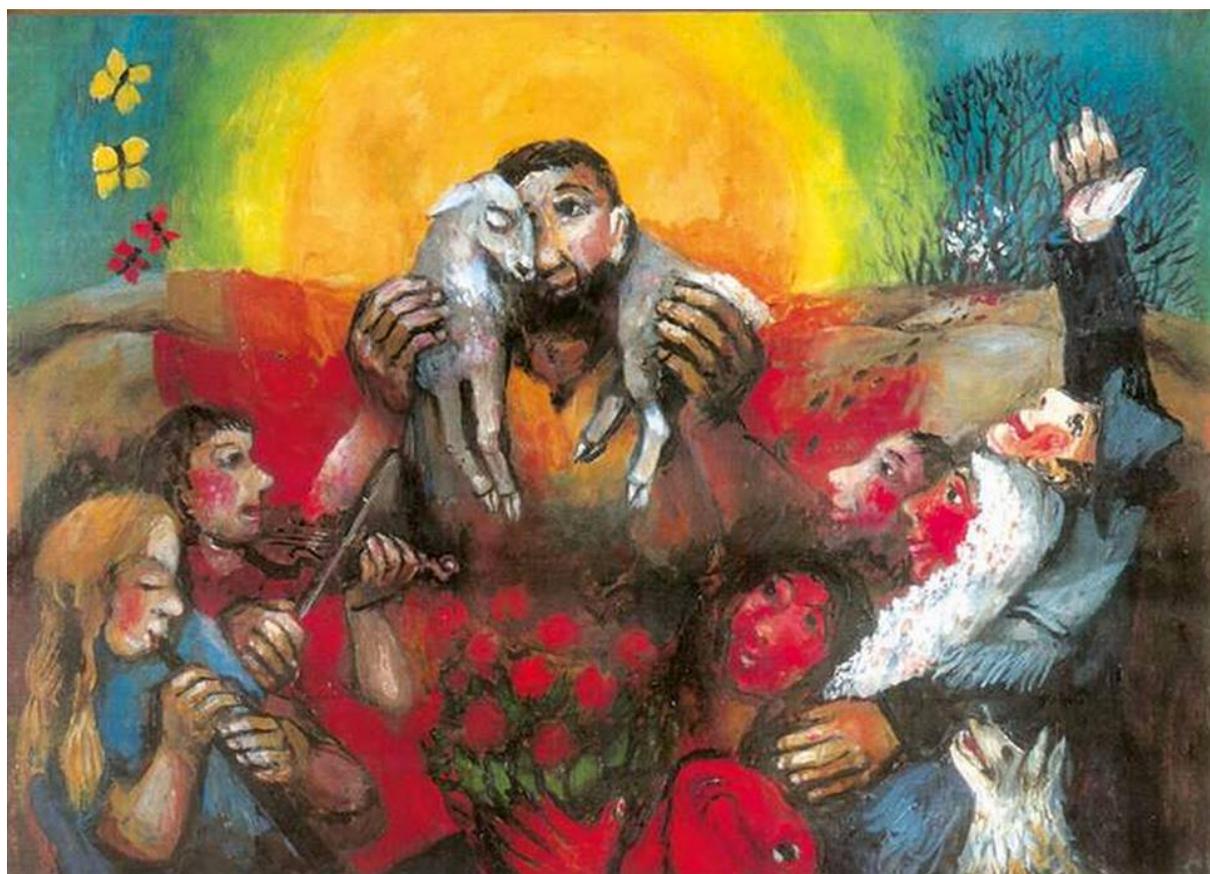


# **Service for Fourth Sunday of Easter**



**The Parishes of  
St Paul's Clifton and Cotham**

## The Gathering

*Words of welcome, introduction and invitation*

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

**Amen.**

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

### Penitence

Lord God, our maker and our redeemer,  
this is your world and we are your people:  
come among us and save us.

*Pause for silent reflection*

You asked for faith and trust;  
we demanded proof and certainty.

Lord have mercy

**Lord have mercy**

Your love was stronger than death;  
we built tombs around our hearts.

Christ have mercy

**Christ have mercy**

You sent us into the world with a message of hope;  
we lingered in comfortable despair.

Lord have mercy **Lord have mercy**

May the God of love and mercy bring us back to himself,  
forgive us our sins,  
and embrace us in his eternal love  
in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### The Gloria



Glo - ri-a! Glo - ri-a! In ex-cel - sis De - o!  
Glo - ri-a! Glo - ri-a! Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!

## **The Collect**

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

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.

**Amen.**

## **The Liturgy of the Word**

### **New Testament reading: Acts 2.42-47**

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.**

### **Hymn: Now the Green Blade riseth**

Now the green blade riseth from the buried grain,  
Wheat that in the dark earth many days has lain;  
Love lives again, that with the dead has been:  
Love is come again, like wheat that springeth green.

In the grave they laid Him, Love by hatred slain,  
Thinking that never he would wake again,  
Laid in the earth like grain that sleeps unseen:  
Love is come again, like wheat that springeth green.

Forth he came at Easter, like the risen grain,  
He that for three days in the grave had lain;  
Quick from the dead, my risen Lord is seen:  
Love is come again, like wheat that springeth green.

When our hearts are wintry, grieving or in pain,  
Thy touch can call us back to life again;  
Fields of our hearts, that dead and bare have been:  
Love is come again, like wheat that springeth green.

*John Macleod Campbell Crum*

### **Gospel Reading: John 10.1-18**

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

‘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.

‘I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father.’

This is the Gospel of the Lord

**Praise be to you, O Christ.**

**Reflection:** Pauline Shaw

**Profession of faith**

Do you believe and trust in God the Father, source of all being and life, the one for whom we exist?

**I believe and trust in him.**

Do you believe and trust in God the Son, who took our human nature, died for us and rose again?

**I believe and trust in him.**

Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit, who gives life to the people of God and makes Christ known in the world?

**I believe and trust in him.**

This is the faith of the Church.

**This is our faith:**

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

**The Intercessions:** Ruth Edmonds

**Responsory**

Jesus, lord of time,  
**hold us in your eternity.**

Jesus, image of God,  
**travel with us the life of faith.**

Jesus, friend of sinners,  
**heal the brokenness of our world.**

Jesus, lord of tomorrow,  
**draw us into your future. Amen.**

**Anthem:** The Lord is my shepherd – Esther Bersweden

***The service continues by Zoom***

## 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 offer one another a sign of God's peace

### Chant: My peace I leave you

*My peace I leave you*

Mixed Voices

$\text{♩} = 60$

My peace I leave you, my peace I give you:

trou - ble not your hearts. My peace I leave you, my

peace I give you: *Fine* Be not a - fraid. My

### 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**

The Lord is here

**God's 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.**

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.

And now we give you thanks  
because in his victory over the grave a new age has dawned,  
the long reign of sin is ended,  
a broken world is being renewed  
and humanity is once again made whole.  
And so, in the joy of this Passover,  
earth and heaven resound with gladness,  
while angels and archangels and the powers of all creation  
sing for ever 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 God, you are the most holy one,  
enthroned in splendour and light,  
yet in the coming of your Son Jesus Christ  
you reveal the power of your love  
made perfect in our human weakness.

Embracing our humanity,  
Jesus showed us the way of salvation;  
loving us to the end,  
he gave himself to death for us;  
dying for his own,  
he set us free from the bonds of sin,  
that we might rise and reign with him in glory.

On the night he gave up himself for us all  
he 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.

Therefore we proclaim the death that he suffered on the cross,  
we celebrate his resurrection, his bursting from the tomb,  
we rejoice that he reigns at your right hand on high  
and we long for his coming in glory.

Great is the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died:**

**Christ is risen:**

**Christ will come again.**

As we recall the one, perfect sacrifice of our redemption,  
Father, by your Holy Spirit let these gifts of your creation  
be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ;  
form us into the likeness of Christ  
and make us a perfect offering in your sight.

Look with favour on your people  
and in your mercy hear the cry of our hearts.

Bless the earth,

heal the sick,

let the oppressed go free

and fill your Church with power from on high.

Gather your people from the ends of the earth  
to feast with [N and] all your saints  
at the table in your kingdom,  
where the new creation is brought to perfection  
in Jesus Christ our Lord;  
by whom, and with whom, and in whom,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father,  
for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## **The Lord's Prayer**

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 forever. Amen.**

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.**

## **Agnus Dei**

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

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

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

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.  
**Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

## **Post Communion Prayers**

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.**

**Risen Lord Jesus,**  
**as Mary Magdalene met you in the garden**  
**on the morning of your resurrection,**  
**so may we meet you today and every day:**  
**speak to us as you spoke to her;**  
**reveal yourself as the living Lord;**  
**renew our hope and kindle our joy;**  
**and send us to share the good news with others. Amen.**

## **Blessing and Dismissal**

### **The Blessing**

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

May the living God  
remove the suffocating shroud that lies upon our world;  
May the risen Saviour  
draw the sting of death, bringing all to life in him;  
May the flowing Spirit  
set us and all creation free and seal our hearts with faith;  
And the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

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