

**Parish Church of
St John the Baptist
Crowthorne**



The Eucharist in Eastertide

Common Worship Order One

Church @ Home

Introduction to the Season

*Now the queen of seasons, bright
with the day of splendour,
with the royal feast of feasts,
Comes its joy to render.*

(John of Damascus)

Welcome to our Easter celebrations! The great Fifty Days of Eastertide form a single festival period, in which this tone of joy is sustained. 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”. As Easter dawns, the ‘Alleluia’, which has been silent throughout Lent, returns.

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*

Welcome.

A hymn may be sung

The president greets the people

The Lord be with you
All and also with you.

Alleluia. Christ is risen.
All He is risen indeed. Alleluia.

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

**All Almighty God,
to whom all hearts are open,
all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hidden:
cleans 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

The minister uses the appropriate seasonal invitation to confession

(Until the Eve of the Ascension)

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.

(on Ascension Day)

Seeing we have a great high priest who has passed into the heavens,
Jesus the Son of God,
Let us draw near with a true heart, in full assurance of faith,
and make our confession to our heavenly Father.

(from the day after Ascension Day until the Day of Pentecost)

What God has prepared for those who love him,
He has revealed to us through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches everything. Therefore, let us in
penitence open our hearts to the Lord,
who has prepared good things for those who love him.

Sit or kneel

**All Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
we have sinned against you and against our neighbour
in thought and word and deed,
through negligence, through weakness,
through our own deliberate fault.
We are truly sorry and repent of all our sins.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
who died for us, forgive us all that is past
and grant that we may serve you in newness of life
to the glory of your name.
Amen.**

The president says

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.

All Amen.

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

**All 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

The Collect is said.

All Amen.

¶ *The Liturgy of the Word*

READINGS FROM THE OLD AND NEW TESTAMENTS

At the end the reader may say

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

A hymn may be sung

The GOSPEL READING

When the Gospel is announced the reader says

Alleluia, alleluia....

(Until the Eve of the Ascension)

I am the first and the last, says the Lord, and the living one;
I was dead, and behold I am alive for evermore.

(on Ascension Day)

Go and make disciples of all nations, says the Lord.
Remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.

(from the day after Ascension Day until the Day of Pentecost)

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful people
And kindle in them the fire of your love.

All Alleluia.

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

All Glory to you, O Lord.

At the end

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All Praise to you, O Christ.

THE SERMON

THE NICENE CREED *is said on Sundays and Holy Days*

**All 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

The prayers usually include these concerns and follow this sequence:

- ¶ *The Church of Christ*
- ¶ *Creation, human society, the Sovereign and those in authority*
- ¶ *The local community*
- ¶ *Those who suffer*
- ¶ *The communion of saints*

One of these responses may be used

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

Jesus, Lord of life: **In your mercy, hear us.**

Lord, come to bless us: **and fill us with your Spirit.**

And at the end

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

¶ *The Liturgy of the Sacrament*

THE PEACE

(until the Eve of the Ascension)

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.

(on Ascension Day)

Jesus says: 'Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you.
If you love me, rejoice because I am going to the Father.' Alleluia.

(from the day after Ascension Day until the Day of Pentecost)

God has made us one in Christ.
He has set his seal upon us and, as a pledge of what is to come,
has given the Spirit to dwell in our hearts. Alleluia.
The peace of the Lord be always with you

All and also with you.

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

TAKING OF THE BREAD AND WINE

*The table is prepared and bread and wine are placed upon it.
The president takes the bread and wine.*

Blessed be God,
by whose grace creation is renewed,
by whose love heaven is opened,
by whose mercy we offer our sacrifice of praise.

All Blessed be God forever.

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER (E)

The Lord is here.

All His Spirit is with us.

Lift up your hearts.

All We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All It is right to give thanks and praise.

(until the Eve of the Ascension)

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
sing for ever the hymn of your glory:

(on Ascension Day)

It is indeed right and good, our duty and our joy,
always and everywhere to give you thanks,
holy Father, almighty and eternal God,
through Jesus Christ the King of glory.
Born of a woman, he came to the rescue of our human race.
Dying for us, he trampled death and conquered sin.
By the glory of his resurrection
he opened the way to life eternal
and by his ascension, gave us the sure hope
that where he is we may also be.
Therefore the universe resounds with Easter joy
And with choirs of angels we sing for ever to your praise:

(on the days between Ascension Day and Pentecost)

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
always and everywhere to give you thanks,
holy Father, almighty and eternal God,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
For he is our great high priest
who has entered once for all into the heavenly sanctuary,
evermore to pour upon your Church
the grace and comfort of your Holy Spirit.
He is the one who has gone before us,
who calls us to be united in prayer
as were his disciples in the upper room
while they awaited his promised gift,
the life-giving Spirit of Pentecost.
Therefore all creation yearns with eager longing
as angels and archangels sing the endless hymn of praise:

(on the day of Pentecost only)

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
always and everywhere to give you thanks,
holy Father, almighty and everlasting God,
through Jesus Christ, your only Son our Lord.
This day we give you thanks because in fulfilment of your promise
you pour out your Spirit upon us,
filling us with your gifts, leading us into all truth,
and uniting peoples of many tongues in the confession of one faith.
Your Spirit gives us grace to call you Father,
To proclaim your gospel to all nations
and to serve you as a royal priesthood.
Therefore we join our voices with angels and archangels,
and with all those in whom the Spirit dwells,
to proclaim the glory of your name,
for ever praising you and saying:

**All 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.**

We praise and bless you, loving Father,
through Jesus Christ, our Lord;
and as we obey his command, send your Holy Spirit,
that broken bread and wine outpoured
may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

On the night before he died he had supper with his friends
and, taking bread, he praised you.
He broke the bread, gave it to them and said:
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

When supper was ended he took the cup of wine.
Again he praised you, gave it to them and said:
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.

So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did,
in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice
made once for all upon the cross.
Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation,
we proclaim his death and resurrection
until he comes in glory.

**All Christ has died:
Christ is risen:
Christ will come again.**

Lord of all life,
help us to work together for that day
when your kingdom comes
and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth.

Look with favour on your people,
gather us in your loving arms
and bring us with [*N and*] all the saints
to feast at your table in heaven.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father,
for ever and ever.

All Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

**All 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

The president breaks the consecrated bread.

We break this bread
to share in the body of Christ.

**All Though we are many, we are one body,
because we all share in one bread.**

AGNUS DEI

**All 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.**

GIVING OF COMMUNION

The president says the invitation to communion

Alleluia. Christ our passover is sacrificed for us.

All Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

While the president receives the bread and wine on behalf of the people you are invited to a share in a spiritual communion, using one of the following prayers.

**Lord, you stand at the door of my heart and knock.
You wait for me and only I can let you in.
I believe and trust in you and ask you now
to fill me with your presence.
Feed me with your body and unite me in your blood,
that I may be your blessing to a world in need.
Amen**

Oxford Diocese

Or,

**O Lord Jesus Christ, since I cannot now receive Thee sacramentally,
I humbly pray Thee that Thou wouldst come spiritually to my soul.
Come, Lord Jesus, come and cleanse me, heal me, strengthen me,
and untie me to Thyself, now and for evermore. Amen.**

Oxford Movement Centenary Prayer Book

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Silence is kept.

**All Father of all,
we give you thanks and praise,
that when we were still far off
you met us in your Son and brought us home.
Dying and living, he declared your love,
gave us grace, and opened the gate of glory.
May we who share Christ's body live his risen life;
we who drink his cup bring life to others;
we whom the Spirit lights give life to the world.
Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us,
so we and all your children shall be free,
and the whole earth live to praise your name
through Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

¶ *The Dismissal*

BLESSING

(until the Eve of the Ascension)

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;

(on Ascension Day)

Christ our ascended King pour upon you the abundance of his gifts
and bring you to reign with him in glory:

(from the day after Ascension day until the Day of Pentecost)

The Spirit of truth lead you into all truth,
and give you grace to confess that Jesus Christ is Lord,
and strengthen you to proclaim the word and works of God;

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

All Amen.

A minister says

Go in the peace of Christ. Alleluia, Alleluia.

All Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.

A hymn may be sung

Thank you for joining us for Church @ Home.

Do stay in touch via our website www.crowthorneparishchurch.org.uk

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