



St Peter's
Leckhampton Parish Church

Holy Communion

Easter Day



Welcome to St. Peter's for this special service of Holy Communion on Easter Day. Holy Communion (also known as the Lord's Supper or the Eucharist) is the only church service given to us by Jesus himself.

On the evening before he was crucified, Jesus shared a meal with his closest friends, the disciples, and in it he told them that, in future, they could remember him by the breaking of bread and sharing of wine together, and that he would be present with them when they did that.

The service has taken many forms over the centuries but we are still brought particularly close to Jesus in this act of worship.

Members of other churches are always welcome to receive Communion. If you would rather receive a blessing, please keep your hands to your side and your head bowed.

The words of this service are all in this booklet; we pray or sing together the parts that are in **bold** print. The words of the hymns are in the blue hymn book on the pew shelves.

Notices and any banns of marriage are read.

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

Hymn

The clergy and choir process in.

Introduction

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

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

Welcome

For Christians, Easter is the greatest feast of all. This is the day Jesus broke the chains of death, rose in triumph from the grave, and met with Mary Magdalene in the garden. As we meet to celebrate Christ's resurrection, let us bless our Easter Garden and remember that this is truly the 'Day of the Lord'.

The Easter Garden

The Easter Garden is blessed.

Gracious and loving God, we pray you, bless this Easter Garden that it may be a sign of new life and hope to all. May it remind us that Jesus shares with us his victory over death, and his new and risen life.
Amen.

We Say Sorry

Christ, who shared our human life, has overcome the power of death, and calls us to share his risen life.

We come before God to confess our sin: our failure to bear witness to the risen Christ, our fear of his call to follow him, and our lack of faith in his saving power.

Silence is kept.

Like Mary at the empty tomb, we fail to grasp the wonder of your presence.

Lord, have mercy:
Lord, have mercy.

Like the disciples behind locked doors, we are afraid to be seen as your followers.

Christ, have mercy:
Christ, have mercy.

Like Thomas in the upper room, we are slow to believe.

Lord, have mercy:
Lord, have mercy.

We Are Forgiven

We hear God's forgiveness:

May the God of love and power
forgive you and free you from your sins †
heal and strengthen you by his Spirit,
and raise you to new life in Christ our Lord.
Amen.

We Praise God

Please stand to sing the Gloria:



Glo - ry, Glo - ry, Glo-ry to the Lord, Glo -ry to the Lord God Al-migh - ty.
Glo - ry, Glo - ry, Glo-ry to the Lord, Glo -ry to the Lord God Al-migh - ty. Who

was and is and is to come, Glo - ry, Glo - ry, Glo - ry to the Lord!

The Collect

We 'collect' our prayers together in a special prayer for today.

Let us pray:

God of glory, by the rising of your Son, you have broken the chains of death and hell: fill your Church with faith and hope; for a new day has dawned and the way to life stands open in our Saviour Jesus Christ.

Amen.

Reading

Please be seated.

At the end of the reading:

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Hymn

Please stand to sing and turn to face the gospel book as it is processed.

The Gospel

The choir sings the Alleluia, which we then repeat:

Organ introduction

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le -
- lu - ia. al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

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

Then at the end:

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

Sermon

Please sit.

We Declare our Faith

Please stand.

We're gathered today as God's family to celebrate the Resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Let us stand to speak out boldly what we believe:

**We believe in God the Father,
from whom every family
in heaven and on earth is named.**

**We believe in God the Son,
who lives in our hearts through faith,
and fills us with his love.**

**We believe in God the Holy Spirit,
who strengthens us
with power from on high.**

**We believe in one God;
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
Amen.**

We Pray for Others

Please sit or kneel.

After each prayer, this or another response is used:

Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our Prayer.

Then, at the end:

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

We Share the Peace

Please stand.

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 Lord be always with you.
And also with you. Alleluia!

Let us share with each other a sign of Christ's peace.

We all exchange a greeting of peace.

Hymn

During which the altar is prepared.

We Celebrate

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 right to praise you, Father, Lord of all creation;
in your love you made us for yourself
When we turned away you did not reject us,
but came to meet us in your Son.

**You embraced us as your children
and welcomed us to sit and eat with you.**

In Christ you shared our life that we might live in him and he in us.

**He opened his arms of love on the cross
and made for all the perfect sacrifice for sin.**

On the night he was betrayed, at supper with his friends he took bread,
and gave you thanks; he broke it and gave it to them saying:

*'Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.'*

**Father, we do this in remembrance of him:
His body is the bread of life.**

At the end of supper, taking the cup of wine, he gave you thanks, and said:

‘Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins; do this in remembrance of me.’

**Father, we do this in remembrance of him:
His blood is shed for all.**

As we proclaim his death and celebrate his rising in glory, send your Holy Spirit that this bread and this wine may be to us the body and blood of your dear son †

**As we eat and drink these holy gifts make us one in Christ,
our risen Lord.**

With your whole Church throughout the world we offer you this sacrifice of praise and lift our voice to join the eternal song of heaven:

Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly is the Lord, Ho - ly is the Lord God Al-migh - ty.
Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly is the Lord, Ho - ly is the Lord God Al-migh - ty. Who
was and is and is to come, Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly is the Lord!

Please sit or kneel.

The Lord's Prayer

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.**

The Bread is Broken

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.**

Invitation to Communion

God's holy gifts for God's holy people
**Jesus Christ is holy, Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.**

The Communion

All are invited to come forward to receive Holy Communion or a blessing.

You are very welcome to make your own decision as to whether to receive the bread alone or the bread and the wine (please don't dip your bread).

The choir will sing an anthem.

Prayer after Communion

We pray together:

**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.**

Final Hymn

Please stand to sing.

The 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, Father, Son and Holy Spirit †
be among you and remain with you always.

Amen.

We are Sent

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

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

The choir, servers and clergy depart.

An organ voluntary is played.

Please feel free to get up and leave your seats at any time.

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*There is no collection during the service, but you can make an offering as
you leave.*

Please come to the Church Cottages for refreshments.

There will be an Easter egg hunt (for children) in the cottages garden!

