

# **Parish Church of St Alphege Solihull**



## **Choral Eucharist**

**16<sup>th</sup> May 2021**

**10.30am**

**Order of Service**

**for the Season of Eastertide**

**Sunday after Ascension**

Please note that, due to COVID restrictions, congregational singing is not currently permitted. As a result, the choir will sing all the musical items printed herein alone and you are invited to sit during them.

The words are printed in the order of service for your reference, and you are encouraged to pray them silently while the choir is singing.

## Processional Hymn

The head that once was crown'd with  
thorns  
is crown'd with glory now;  
a royal diadem adorns  
the mighty Victor's brow.

They suffer with the Lord below,  
they reign with him above;  
their profit and their joy to know  
the myst'ry of his love.

The highest place that heav'n affords  
is his, is his by right,  
the King of kings and Lord of lords,  
and heav'n's eternal Light:

*Words by Thomas Kelly  
Tune ST MAGNUS*

## The Gathering

### The Greeting

President: In the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy  
Spirit.

**All: Amen**

Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father  
and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you  
**and also with you.**

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

**He is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

*The president says a few words of welcome and introduces today's service.*

## Prayers of Penitence

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.

*We keep silence*

You raise the dead to life in the Spirit:  
Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

You bring pardon and peace to the broken in heart:  
Christ, have mercy.

**Christ, have mercy.**

You make one by your Spirit the torn and divided:  
Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

## Absolution

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.**

## Gloria

*Glory, glory to God,  
Glory to God in the highest,  
peace to his people on earth,  
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.

*Glory, glory to God,  
Glory to God in the highest,  
peace to his people on earth,  
peace to his people on earth.*

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, Amen, A---men.

*Glory, glory to God,  
Glory to God in the highest,  
peace to his people on earth,  
peace to his people on earth.*

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 God  
the right hand of God the Father:  
receive our prayer.

*Glory, glory to God,  
Glory to God in the highest,  
peace to his people on earth,  
peace to his people on earth.*

*Music by Chris Bell*

## The Collect

O God the King of glory,  
you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ  
with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven:  
we beseech you, leave us not comfortless,  
but send your Holy Spirit to strengthen us  
and exalt us to the place where our Saviour Christ is gone before,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.  
**Amen.**

## The Liturgy of the Word

*Either or Both of the Readings may be used.*

### First Reading

#### **Acts 1: 15 – 17, 21 - end**

In those days Peter stood up among the believers (together the crowd numbered about one hundred and twenty people) and said, 'Friends, the scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit through David foretold concerning Judas, who became a guide for those who arrested Jesus for he was numbered among us and was allotted his share in this ministry.'

So one of the men who have accompanied us throughout the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, beginning from the baptism of John until the day when he was taken up from us—one of these must become a witness with us to his resurrection.' So they proposed two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was also known as Justus, and Matthias. Then they prayed and said, 'Lord, you know everyone's heart. Show us which one of these two you have chosen to take the place in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own place.' And they cast lots for them, and the lot fell on Matthias; and he was added to the eleven apostles.

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Second Reading

### 1 John 5: 9 - 13

If we receive human testimony, the testimony of God is greater; for this is the testimony of God that he has testified to his Son. Those who believe in the Son of God have the testimony in their hearts. Those who do not believe in God have made him a liar by not believing in the testimony that God has given concerning his Son. And this is the testimony: God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life.

I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life.

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## The Gospel

*Please stand as able. The choir sings the Gospel Acclamation.*

*Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.*

Go and make disciples of all nations, says the Lord.

Remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.

*Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.*

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

### John 17: 6 - 19

'I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been

glorified in them. And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one. While I was with them, I protected them in your name that you have given me. I guarded them, and not one of them was lost except the one destined to be lost, so that the scripture might be fulfilled. But now I am coming to you, and I speak these things in the world so that they may have my joy made complete in themselves. I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. I am not asking you to take them out of the world, but I ask you to protect them from the evil one. They do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. As you have sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. And for their sakes I sanctify myself, so that they also may be sanctified in truth.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Sermon**

**Creed**

Let us declare our faith in the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**Christ died for our sins  
in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he was buried;  
he was raised to life on the third day  
in accordance with the Scriptures;  
afterwards he appeared to his followers,  
and to all the apostles:  
this we have received,  
and this we believe.  
Amen.**

## Intercessions

*This response may be used*

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

*And at the end:*

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

## The Liturgy of the Sacrament The Peace

The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace.  
If we live in the Spirit, let us walk in the Spirit.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
**And also with you.**

## Offertory Hymn

Christ triumphant, ever reigning,  
Saviour, Master, King!  
Lord of heaven, our lives sustaining,  
hear us as we sing:

*Yours the glory and the crown,  
the high renown, the eternal name.*

Priestly king, enthroned for ever  
high in heaven above!  
sin and death and hell shall never  
stifle hymns of love:

*Refrain*



So, our hearts and voices raising  
through the ages long,  
ceaselessly upon you gazing,  
this shall be our song:

*Refrain*

*Words by Michael Saward*

*Tune GUITING POWER*

### **Prayer at the Preparation of the Table**

Father, by your Holy Spirit  
you keep the Church in unity and truth.  
As we break bread together,  
may we be one with Christ in faith and hope and love,  
now and for ever.

**Amen.**

### **The Eucharistic Prayer**

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 thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right,  
it is our duty and our joy,  
at all times and in all places  
to give you thanks and praise,  
holy Father, heavenly King,  
almighty and eternal God,  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.

And now we give you thanks  
because by the Holy Spirit you lead us into all truth,  
and give us power to proclaim your gospel to the nations,  
and to serve you as a royal priesthood.

Therefore with angels and archangels,  
and with all the company of heaven,  
we proclaim your great and glorious name,  
for ever praising you and singing:

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of Hosts.  
Heaven and earth are full of thy glory.  
Glory be to thee O Lord most high.  
Blessed is he that cometh in the name of  
the Lord.  
Hosanna in the Highest.

*Music by Francis Jackson*

Accept our praises, heavenly Father,  
through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ,  
and as we follow his example and obey his command,  
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit  
these gifts of bread and wine  
may be to us his body and his blood;

who, in the same night that he was betrayed,  
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, heavenly Father,  
we remember his offering of himself  
made once for all upon the cross;  
we proclaim his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension;  
we look for the coming of your kingdom,  
and with this bread and this cup  
we make the memorial of Christ your Son our Lord.

Great is the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died:**

**Christ is risen:**

**Christ will come again.**

Accept through him, our great high priest,  
this our sacrifice of thanks and praise,  
and as we eat and drink these holy gifts  
in the presence of your divine majesty,  
renew us by your Spirit,  
inspire us with your love  
and unite us in the body of your Son,  
Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through him, and with him, and in him,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
with all who stand before you in earth and heaven,  
we worship you, Father almighty,  
in songs of everlasting praise:

**Blessing and honour and glory and power  
be yours for ever and ever. Amen.**

*A bell is rung to signify the sacramental presence of Christ, followed by a moment of stillness.*

## The Lord's Prayer

Rejoicing in God's new creation,  
Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

**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 Bread

*The celebrant breaks the consecrated bread.*

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.**

## Agnus Dei

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins  
of the world, have mercy upon us.  
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins  
of the world, have mercy upon us.  
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins  
of the world, grant us thy peace.

*Music by Francis Jackson*

## The Invitation

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

*These or other words may be said to those watching the service.*

For most of us participating at home, it may feel strange to be invited to Communion, not through the physical bread and wine we can touch, but in a Spiritual Communion with God who always comes to meet us wherever we are.

There are no special words or prayers for this, all the Church has ever thought necessary is true desire, lively faith and genuine love. Come honestly before God the way you know how. You may like to pray quietly using this prayer to help you:

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 presence. Feed me with your body and unite me in your blood, that I may be your blessing to a world in need. Amen.

*Confession of St Thomas Jn. 20:28*

*The celebrant raises the paten and chalice and says*

The Body and Blood of Christ.  
**Amen.**

## The Giving of Communion

*Only the celebrant receives Communion under both kinds. Others present receive under the form of the consecrated bread.*

## Communion Motet

God is gone up with a merry noise  
and the Lord with the sound of the trumpet.  
Thou art gone up on high,  
thou hast led captivity captive,  
and received gifts for men.  
O sing praises unto our God,  
O sing praises unto our King.  
Alleluia.  
God is gone up on high.

*Psalms 47 and 68.  
Music by Arthur Hutchings*

## Communion Hymn

God forgave my sin in Jesus' name.  
I've been born again in Jesus' name  
And in Jesus' name I come to you  
To share his love as he told me to.

*He said 'Freely, freely you have received;, freely, freely give.  
Go in my name, and because you believe others will know that I live'.*

All pow'r is giv'n in Jesus' name  
In earth and heav'n in Jesus' name  
And in Jesus' name I come to you  
To share his pow'r as he told me to.

### *Refrain*

God gives us life in Jesus' name  
He lives in us in Jesus' name  
And in Jesus' name I come to you  
To share his peace as he told me to.

### *Refrain*

*Words by Carol Owens  
Tune FREELY*

## Post Communion Prayer

Eternal God, giver of love and power,  
your Son Jesus Christ has sent us into all the world  
to preach the gospel of his kingdom:  
confirm us in this mission,  
and help us to live the good news we proclaim;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

**God of truth,  
we have seen with our eyes  
and touched with our hands the bread of life:  
strengthen our faith  
that we may grow in love for you  
and for each other;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.**

## Dismissal

### Notices

*The celebrant will give the details of any particularly important notices and read any Banns of Marriage.*

## Final Hymn

Rejoice, the Lord is King:  
Your Lord and King adore!  
Rejoice, give thanks and sing,  
And triumph evermore.  
*Lift up your heart,  
Lift up your voice!  
Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!*

Jesus, the Saviour, reigns,  
The God of truth and love;  
When He has purged our stains,  
He took his seat above;  
Lift up your heart...

His kingdom cannot fail;  
He rules o'er earth and heaven;  
The keys of death and hell  
Are to our Jesus given:  
*Lift up your heart...*

He sits at God's right hand  
Till all his foes submit,  
And bow at his command,  
And fall beneath his feet  
*Lift up your heart...*

*Words by Charles Wesley  
Tune GOSPAL*

## **The Blessing**

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

**He is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing,  
through the power of the Holy Spirit;  
and the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always.

**Amen.**

We are raised to new life with Christ.

Go in his peace. Alleluia, alleluia.

**Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

Organ Voluntary: *March on 'Lift up your heads' (a theme by Handel)* –  
Alexandre Guilmant