The Eucharist on Easter Day with Baptism and Admission of Children to Communion
Sunday 9th April 2023
Mass of St Thomas – Thorne

Welcoming the Easter Candle

please stand

Christ, yesterday and today.
The beginning and the end

Alpha and Omega, all time belongs to him, and all ages:
To him be glory and power,
through every age and for ever. Amen.

The deacon brings in the lit Easter candle and proclaims each time getting louder:

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

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Hymn

Jesus Christ is risen today, Alleluia!
Our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!
Who did once, upon the cross, Alleluia!
Suffer to redeem our loss. Alleluia!

Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluia!
Unto Christ, our heavenly King, Alleluia!
Who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia!
Sinners to redeem and save. Alleluia!

But the pains that he endured, Alleluia!
Our salvation have procured; Alleluia!
Now above the sky he's King, Alleluia!
Where the angels ever sing. Alleluia!

Please be seated. Words of welcome or introduction may be said.

Prayers of Penitence

Christ died to sin once for all, and now he lives to God. Let us renew our resolve to have done with all that is evil and confess our sins in penitence and faith.
Like Mary at the empty tomb We fail to grasp the wonder of your presence.
Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

Like the disciples behind locked doors, We are afraid to be seen as your followers.
Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy**.

Like Thomas in the upper room, We are slow to believe.
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

Refrain: Glory to God, Glory to God, Glory to God in the Highest.
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.
Refrain

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.
Refrain

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.
Refrain

The children depart for the Easter egg hunt. Young children need to be accompanied by an adult.

The Collect

Let us pray.
Lord of all life and power, who through the mighty resurrection of your Son
overcame the old order of sin and death to make all things new in him:
grant that we, being dead to sin and alive to you in Jesus Christ,
may reign with him in glory;
to whom with you and the Holy Spirit be praise and honour, glory and might,
now and in all eternity. **Amen.**

Gospel Reading *please stand*

We all stand and turn to face the Deacon as the gospel is read.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

A sentence from scripture is read to which we all respond:

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to *N.*
Glory to you, O Lord.

At the end of the reading:

This is the Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon *please sit*

The children return from their Easter egg hunt.

The Presentation of the Candidates for Baptism

Faith is the gift of God to his people.
In baptism the Lord is adding to our number those whom he is calling.
People of God, will you welcome these candidates
and uphold them in their new life in Christ?
With the help of God, we will.

The president asks the candidates for baptism:

Do you wish to be baptised?

Candidates: I do.

Parents and godparents or sponsors are asked questions to which they respond:

The Church receives *N* with joy.
Today we are trusting God for their growth in faith.
Will you pray for them, draw them by your example into the community of faith and walk with them in the way of Christ?
With the help of God, we will.

In baptism *N* begins their journey in faith.
You speak for them today.
Will you care for them and help them to take their place within the life and worship of Christ's Church?
With the help of God, we will.

The Decision

The president addresses the Parents, Godparents and candidate for baptism

In baptism, God calls us out of darkness into his marvellous light.
To follow Christ means dying to sin and rising to new life with him.
Therefore I ask:
Do you turn to Christ?
I turn to Christ.

Do you repent of your sins?
I repent of my sins.

Do you renounce evil?
I renounce evil.

Signing with the Cross

Christ claims you for his own.
Receive the sign of his cross.

When all the candidates have been signed, the president says:

Do not be ashamed to confess the faith of Christ crucified.
Fight valiantly as a disciple of Christ
against sin, the world and the devil,
and remain faithful to Christ to the end of your life.

May almighty God deliver you from the powers of darkness, restore in you the image of his glory, and lead you in the light and obedience of Christ.
Amen.

The children receiving their first communion are invited to stand and receive the sign of the cross.

Admission of Children to Communion

We are God's pilgrim people. We share in the story of God's love for the world.
God's love in Christ, calling us to himself,
God's love in the Spirit, giving strength for our journey of faith.
We celebrate this love in word and song,
we feed on Jesus in bread and wine and make him known through our life together.

Do you wish to receive communion from this day forward?
Candidates: I do.

As the people of God in this place, we share the responsibility of encouraging one another in our worship and supporting one another in our discipleship, by our example and our prayers.
We welcome you in Jesus' name to receive communion with us.

Baptism Hymn *please stand*

Baptism and First Holy Communion candidates process to the font and all turn to face it.

Refrain:

Alleluia, alleluia,
Give thanks to the risen Lord.
Alleluia, alleluia, give praise to his name.

Jesus is Lord of all the earth.
He is the King of creation. *Refrain.*

Spread the good news o'er all the earth,
Jesus has died and is risen. *Refrain.*

Come let praise the living God,
joyfully sing to our Saviour. *Refrain.*

Profession of Faith

The water in the font was blessed at our dawn service this morning.
Let us affirm together, our common faith in Jesus Christ.

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 president asks the candidates
N, is this your faith?
Candidates: This is my faith.

Baptism

N, I baptise you
in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

May God, who has received you by baptism into his Church,
pour upon you the riches of his grace,
that within the company of Christ's pilgrim people
you may daily be renewed by his anointing Spirit,
and come to the inheritance of the saints in glory.
Amen.

The children receiving first communion come to the font and mark themselves with the water of baptism.

The Welcome

There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism:
N by one Spirit we are all baptized into one body.
We welcome you into the fellowship of faith;
we are children of the same heavenly Father;
we welcome you.

The Peace

Alleluia! Christ is risen!
He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

The peace of the Lord be always with you
and also with you. Alleluia!

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

Offertory Hymn *please stand*

A collection plate will be passed around if you would like to leave a cash donation. Alternatively, please use our contactless card reader in the Narthex.

Ye choirs of new Jerusalem
your sweetest notes employ,
the paschal victory to hymn
in strains of holy joy.

How Judah's Lion burst his chains,
and crushed the serpent's head;
and brought with him, from death's domains,
the long-imprisoned dead.

From hell's devouring jaws the prey
alone our Leader bore;
his ransomed hosts pursue their way
where he hath gone before.

Triumphant in his glory now
his sceptre ruleth all;
earth, heaven, and hell before him bow,
and at his footstool fall.

While joyful thus his praise we sing,
his mercy we implore,
into his palace bright to bring
and keep us evermore.

All glory to the Father be,
all glory to the Son,
all glory, Holy Ghost, to thee,
while endless ages run. Alleluia! Amen.

Preparation of the Table

With this bread that we bring
we shall remember Jesus.

With this wine that we bring
we shall remember Jesus.

Bread for his body, wine for his blood,
gifts from God to his table we bring.
We shall remember Jesus.

Taking of the Bread and Wine

Creator of all, you wash away our sins,
you give us new birth by the Spirit, and redeem us in the blood of Christ.
As we celebrate the resurrection, renew your gift of life within us.
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the risen Lord.
Amen.

The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you
and also with you.
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.

The president praises God for his mighty acts:

Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest.

The president recalls the Last Supper, and we use this acclamation:

Great is the mystery of faith.
Christ has died,
Christ is risen,
Christ will come again.

The prayer continues and ends with praise to God to which everyone responds

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 for ever.
Amen.

Breaking of the Bread

The president breaks the consecrated bread.

God's holy gifts,
for God's holy people.
Jesus Christ is holy,
Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

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.

Giving of Communion

The president says the invitation to communion

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

Those who have been baptised and those receiving their First Communion today receive communion first. If you normally receive Communion in your own church, you are very welcome to do so here. If you do not, please come to the altar for a blessing, holding this book as a sign. Someone will indicate when to come up.

Anthems

Haec Dies – Byrd
Hallelujah – Handel

Prayer after Communion

Silence is kept.

God of Life,
who for our redemption gave your only-begotten Son to the death of the cross,
and by his glorious resurrection have delivered us from the power of our enemy:
grant us so to die daily to sin,
that we may evermore live with him in the joy of his risen life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Almighty God,
we thank you for feeding us
with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ.
Through him we offer you our souls and bodies to be a living sacrifice.
Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work
to your praise and glory.
Amen.

Giving of a lighted Candle

The baptism and first communion candidates come forward and receive a lighted candle.

God has delivered us from the dominion of darkness
and has given us a place with the saints in light.

You have received the light of Christ;
walk in this light all the days of your life.
Shine as a light in the world
to the glory of God the Father.

Blessing

God the Father,
by whose love Christ was raised from the dead,
open to you who believe the gates of everlasting life.
Amen.

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

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

Recessional Hymn *please stand*

Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son,
endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won;
Angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away,
kept the folded grave-clothes where thy body lay.

Refrain: ***Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son,***
endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won.

Lo, Jesus meets us, risen from the tomb;
lovingly he greets us, scatters fear and gloom;
let the church with gladness hymns of triumph sing,
for her Lord now liveth, death hath lost its sting:
Refrain

No more we doubt thee, glorious prince of life;
life is naught without thee: aid us in our strife;
make us more than conquerors through thy deathless love;
bring us safe through Jordan to thy home above:
Refrain

Dismissal *The Congregation turns to face the font for the dismissal.*

Go in the peace and light of Christ. Alleluia, Alleluia.
Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.