

Killiskey Parish

Sunday 4th April 2021 @ 11.00am

Easter Sunday



The Gathering of God's People

GREETING

Christ is risen!

The Lord is risen indeed, alleluia!

INTRODUCTION

This is the day when our Lord Jesus Christ was raised gloriously from the dead, crushing the power of sin and destroying the sting of death. Throughout the world Christians celebrate the mighty power of God as Christ calls us out of darkness to share in his marvellous light. May we, and all Christ's people, shine as lights in the world to the glory of God the Father.

The Easter candle is lit, and the minister says:
May the light of Christ, rising in glory
banish all darkness from our hearts and minds.

The light of Christ.

Thanks be to God.

OPENING HYMN: Thanks & Praise 9 *"As we gather at your table"*

As we gather at your table,
as we listen to your word,
help us know, O God, your presence;
let our hearts and minds be stirred.
Nourish us with sacred story
till we claim it as our own;
teach us through this holy banquet
how to make Love's victory known.

Turn our worship into witness
in the sacrament of life;
send us forth to love and serve you,
bringing peace where there is strife.

Give us, Christ, your great compassion
to forgive as you forgave;
may we still behold your image
in the world you died to save.

Gracious Spirit, help us summon
other guests to share that feast
where triumphant Love will welcome
those who had been last and least.
There no more will envy blind us
nor will pride our peace destroy,
as we join with saints and angels
to repeat the sounding joy.

Carl P Daw Jr (b. 1944)

EASTER PRAISE AND CONFESSION

Living God,
we are here in the name of Christ.
We are here to celebrate once more his resurrection,
To rejoice once more at his victory over evil, hatred and death,
to give thanks once more for his living presence with us now and always.
Lord of life, **hear us.**

Receive our praise, our worship,
ourselves as we come before you.
Fill us with joy and wonder
as we hear again the message of the risen Christ,
and as we recognise his presence among us through his Holy Spirit.
Lord of life, **hear us.**

Living God,
We are here in the name of Christ.
We are here to confess our faults and failings,
to acknowledge our unworthiness of your love,
to seek your mercy and forgiveness,
and to ask for renewal in our lives.
Lord of life, **hear us.**

Receive our confession, our penitence,
ourselves as we come before you.
Cleanse and restore us through the love of Christ,
and strengthen us through the inner power of your Holy Spirit.
Lord of life, **hear us.**

So may we serve you better,
and live to your glory.
Lord of life, **hear us**
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

**Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to God's 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 OF THE DAY

Almighty God,
through your only-begotten Son Jesus Christ
you have overcome death
and opened to us the gate of everlasting life:
Grant that, as by your grace going before us
you put into our minds good desires,
so by your continual help we may bring them to good effect;
through Jesus Christ our risen Lord
who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Ministry of the Word

The First Reading: Acts 10: 34-43

Then Peter began to speak to them: 'I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and 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 ordained by God 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.'

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Psalm: Psalm 118: 1–2, 14–24

1 O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;•
his mercy endures for ever.

2 Let Israel now proclaim,•

‘His mercy endures for ever.’

14 The Lord is my strength and my song,•
and he has become my salvation.

15 Joyful shouts of salvation•

sound from the tents of the righteous:

16 ‘The right hand of the Lord does mighty deeds;
the right hand of the Lord raises up;•
the right hand of the Lord does mighty deeds.’

17 I shall not die, but live•

and declare the works of the Lord.

18 The Lord has punished me sorely,•
but he has not given me over to death.

19 Open to me the gates of righteousness,•
that I may enter and give thanks to the Lord.

20 This is the gate of the Lord;•
the righteous shall enter through it.

21 will give thanks to you, for you have answered me•
and have become my salvation.

22 The stone which the builders rejected•
has become the chief cornerstone.

23 This is the Lord’s doing,•

and it is marvellous in our eyes.

24 This is the day that the Lord has made;•
we will rejoice and be glad in it.

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and shall be for ever. Amen.*

The Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 15: 1-11

Now I should remind you, brothers and sisters, of the good news that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand, through 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.

For 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, and that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures, and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. Last of all, as to someone untimely born, he appeared also to me. For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. But 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. Whether then it was I or they, so we proclaim and so you have come to believe.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn: CH283 *"The Day of Resurrection"*

The Day of Resurrection!
earth, tell it out abroad -
the passover of gladness,
the passover of God!
From death to life eternal,
from earth unto the sky,
our Christ hath brought us over,
with hymns of victory.

Our hearts be pure from evil,
that we may see aright
the Lord in rays eternal
of resurrection light:
and, listening to his accents,
may hear, so calm and plain,
his own "All hail!" and, hearing,
may raise the victor-strain.

Now let the heavens be joyful,
let earth the song begin,
the round world keep high triumph,
and all that is therein;
let all things seen and unseen
their notes in gladness blend,
for Christ the Lord is risen,
our joy that has no end.

John of Damascus (c. 675 - c. 750)
tr. John Mason Neale (1818-66) altd.

The Gospel Acclamation

Jesus Christ is risen from the dead: **Alleluia!**
He has defeated the powers of death: **Alleluia!**
Jesus turns our sorrow into dancing; **Alleluia!**
He has the words of eternal life; **Alleluia!**

The Gospel: John 20: 1-18

Hear the Gospel of our Saviour Christ, according to St John chapter 20 beginning at verse 1
Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ

Early 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. So 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.' Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went towards the tomb. The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, and the cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. Then the disciples returned to their homes.

But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; and 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. They 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.' When she had said this, she turned round and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus 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.' Jesus said to her, 'Mary!' She turned and said to him in Hebrew, 'Rabbouni!' (which means Teacher). Jesus 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." ' Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, 'I have seen the Lord'; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

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

SERMON

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

**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 by the Holy Spirit of 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

In joy and hope let us pray to the Father:
That our risen Saviour may fill us
with the joy of his glorious and life-giving resurrection
we pray to the Father.

Hear our prayer.

That isolated and persecuted churches
may find fresh strength in the good news of Easter
we pray to the Father.

Hear our prayer.

That you may grant us humility
to be subject to one another in Christian love
we pray to the Father.

Hear our prayer.

That he may provide for those who lack food, work or shelter
we pray to the Father.

Hear our prayer.

That by his power war and famine may cease through all the world
we pray to the Father.

Hear our prayer.

That he may reveal the light of his presence to the sick,
the weak and the dying,
to comfort and strengthen them
we pray to the Father.

Hear our prayer.

That, according to his promises,
all who have died in the faith of the resurrection
may be raised on the last day
we pray to the Father.

Hear our prayer.

That he may send the fire of the Holy Spirit upon his people,
so that we may bear faithful witness to his resurrection,
we pray to the Father.

Hear our prayer.

Heavenly Father,
you have delivered us from the power of darkness
and brought us into the kingdom of your Son:
grant that, as his death has recalled us to life,
so his continual presence in us may raise us to eternal joy;
through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

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.

John 20: 19, 20

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

Offertory Hymn: CH328 *“Come on and celebrate” (sung twice)*

Come on and celebrate!

His gift of love, we will celebrate

The Son of God who loved us

and gave us life.

We'll shout your praise, O King

you give us joy nothing else can bring;

we'll give to you our offering

in celebration praise.

Come on and celebrate,

celebrate, celebrate and sing,

celebrate and sing to the King.

Come on and celebrate,

Celebrate, celebrate and sing,

celebrate and sing to the King.

Celebrating at the Lord's Table

AT THE 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 TAKING OF THE BREAD AND WINE

Christ our passover has been sacrificed for us

therefore let us celebrate the feast.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING - Prayer 2

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 our thanks and praise.

All glory and honour, thanks and praise

be given to you at all times and in all places,

Lord, holy Father, true and living God,

through Jesus Christ our Lord.

For he is your eternal Word
through whom you have created all things
from the beginning
and formed us in your own image.

In your great love you gave him
to be made man for us and to share our common life.

In obedience to your will
your Son our Saviour offered himself as a perfect sacrifice,
and died on the cross for our redemption.
Through him you have freed us from the slavery of sin
and reconciled us to yourself, our God and Father.

For he is the true Passover Lamb
who was offered for us
and has taken away the sin of the world.
By his death he has destroyed death
and by his rising to life
he has restored us to eternal life.

He is our great high priest
whom you raised from death
and exalted to your right hand on high
where he ever lives to intercede for us.

Through him you have sent upon us
your holy and life-giving Spirit
and made us a royal priesthood
called to serve you for ever.

Therefore with angels and archangels
and with all the company of heaven
we proclaim your great and glorious name,
for ever 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.**

Merciful Father, we thank you
for these gifts of your creation, this bread and this wine,
and we pray that we who eat and drink them
in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit
in obedience to our Saviour Christ
in remembrance of his death and passion
may be partakers of his body and his blood,
who on the night he was betrayed took bread;
and when he had given 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.
After supper, he took the cup,
and again giving you thanks
he gave it to his disciples, saying,
Drink from 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.

Father, with this bread and this cup,
we do as our Saviour has commanded:
we celebrate the redemption he has won for us;
we proclaim his perfect sacrifice,
made once for all upon the cross,
his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension;
and we look for his coming
to fulfil all things according to your will.
Christ has died;
Christ is risen;
Christ will come again.

Renew us by your Holy Spirit,
unite us in the body of your Son,
and bring us with all your people
into the joy of your eternal kingdom;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
with whom and in whom,
by the power of the Holy Spirit,
we worship you, Father almighty,
in songs of never-ending praise:
**Blessing and honour and glory and power
are yours for ever and ever. Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

As our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are bold to say
**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.**

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Jesus says, I am the bread of life,
whoever eats this bread will live for ever:
**Lord, our hearts hunger for you;
give us this bread always.**

THE GREAT SILENCE

When the minister has received communion, all keep silence for reflection.

The minister says

Let us continue to reflect together.

Jesus is the bread of life. Whoever comes to him will never go hungry.

Whoever believes in him will never be thirsty.

cf. John 6: 35

Jesus is the living bread that came down from heaven.

Whoever eats this bread will live for ever.

cf. John 6: 51

Jesus was alive and rose again through the will of his Father.

Those who feed on Jesus will live because of him and he will raise them up on the last day.

cf. John 6: 57, 40

Going Out as God's People

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

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

Amen.

Benediction Hymn: *“Let the earth rejoice and sing”*

Let the earth rejoice and sing, alleluia!
At the triumph of our King, alleluia!
He ascends from mortal sight, alleluia!
Reigns now at our Father's right, alleluia!

He who died upon a tree, alleluia!
Now shall reign eternally, alleluia!
He who saved our fallen race, alleluia!
Takes in heav'n his rightful place, alleluia!

Jesus, Lord, all hail to thee, alleluia!
On this day of victory, alleluia!
Thou didst shatter Satan's might, alleluia!
Rising glorious from the fight, alleluia!

Jesus, Victor, hear our prayer, alleluia!
In thy triumph let us share, alleluia!
Lift our minds and hearts above, alleluia!
Strengthen all men in thy love, alleluia!

DISMISSAL

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 with you and remain with you always.
Amen.

Go in the peace of the Risen Christ. Alleluia! Alleluia!
Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!