



# Sharing the Feast of Life In the Season of Easter

*Introductory music, followed by welcome*

## **Centring chant**

**Jubilate Deo, Jubilate Deo, alleluia!**

*[Make a joyful noise to the Lord, alleluia!]*

## **Christ is risen!**

Jesus said:

Do not cling ...

Let me be bigger than your heart can hold.

Rise with me to a larger vision.

**We shall rise with Christ to a larger vision!**

Christ is risen!

**He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

## **Opening hymn**

### **Gathering**

Living God,

who came to your world and entered human pain:

**Come and be in every painful place in our lives,  
in every painful place in our world today.**

Living God,

who worked in secret darkness to raise Christ from the grave:

**Come and work in every secret dark place of our  
lives, in every secret dark place of our world today.**

Living God,

who sent women out to proclaim the resurrection  
to the frightened, imprisoned disciples:

**Come and empower us in every frightened,  
imprisoned place in our lives, in every frightened,  
imprisoned place in our world today.**

Living God, Risen God, Easter God:

**Come and make us your living church, your risen  
church, your Easter church, today and every day.  
Amen.**

### **Reconciliation**

We acknowledge the pain and hurt of our world, and our  
part in that pain, and we seek to know God's forgiveness  
and healing:

**O God, you have searched us out and known us,  
and all that we are is open to you.**

**We confess that we have sinned:  
we have used our power to dominate  
and our weakness to manipulate;  
we have evaded responsibility  
and failed to confront evil;  
we have denied dignity to ourselves  
and to our sisters and brothers.**

*2-minute silence, begun & ended by the sounding of a bell*

**We turn to you, O God:**

**we renounce evil;  
we claim your love;  
we choose to be made whole.**

## **Forgiveness**

St Paul wrote:

'We have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life.'

In Christ, we are forgiven and we are transformed. Sisters and brothers, Christ shares with you his risen life and sets you free:  
journey on with hope and joy.

**Thanks be to God!**

## **The Gloria**

**Gloria, gloria, in excelsis Deo!**

**Gloria, gloria, alleluia, alleluia!**

*[Glory to God in the highest!]*

## **Prayer for the Day**

*... after which the president sends the children out to Kids' Church.*

## **Ministry of the Word**

### ***First reading***

*At the end of the first reading the reader says:*

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.

**Thanks be to God.**

### ***Gradual hymn***

#### ***The Gospel***

*We sing (once):*

**Ah... Surrexit Christus, alleluia!**

**Ah... Cantate Domino, alleluia!**

*[Christ is risen, alleluia! Sing to the Lord, alleluia!]*

*Before the Gospel reading the reader says:*

The Gospel reading is from ...

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*At the end of the Gospel reading the reader says:*

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*We sing again:*

**Ah... Surrexit Christus, alleluia!**

**Ah... Cantate Domino, alleluia!**

## **Sermon or other reflection**

*5-minute silence, begun & ended by the sounding of a bell*

### **Affirmation of Faith** *[said]*

**We believe in God,**

**Who made the sun and the sky, the stars and the sea,  
who calls us to live responsibly.**

**We believe in Jesus Christ,**

**who became human, who healed the sick,  
who talked to children, who made friends with sinners.**

**He burned brightly and offended many.**

**His journey was one of life and death and resurrection.**

**His light continues to shine in the darkness.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,**

**who inspires the scriptures  
and whose breath we breathe.**

**We believe that God calls us to be a community,  
committed to one another,**

**offering a welcome to everyone,**

**old and young, rich and poor, strong and weak.**

**We believe that God calls us to be peacemakers,  
workers for justice, brothers and sisters,**

**a light for the world. Amen.**

## Prayers of thanksgiving and intercession

### The Peace

*We sing:*

**As-salaam aleikhum! Aleikhum as-salaam!**

**Shalom, shalom, alechem shalom!**

**Christ's peace begin with me!**

Jesus stood among his disciples and said, 'Peace be with you; why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? Look at my hands and my feet. Touch me and see.'

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**And also with you.**

*We share the Peace with one another. The children return during the Peace.*

*We gather around the altar. Children or adults bring up the money, bread, wine and water and join the circle.*

### The Preparation of the Gifts

Generous God, creator, redeemer, sustainer,  
at your table we present this money,  
symbolic of all our giving,  
and of the work you have given us to do:  
use it, use us, in the service of your world  
to the glory of your name. **Amen.**

*The minister thanks God for the bread and wine and for ourselves. At the end of each prayer we say together:*

**Blessed be God for ever.**

*We sing the English words to Jubilate Deo (Taizé):*

**In the Lord rejoicing! Christ is risen from the dead!**

**Alleluia!**

### Thanksgiving Prayer

May God be with you.

**And also with you.**

Open up your hearts.

**We open them to God.**

Let us give thanks to the God of all.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

*The minister offers our thanks and praise, finishing with:*

*We sing together:*

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,**

**God of heaven and earth adored,**

**Ceasing never, God for ever,**

**Holy, holy Lord.**

*The minister says the words of institution, finishing with these or similar words:*

Do this, whenever you drink it, to remember me.

*We sing:*

**He is Lord, he is Lord,**

**he is risen from the dead and he is Lord.**

**Ev'ry knee shall bow, ev'ry tongue confess,**

**that Jesus Christ is Lord.**

**He is Love, he is Love,**

**he is risen from the dead and he is Love.**

**Ev'ry knee shall bow, ev'ry tongue confess,**

**that Jesus Christ is Love.**

Come now, disturbing Spirit of our God,  
breathe on these bodily things,

**and make us one body in Christ.**

Open our graves, unbind our eyes, and name us here;  
touch and heal all that has been buried in us,  
that we need not cling to our pain,

**but may go forth with power  
to release resurrection in the world.**

*We sing:*

**Ah... Surrexit Christus, alleluia!**

**Ah... Cantate Domino, alleluia!**

## **The Lord's Prayer**

O God in heaven,

**Mother and Father of us all ...**

## **Fourfold Breaking of the Bread**

We break this bread ... [*x4*]

The bread we break  
is a sharing in the body of Christ.

**We who are many are one body,  
for we all share the one bread.**

## **Lamb of God**

*We sing:*

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world:  
have mercy on us. [*x2*]**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world:  
grant us your peace.**

## **Invitation**

*The minister invites all to receive Communion.*

## **The Communion**

*As each person receives the bread and wine:*

The body of Christ, the bread of life: **Amen**

The blood of Christ, the cup of blessing: **Amen**

*After receiving, anyone who wishes may go to receive prayer  
for healing and then return to the circle or to their seat.*

## **Prayer after Communion**

**Risen Lord Jesus,**

**as Mary Magdalene met you in the garden**

**on the morning of your resurrection,**

**so may we meet you today and every day:**

**speak to us as you spoke to her;**

**reveal yourself as the living Lord;**

**renew our hope and kindle our joy;**

**and send us to share the good news with others.**

**Amen.**

## **Blessing**

The God who shakes heaven and earth,

whom death cannot contain,

who lives to disturb and heal us,

bless us with power to go forth

and proclaim the gospel. **Amen.**

## **Dismissal**

We are God's people, loved and cherished:

**We go out in love.**

We are God's people, called and challenged:

**We go out in faith.**

We are God's people, refreshed and forgiven:

**We go out in joy.**

Go in the peace of Christ.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **Notices**

*At present we are experimenting with where to have the  
notices; please bear with us!*