prayer

*Please be seated.*

Rejoicing in God's new creation  
as our Saviour taught us, so we pray:

**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 the Bread

Jesus says, I am the bread of life,

whoever eats of this bread will live forever.

**Lord, our hearts hunger for you;**

**give us this bread always.**

## Agnus Dei

*The Agnus Dei may be said:*

**Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world,  
have mercy upon us.**

**Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world,  
have mercy upon us.**

**Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world,  
grant us peace.**

## Giving of Communion

*The priest invites the people to receive Holy Communion in these or other words.*

Alleluia.

Christ our passover is sacrificed for us.

**Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

*All are welcome to receive Holy Communion.*

*Please follow the directions of the stewards.*

*If you would prefer a blessing please leave your hands by your sides.*

*A hymn may be sung or music may be played while the people receive.*

## Prayer after Communion

*After all have received, silence may be kept.*

*After the Post Communion prayer we pray:*

**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.**

## The Dismissal

*On Easter Day the minister may invite the congregation to re-affirm their baptismal commission.*

## The Blessing

*The priest uses this or another blessing:*

God the Father, by whose love Christ was raised from the dead, open to you who believe the gates of everlasting life. **Amen.**

God the Son, who in bursting from the grave has won a glorious victory, give you joy as you share the Easter faith. **Amen.**

God the Holy Spirit, who filled the disciples with the life of the risen Lord, empower you and fill you with Christ's peace. **Amen**

And the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

*A hymn may be sung.*

## The Dismissal

With the risen life of Christ within you, go in the peace of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia!  
**Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!**

*The ministers and people depart.*

*Please say hello to us if you're new! Coffee may be served, we'd love you to join us.*

# The Service of Light

*This section is used at the beginning of the service on Easter Day.*

*The ministers gather at the entrance and the lights are turned off.*

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 for ever. Amen.**

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.

*A minister lights the Easter candle*

May the light of Christ, rising in glory,  
banish all darkness from  
our hearts and minds.

The light of Christ.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## The Exsultet

*Sung to "Tell out my soul!"*

**Sing, choirs of heaven!  
Let saints and angels sing!  
Around God's throne exult in harmony!  
Now Jesus Christ is risen from the grave!  
Salute your King in glorious symphony!**

**Sing, choirs of earth!  
Behold, your light has come!  
The glory of the Lord shines radiantly!  
Lift up your hearts,  
for Christ has conquered death!  
The night is past, the day of life is here!**

**Sing, Church of God!  
Exult with joy outpoured!  
The gospel trumpets tell of victory won!  
Your Saviour lives; he's with you evermore!  
Let all God's people sound the long Amen!**

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 thanks and praise.**

*A minister praises God's Easter goodness.*

*After each section we respond:*

**Glory to you for ever.**

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

*The service continues with the Gloria in Excelsis on page 4.*



Common Worship: Services and Prayers for the Church of England, material from which is included in this service, is copyright © The Archbishops' Council 2000.

Common Worship: Times and Seasons, material from which is included in this service, is copyright © The Archbishops' Council 2006.