

Holy Eucharist & Agape in the Season of Easter 2024

Gathered and Livestreamed

Introduction to the Season of Easter

The fifty Days beginning at dawn on Easter Day form the festival period of Eastertide in which the tone of joy created at the Easter Day services is sustained through the following seven weeks. The Church rejoices in celebrating the gloriously risen Christ:

So let our songs to heaven wing, the vault with alleluias ring, in praise of Christ, our risen Lord; new life to all he doth afford. Alleluia.

Each Sunday is called a Sunday of Easter: it is a season that the early Christian author (160-240), Tertullian calls 'this most joyful period' (laetissimum spatium). At Emmanuel, the Paschal Candle which is lit at the Easter Dawn service and carried by the Deacon into church, stands prominently in church either in the sanctuary or in the baptistry for all the Eastertide services. You will note that in the hymns and liturgy, alleluias are found in abundance. A white altar frontal and white and golden vestments emphasise the joy and brightness of the season.

On the fortieth day of Eastertide there has from the late fourth century been a particular celebration of Christ's ascension. The risen Lord commissions his disciples to continue God's work; the gift of the Holy Spirit is bestowed on them; and Christ is taken into heaven in everlasting glory with God.

"God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but in the age to come."²

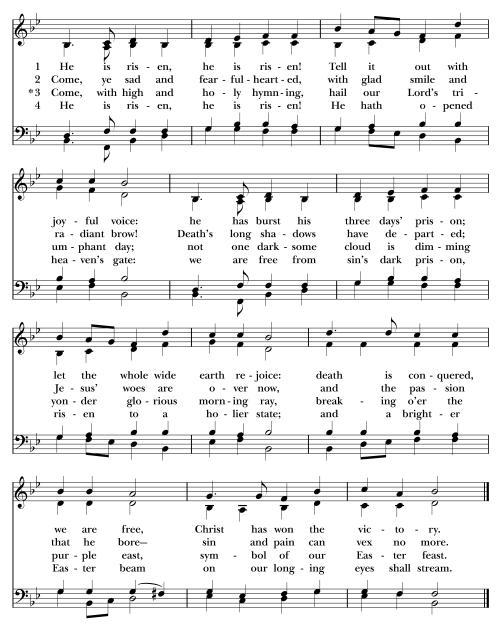
The arrival of the promised gift of the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost completes and crowns the Easter Festival.

^{1 (}H. 201, verse 4. Words Nikolaus Hermann (1480?-1561); tr. Charles Sanford Terry)

² Ephesians 1:20-21

Opening Hymn He is risen, he is risen

H.180 verses 1,2,4



Words: Cecil Frances Alexander (1818-1895), alt. Music: Unser Herrscher, Joachim Neander (1650-1680).

The Word of God

Please join in praying all texts printed in bold.

Opening Acclamation

Presider Alleluia! Christ is risen!

People The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Song of Praise In place of the Gloria today, the Africa Singing Group will sing:

JESUS W'ASOR (JESUS IS RISEN) - Fante, Ghana

Hen wura, Jesus, w'asore ampa, Our Lord Jesus is risen

indeed,

Owu, wentum amfa no ensie,

Death could not hold him,

Wedzi no do nkuyim x 2 He has won the victory.

Owu, wo tum wor hen?

Death, where is your

power?

Wedzi no do nkuyim He has won the victory,

Jesu, wedzi nkuyim

Jesus has won the victory,

Wedzi no do nkuyim x 2 He has won the victory.

The Collect of the Day

Presider The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Presider Let us pray.

O God, whose blessed Son made himself known to his disciples in the breaking of bread: Open the eyes of our faith, that we may behold him in all his redeeming work; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

The Sunday-school children and teachers are blessed before going to Sunday School.

The First Lesson Acts 3:12-19

Peter addressed the people, "You Israelites, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we had made him walk? The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our ancestors has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you handed over and rejected in the presence of Pilate, though he had decided to release him. But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. And by faith in his name, his name itself has made this man strong, whom you see and know; and the faith that is through Jesus has given him this perfect health in the presence of all of you.

"And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer. Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out."

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

The Psalm Psalm 4

1 Answer me when I call, O God, defender of my cause; * you set me free when I am hard-pressed;

have mercy on me and hear my prayer.

2 "You mortals, how long will you dishonor my glory; *

how long will you worship dumb idols and run after false gods?"

3 Know that the Lord does wonders for the faithful; *

when I call upon the Lord, he will hear me.

4 Tremble, then, and do not sin; *

speak to your heart in silence upon your bed.

5 Offer the appointed sacrifices *

and put your trust in the Lord.

6 Many are saying, "Oh, that we might see better times!" *

Lift up the light of your countenance upon us, O Lord.

7 You have put gladness in my heart, *

more than when grain and wine and oil increase.

8 I lie down in peace; at once I fall asleep; *

for only you, Lord, make me dwell in safety.

The Second Lesson 1 John 3:1-7

See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him. Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

The Gradual Hymn Christ is alive H.182. verses 1,2,4,5

- 1 Christ is alive! Let Christians sing.
 His cross stands empty to the sky.
 Let streets and homes with praises ring.
 His love in death shall never die.
- Christ is alive! No longer bound to distant years in Palestine, he comes to claim the here and now and conquer every place and time.
- 4 In every insult, rift, and war where color, scorn or wealth divide, he suffers still, yet loves the more, and lives, though ever crucified.
- 5 Christ is alive! His Spirit burns through this and every future age, till all creation lives and learns his joy, his justice, love, and praise.

Christ is alive! Let Christians sing, #182 from *The Hymnal 1982* — Words: Brian A. Wren (b. 1936), rev. Copyright © 1975 by Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All Rights Reserved. Used by permission. Music: *Truro*, melody from *Psalmodia Evangelica*, *Part II*, 1789; harm. Lowell Mason (1792-1872), alt.

The Gospel Please stand as able.

Gospeller The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to

Luke.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus himself stood among the disciples and said to them, "Peace be with you." They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. He said to them, "Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have." And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?" They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took it and ate in their presence.

Then he said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled." Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things.

Gospeller The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon preached by Georg Meyer

The Nicene 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 of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, and became truly human. 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, 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.

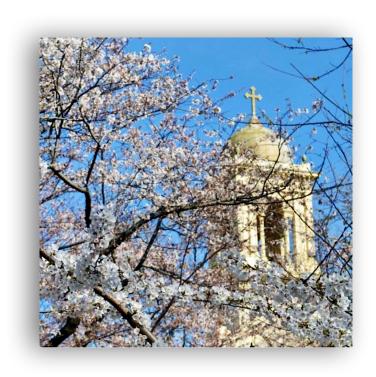
We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Prayers of the People Please remain standing as able.

The Peace

Presider The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.



The Holy Communion

Offertory Sentence

Ephesians 5:2

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

Offertory Anthem

The Call

Stuart Beer

Agape Prayer

Blessed are you, O Lord our God, King of the universe. You create the fruit of the vine and bring forth food from the earth; bless this wine, bread, and fruit that we now share in our homes and gather your Church in every place into the kingdom of your Son. To you be glory and power for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving

Presider The Lord be with you.

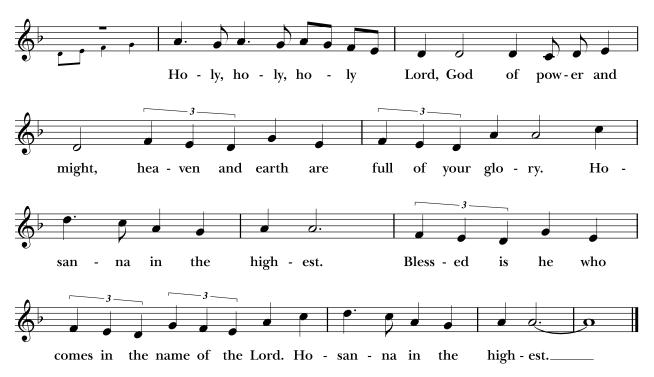
People And also with you.
Presider Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them to the Lord.

Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is right to give God thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Holy God, Creator of heaven and earth. But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us everlasting life. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:



Music: Robert Powell (b. 1932). Setting: Copyright © Church Publishing Inc.

Holy and gracious God: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and maker of all. Jesus stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Savior Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper Jesus took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he 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. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, Almighty God, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling Christ's death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in Christ. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through Jesus Christ our Savior. By Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and for ever. **AMEN**.

A period of silence is kept.

And now, as our Savior 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, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

The Presider breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

Presider Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Presider Behold what you are.

People May we become what we receive.

During the administration of Holy Communion music will be played. Please follow the directions of the ushers: as regards the wine, there are 3 options: 1) to receive the Chalice from the Eucharistic Minister; 2) to take a small glass which contains red, alcoholic wine; 3) to take a small glass which contains white, non-alcoholic wine. Please return the glass to the empty receptacle on the credence table on the pulpit side of the church.

Music during Communion Chorales 243,244, 245 J.S. Bach

The Postcommunion Prayer

Presider Let us pray. Giver of all,

All we are nourished with your Easter sacraments.

Fill us with the Spirit of love,
and unite us in faith,
that we may be witnesses to the resurrection
and show your glory in all the world,
in the name of Jesus Christ our risen Savior. Amen.

The Announcements

Easter Blessing

Presider God the Father, by whose love Christ was raised from the dead, open to you who believe the gate of life eternal.

All Amen.

Presider God the Son, who in bursting from the grave has won a glorious victory over death, give you joy as you share the Easter faith.

All Amen.

Presider God the Holy Spirit, who filled the disciples with the life of the risen Lord, empower you and fill you with Christ's peace.

All Amen.

Presider And the blessing of the holy and undivided Trinity, One God, be with you and remain with you always.

All Amen.

The Closing Hymn

Good Christians all H.205 verses 1,3,4,5



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The Dismissal

Deacon Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit,

alleluia, alleluia.

People Thanks be to God, alleluia, alleluia.

Postlude Romance sans paroles F. Mendolssohn



Today's Ministers

Celebrant Rev. Dr. Daniel Karanja Gospeller Rev. Deacon Richard Cole

Preacher Georg Meyer

Pianist Raphaël Meeyeritz

Reader Debbie Groby
Livestreamer Laurentiu Stehan
Flowers Debbie Groby

Eucharistic Ministers Debbie Groby & Erin Lederrey

Coffee Hour Yunise Korir Intercessor John Vanore

Ushers Marilynn Geiger & Marisa Were

Welcomer Meredith Baker

Prayer List: This week, we are praying for Alice, Alphonse, Anne, Barbara Chong, Bob, Brad and Marietta, Erik, Eva, Griffiths, Julia, Julien, Ki-Soo, Khristina, Marguerite and Don, Mary, Mary and her family, Milki, Patricia, Philip, Rose, Rosemary and her family, Safi and his mother, Sohair, Terry, Tim, Yan and Jacqueline, and Zéli.

Convocation Prayer Cycle, we pray for the Diocese of Gibraltar in Europe (of the Church of England); the Rt. Rev. Robert Innes, (Bishop).

The flowers this Sunday are generously given by Harriete Jjuuko Ndagire "in thankfulness for all the blessings given to me and my family and for the gift of life for another year

Welcome to Emmanuel!

Whether you are a visitor or seeking a home church in Geneva, the Emmanuel community welcomes you. Whoever you are, wherever you find yourself on the journey of faith, we hope you will find a home here.

The Rev. Michael F. Rusk	Rector	<i>-</i> 078 717 7509
The Rev. Richard Cole	Deacon	- 079 584 1930
Patricia (Patty) Solomon	Evangelist	- 078 203 9556

Vestry

Term ending 2024 Lesley Lawson-Botez Vicky Maltby Evelyne Romer, Senior Warden Term ending 2025 Duncan Campbell, People's Warden Rosalind Cutler **Brad Dewey**

Tigest Desta Nicolas Griffith Robert Hamilton, Treasurer Julien Troussier Megan Preston Meyer Bob White, Secretary

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