



The Sunday Sheet

The 5th Sunday of Easter

28th April 2024

*A very warm welcome as we gather for the Parish Eucharist.
An induction loop is provided.*

Gluten free wafers are available for those who need them. Please inform one of the stewards/sidespersons who will pass the information on to the clergy. Many thanks

Entrance Hymn

At the Lamb's high feast we sing
praise to our victorious King,
who hath washed us in the tide
flowing from his pierced side;
praise we him, whose love divine
gives his sacred blood for wine,
gives his body for the feast,
Christ the victim, Christ the priest.

Where the paschal blood is poured,
death's dark angel sheathes his sword;
Israel's hosts triumphant go
through the wave that drowns the foe.
Praise we Christ, whose blood was shed,
paschal victim, paschal bread;
with sincerity and love
eat we manna from above.

Mighty victim from the sky,
hell's fierce powers beneath thee lie;
thou hast conquered in the fight,
thou hast brought us life and light.
Now no more can death appal,
now no more the grave enthal:

thou hast opened Paradise,
and in thee thy saints shall rise.

Easter triumph, Easter joy,
sin alone can this destroy;
from sin's power do thou set free
souls new-born, O Lord, in thee.
Hymns of glory and of praise,
risen Lord, to thee we raise;
holy Father, praise to thee,
with the Spirit, ever be.

*17th Century tr. Robert Campbell 1814-1868
Tune: Easter Hymn*

The order of service can be found in the Eucharist Booklet

The Collect

Almighty God,
who through your only-begotten Son Jesus Christ
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,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Acts 8. 26-40

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

An angel of the Lord said to Philip, 'Get up and go towards the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.' (This is a wilderness road.) So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, 'Go over to this chariot and join it.' So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, 'Do you understand what you are reading?' He replied, 'How can I, unless someone guides me?' And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this:

'Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter,

and like a lamb silent before its shearer,
so he does not open his mouth.

In his humiliation justice was denied him.

Who can describe his generation?

For his life is taken away from the earth.'

The eunuch asked Philip, 'About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?' Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, 'Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?' He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

For the word of the Lord:

Thanks be to God.

The Gospel

Please Stand

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Now he is risen, the Christ.
Out of the tomb he is risen;
he has conquered death,
opened heaven to all believers.

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

*Fintan O'Carroll 1922-1981
Christopher Walker b.1947
Tune: Celtic Alleluia*

John 15. 1-8

Listen to the Gospel of Christ according to Saint John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said to his disciples:

'I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine-grower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in

the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

After the Sermon please turn to the Eucharist booklet for the Affirmation of Faith

Offertory Hymn

Christ the Lord is risen again,
Christ hath broken every chain.
Hark, angelic voices cry,
singing evermore on high, Alleluia.

He who gave for us his life,
who for us endured the strife,
is our paschal Lamb today;
we too sing for joy, and say Alleluia.

He who bore all pain and loss
comfortless upon the Cross,
lives in glory now on high,
pleads for us, and hears our cry: Alleluia.

He who slumbered in the grave
is exalted now to save;
now through Christendom it rings
that the Lamb is King of kings. Alleluia.

Now he bids us tell abroad
how the lost may be restored,
how the penitent forgiven,
how we too may enter heaven. Alleluia.

Thou, our paschal Lamb indeed,
Christ, thy ransomed people feed;
take our sins and guilt away:
let us sing by night and day Alleluia.

Michael Weisse 1480-1534 tr. Catherine Winkworth 1827-1878
Tune: Wurttemberg

Prayer over the Gifts

Gracious God,
you show us your way and give us your divine life:
may everything we do be directed by the knowledge of your truth;
we ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our risen Lord. **Amen.**

Please turn to the Eucharist Booklet for the Eucharistic Prayer

Hymn at the end of Communion

In Christ alone, my hope is found,
He is my light, my strength, my song;
This Cornerstone, this solid ground,
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
What heights of love, what depths of peace,
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease!
My Comforter, my All in All,
Here in the love of Christ I stand.

There in the ground His body lay,
Light of the world by darkness slain:
Then bursting forth in glorious Day
Up from the grave He rose again!
And as He stands in victory
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me,
For I am His and He is mine -
Bought with the precious blood of Christ.

Stuart Townend b.1963
Keith Getty b.1974

Please turn to the Eucharist Booklet

Post Communion Prayer

Eternal God,
whose Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life:
grant us to walk in his way,
to rejoice in his truth,
and to share his risen life;
who is alive and reigns, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Final Hymn

Christ is alive! Let Christians sing.
The cross stands empty to the sky.
Let streets and homes with praises ring.
Love, drowned in death, shall never die.

Christ is alive! No longer bound
to distant years in Palestine,
but saving, healing, here and now,
and touching every place and time.

In every insult, rift and war,
where colour, scorn or wealth divide,
Christ suffers still, yet loves the more,
and lives, where even hope has died.

Women and men, in age and youth,
can feel the Spirit, hear the call,
and find the way, the life, the truth,
revealed in Jesus, freed for all.

Christ is alive, and comes to bring
good news to this and every age,
till earth and sky and ocean ring
with joy, with justice, love and praise.

*Brian Wren b.1936
Tune: Truro*

Notices

Refreshments. Please do join us for refreshments after the service if you can.

Praying for Growth. Please pray for the growth and renewal of the Church here in this place. Here is the Leading Your Church into Growth Prayer:

*God of Mission,
Who alone brings growth to your
Church,
Send your Holy Spirit to give
Vision to our planning,
Wisdom to our actions,
Joy to our worship,
And power to our witness.
Help our church to grow in numbers,
In spiritual commitment to you,
And in service to our local community,
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

The Community Fridge takes place every Sunday from 4-5pm at the Parish Church.

Sunday Sheet. Please take this sheet home with you for the notices for the week and to pray for what is happening in the life of our Church.

Funeral. The funeral of Stuart Sage (a Lay Clerk at the Cathedral for over 50 years) will take place at the Cathedral on Monday 29th April at 2pm.

Patronal Festival. The Feast of St Asaph will be celebrated on Saturday 4th May at 11am at the Cathedral. Do join us as we celebrate the Patron Saint of our Churches, City and Diocese. The preacher will be the Right Rev'd Dr Barry Morgan, former Archbishop of Wales.

Church Committee. The first meeting of the new Parish Church Committee will take place at the Parish Church at 7pm on Thursday 2nd May.

Organ Recital. The 2nd Recital in this years series will be given by Graham Eccles and will take place on Wednesday 1st May at 7.30pm.

Choir Open Evening. This will take place at the Cathedral on Wednesday 8th May at 6pm. If you know of any children who enjoy singing please let them know.

The Week Ahead

29th Monday – Catherine of Sienna

9am Morning Prayer

9.30am Holy Eucharist

2pm Funeral of Stuart Sage *at the*

Cathedral

5pm Evening Prayer

30th Tuesday – Feria

9am Morning Prayer

11am Funeral of Brian Hicks *at the*

Parish Church

5pm Evening Prayer

6pm Holy Eucharist

1st Wednesday – Philip & James,

Apostles

9am Morning Prayer

10.30am Holy Eucharist

5pm Evening Prayer

7.30pm Organ Recital by Graham

Eccles

2nd Thursday – Mark, Athanasius

9am Morning Prayer

10am Holy Eucharist *at the Parish*

Church

10.45am Prayer Group *at the Parish Church*

5pm Evening Prayer

7pm Church Committee *at the Parish Church*

3rd Friday – Henry Vaughan

9am Morning Prayer

9.30am Offeren (*Welsh Eucharist*)

6pm Choral Evensong

4th Saturday – Feast of St Asaph

9am Morning Prayer

11am Festival Eucharist

5pm Evening Prayer

5th Sunday – Easter 6

9.30am Parish Eucharist *at the Parish Church*

9.30am Holy Eucharist *at St Mary's Cefn*

11am Cathedral Eucharist

3.30pm Choral Evensong

Contact:

Parish Church: 01745 535957

Fr Rex: 07393 639813

Parish Church Website:

www.stasaphparishchurch.org.uk

Today's Readings

Acts 8. 26-40

Philip is directed to the road from Jerusalem to Gaza, and there he meets and Ethiopian eunuch, who is reading the prophet Isaiah.

Psalm 22. 25-31

1 John 4. 7-21

The distinguishing characteristic of those born of God will be the love they have for one another. To love God alone is not enough: believers must also love their brothers and sisters.

John 15. 1-8

Jesus describes himself to his disciples as the true vine, and urges them to remain in him as the branches remain in the vine. Just as the branches need to remain in the vine if they are to be fruitful, so the disciples need to remain – abide – in Jesus' love.

