

The Parish Church of St. Mary, Shortlands



4th Sunday of Easter Eucharist

3rd May 2020

Easter Season Eucharist

Welcome and Introduction

Hymn – *Great is thy Faithfulness*

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 has provided,
great is thy faithfulness, Lord unto me.*

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:

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

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!

*Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
all I have needed thy hands hath provided,
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord unto me.*

Thomas Chisholm 1866-1960
(*Songs of Praise*, 2010)

The Gathering

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

Amen.

The Easter Acclamation.

Alleluia, Christ is risen.

He is risen indeed. Alleluia.

Prayers of Penitence

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.

Lord, Jesus, you raise us to new life.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, you forgive us our sins.

Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, you feed us with the living bread.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Absolution

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 in Excelsis

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

Risen Christ,
faithful shepherd of your Father's sheep:
teach us to hear your voice
and to follow your command,
that all your people may be gathered into one flock,
to the glory of God the Father.

The Liturgy of the Word

New Testament Reading – *read by Nuria Villena*
(*Parish of St. Francis of Assisi, Douai*)

Acts 2. 42-end

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

John 10: 1-10

Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.' Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

So again, Jesus said to them, 'Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved and will come in and go out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Address

The Creed

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.

Prayers of Intercession

Prayers led by Graham Leech

This response may be used

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

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.

The peace of the risen Christ be always with you,
and also with you. Alleluia.

Let us acknowledge one another with a sign of peace.

Hymn – *Be Still My Soul (first verse)*

Sung by St. Mary's, Shortlands, Choir.

A special recording of the first verse of Be Still My Soul, with the voices of members of St. Mary's Choir recorded from their homes during the past week and then combined as one choir.

Many thanks to David Tillotson for the work that has gone into this recording.

Be still, my soul, the Lord is on your side;
bear patiently, the cross of grief or pain;
leave to your God, to order and provide;
in every change he faithful will remain.
Be still, my soul, your best thy heavenly friend
through thorny ways, leads to a joyful end.

Katharina von Schlegel b. 1697

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 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, say forever the hymn of your 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.**

Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness;
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit, and according to your holy will,
these gifts of bread and wine may be to us the body
and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Who, in the same night that he was betrayed,
took bread and gave you thanks;
he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:
take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper
he took the cup and gave you thanks;
he gave it to them, saying:
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.

Christ has died:

Christ is risen:

Christ will come again.

And so, Father, calling to mind his death on the cross,
his perfect sacrifice made once for the sins of the whole world;
rejoicing in his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension,
and looking for his coming in glory,
we celebrate this memorial of our redemption.

As we offer you this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving,
we bring before you this bread and this cup and we thank you
for counting us worthy to stand in your presence and serve you.
Send the Holy Spirit on your people and gather into one in your kingdom
all who share this one bread and one cup,
so that we in the company of St. Mary and all the saints,
may praise and glorify you for ever,
through Jesus Christ our Lord;

through him, with him, in him,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all glory and honour be yours, Almighty Father,
forever and ever.

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us:

**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.**

Breaking of the Bread

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.**

**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

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

Therefore, let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

The body of Christ

Amen

The blood of Christ

Amen

Prayer after Communion

Merciful Father,

you gave your Son Jesus Christ to be the good shepherd,

and in his love for us to lay down his life and rise again:

keep us always under his protection,

and give us grace to follow in his steps;

through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

The Dismissal

The God of peace,

who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus,

that great shepherd of the sheep,

through the blood of the eternal covenant,

make you perfect in every good work

to do his will, working in you that which is

well-pleasing in his sight;

and the blessing of God almighty,

the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,

be among you and remain with you always.

Amen.

For those able to watch the live-streaming of the service, our friends from Douai have sent a special greeting for us, which will play during the final hymn.

Perhaps see it as a good opportunity to practise your French, but even if you don't understand it all, the warmth and love they are sending really comes across in the pictures.

Several have lily of the valley flowers, as it is a tradition in France to offer these on 1st May to friends as a sign of good luck and happiness. The main sentiment is happy memories of times we have shared together, and that although they are sad not to be seeing us this year, the joy will be even greater next year when we finally get together again.

Hymn – *All My Hope on God is Founded*

All my hope on God is founded;
he doth still my trust renew.
Me through change and chance he guideth,
only good and only true.
God unknown, He alone
calls my heart to be His own.

Pride of man and earthly glory,
sword and crown betray his trust;
what with care and toil he buildeth,
tower and temple fall to dust.
But God's power, hour by hour,
is my temple and my tower.

God's great goodness aye endureth,
deep His wisdom, passing thought:
splendour, light and life attend Him,
beauty springeth out of naught.
Evermore from His store
newborn worlds rise and adore.

Daily doth th'almighty Giver
bounteous gifts on us bestow;
his desire our soul delighteth,
pleasure leads us where we go.
Love doth stand at His hand;
joy doth wait on His command.

Still from man to God eternal
sacrifice of praise be done,
high above all praises praising
for the gift of Christ His Son.
Christ doth call one and all:
ye who follow shall not fall.

Robert Bridges 1844-1930
(*The Choir of Salisbury Cathedral*)

Service ends.

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