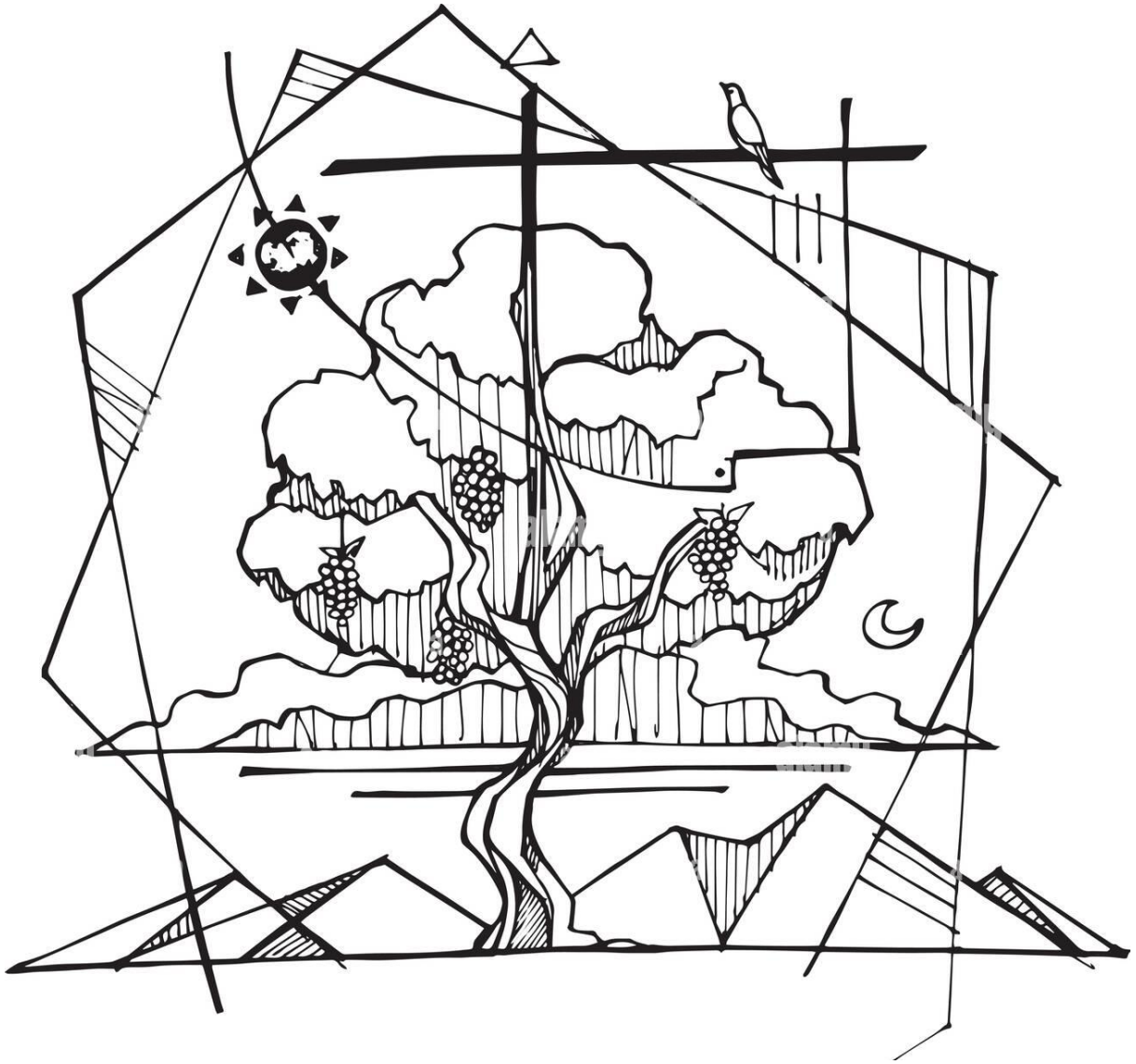




# Town Church

## St Peter Port, Guernsey



## **Sung Eucharist**

The Fifth Sunday of Easter

**Sunday 28th April 2024**

**Welcome** to Town Church. Whether you are a regular or occasional visitor, we are pleased to have you as part of our worshipping community today. We hope you enjoy the service. Please join us for tea or coffee at the end of the service in the South Aisle

**Bienvenue** dans notre église dédiée à Saint-Pierre, mais connue sous le nom de "Town Church". Nous sommes heureux de vous accueillir à notre messe aujourd'hui. Nous espérons que vous apprécierez le service. Nous vous invitons à rester pour prendre le thé ou le café à la fin de la messe.

**Laipni lūdzam** St Peter Port baznīcā, ko sauc arī par Pilsētas baznīcu. Mēs priecājamies, ka esat izvēlējies (-usies) būt kopā ar mums šajā dievkalpojumā un ceram, ka Jums tas patiks. Lūdzam kopā ar mums iebaudīt tēju vai kafiju pēc dievkalpojuma.

**Willkommen** in unserer Kirche, die Sankt Petrus geweiht, aber als 'Stadtkirche' bekannt ist. Wir freuen uns, dass Sie sich entschlossen haben, an unserer Eucharistiefeier teilzunehmen und hoffen dass Ihnen unser Gottesdienst gefällt. Bitte bleiben Sie am Ende noch bei uns zu Kaffee oder Tee.



### **Large Print Orders of Service**

Please ask one of the sidespersons if you would like one.



### **Contactless Card payments**

If you would like to make donations via contactless card/phone there is a machine by the door.

### **Communion**

If you need communion bringing to you in your place, or require a gluten-free wafer, please ask one of the sidespersons before the service, who will be pleased to arrange this.

### **Music**

The Organist and Director of Music is Stephen le Prevost. The musical setting for the service is the Mass of St. Thomas by David Thorne

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## *The Gathering*

*Please stand to sing the opening hymn (242)*

**Immortal, invisible, God only wise,  
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,  
most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,  
almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.**

**Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,  
nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might;  
thy justice like mountains high soaring above  
thy clouds which are fountains of goodness and love.**

**To all life thou givest to both great and small;  
in all life thou livest, the true life of all;  
we blossom and flourish as leaves on the tree,  
and wither and perish but nought changeth thee.**

**Great Father of glory, pure Father of light,  
thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight;  
all laud we would render: O help us to see  
'tis only the splendour of light hideth thee.**

Walter Chalman Smith(1824-1908)

*The president says*

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

*All*

**Amen**

## The Greeting

*The president greets the people*

*All*           The Lord be with you.  
**and also with you.**

**ALL**           Alleluia, Christ is risen.  
**He is risen indeed, alleluia!**

*Further words of welcome or introduction may be said*

## Prayer of Preparation

*All*           **Almighty God,**  
**to whom all hearts are open,**  
**all desires known,**  
**and from whom no secrets are hidden:**  
**cleanse the thoughts of our hearts**  
**by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,**  
**that we may perfectly love you,**  
**and worthily magnify your holy name;**  
**through Christ our Lord.**  
**Amen.**

*Please sit or kneel*

## Prayers of Penitence

*Please sit or kneel*

Christ our passover lamb has been sacrificed for us.  
Let us therefore rejoice by putting away all malice and evil  
and confessing our sins with a sincere and true heart.

We have lived by our own strength,  
and not by the power of your resurrection.  
In your mercy, forgive us.

*All* **Lord, hear us and help us.**

We have lived by the light of our own eyes,  
as faithless and not believing.  
In your mercy, forgive us.

*All* **Lord, hear us and help us.**

We have lived for this world alone,  
and doubted our home in heaven.  
In your mercy, forgive us.

*All* **Lord, hear us and help us.**

Almighty God,  
who forgives all who truly repent,  
have mercy upon you,  
pardon and deliver you from all your sins,  
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,  
and keep you in life eternal;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*All* **Amen.**

## Gloria

We stand to sing the Gloria

Moderato ♩ = 116 *ff*

[Organ] Glo-ry to God, Glo-ry to God, Glo-ry to God in the

High - est. *f* Glo-ry to God in the High - est, and peace to his peo - ple on

earth. Lord God, Heav'n - ly King, Al - migh - ty God and Fa - ther, we

wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we\_ praise you for your glo - ry.

*[ff]* *f* Glo-ry to God, Glo-ry to God, Glo-ry to God in the High - est.

*mf* Lord, Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther. Lord God,

Lamb of God, you take\_ a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;



You are sea - ted at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our



*Glo - ry to God, Glo - ry to God in the*  
 prayer. *f* Glo - ry to God, Glo - ry to God, Glo - ry to God in the



*High - est.*  
 High - est. *f* For you a - lone are the Ho - ly one, You a - lone are the



Lord, You a - lone are the most high, Je - sus Christ,



with the Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the Glo - ry of God the Fa - ther.



*Glo - ry to God, Glo - ry to God in the High - est.*  
*ff* Glo - ry to God, Glo - ry to God, Glo - ry to God in the High - est.

## The Collect

*The president introduces a period of silent prayer with the words,*

Let us pray.

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.

*All*

**Amen**

*Please sit*

### First Reading

*Acts 8.26-40*

*A reading from the Acts of the Apostles*

Then 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.

Let us bless the Lord.

*All*

**Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm 22.25-31

*The response is sung first by the choir, then repeated by everyone. The choir sings the verses and all join in the response between each verse.*

Christopher Tambling

### Response

v. 1 My God, my God, why have you for - sa - ken me?

### Verse

1. <sup>25</sup> From you comes my praise in the great | congregation;  
I will perform my vows in the presence of | those that fear you.  
<sup>26</sup> The poor shall eat | and be satisfied;  
those who seek the Lord shall praise him;  
their hearts shall | live for ever.
2. <sup>27</sup> All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn | to the Lord,  
and all the families of the nations shall | bow before him.  
<sup>28</sup> For the kingdom | is the Lord's  
and he rules o | ver the nations.
3. <sup>29</sup> How can those who sleep in the earth bow down in worship,  
or those who go down to the dust | kneel before him?  
<sup>30</sup> He has saved my life for himself; my descen | dants  
shall serve him;  
this shall be told of the Lord for genera | tions to come.  
<sup>31</sup> They shall come and make known his salvation,  
to a people yet unborn,  
declaring that he, the | Lord, has done it.

## Second Reading

*1 John 4.7-21*

*A reading from the first letter of John*

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him.

In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Saviour of the world. God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. So we have known and believe the love that God has for us.

God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgement, because as he is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. We love because he first loved us.

Those who say, 'I love God', and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

Let us bless the Lord.

*All* **Thanks be to God.**

## **Gospel Reading**

*John 15.1-8*

*Please stand and turn to face the Gospel reader*

*All* **Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**  
**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia**

I am the first and the last says the Lord and the living one.  
I was dead and behold, I am alive for evermore.

*All* **Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**  
**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

The Lord be with you

*All* **And also with you**

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

*All* **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus said, '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.

*All*

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **Sermon**

*Please sit.*

## **The Creed**

*Please stand when the president stands*

*All*

**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 from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary  
and was made 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 and the Son,  
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.**

## Prayers of Intercession

*Please sit or kneel. At the end of each bidding the following response is used*

Lord, hear us.

*All*      **Lord, graciously hear us.**

*And at the end this ending is used.*

Jesus Christ,  
keep the Church in the unity of the Spirit  
and in the bond of peace,  
and bring the whole created order to worship at your feet;  
for you are alive and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

*All*      **Amen.**

### *The Liturgy of the Sacrament*

#### **The Peace**

*Please stand. The president introduces the peace*

The risen Christ came and stood among his disciples  
and said, "Peace be with you"

Then they were glad when they saw the Lord. Alleluia.

The peace of the Lord be always with you

*All*      **and also with you.**

*Deacon*      Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

*All may exchange a sign of peace*

## **Preparation of the Table Taking of the Bread and Wine**

*During the following hymn (90), a collection is taken, the table is prepared and bread and wine are placed upon it. If you wish to donate, but do not have cash; contactless card/phone payments can be made after the service, by the door.*

**Come down, O love divine,  
seek thou this soul of mine,  
and visit it with thine own ardour glowing;  
O comforter, draw near,  
within my heart appear,  
and kindle it, thy holy flame bestowing.**

**O let it freely burn,  
till earthly passions turn  
to dust and ashes, in its heat consuming;  
and let thy glorious light  
shine ever on my sight,  
and clothe me round, the while my path illuming.**

**Let holy charity  
mine outward vesture be,  
and lowliness become mine inner clothing;  
true lowliness of heart,  
which takes the humbler part,  
and o'er its own shortcomings weeps with loathing.**

**And so the yearning strong,  
with which the soul will long,  
shall far outpass the pow'r of human telling;  
nor can we guess its grace,  
till we become the place  
wherein the Holy Spirit makes his dwelling.**



*The president receives the prayer cards which have been left in the church by visitors during the past week.*

We come to you, loving God seeking your grace,  
we offer to you the people  
of many different races, cultures and beliefs  
who have used this holy place in recent days.  
We bring before you the concern on their hearts,  
the thoughts in their heads  
and the situations for which they have prayed.  
And now we offer you our concerns  
that as we receive this sacrament of bread and wine;  
your grace may lead us on the journey which is before us.  
In Christ's name we pray.

*All*

**Amen.**

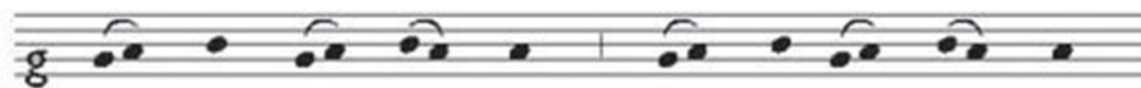
Risen Lord Jesus Christ,  
we believe you, and all we have heard is true.  
When you break bread  
may we recognize you as the fire that burns within us,  
that we may bring light to your world.

*All*

**Amen**

*The president takes the bread and the wine*

## The Eucharistic Prayer



The Lord be with you **R.** and al-so with you.



Lift up your hearts. **R. We lift them to the Lord.**



Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



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

It is indeed right,  
 our duty and our joy,  
 always and everywhere to give you thanks,  
 almighty and eternal Father,  
 and in these days of Easter to celebrate with joyful hearts  
 the memory of your wonderful works.

For by the mystery of his passion  
 Jesus Christ, your risen Son,  
 has conquered the powers of death and hell  
 and restored in all people the image of your glory.  
 He has placed them once more in paradise  
 and opened to them the gate of life eternal.

And so, in the joy of this Passover,  
 earth and heaven resound with gladness,  
 while angels and archangels and the powers of all creation  
 sing for ever the hymn of your glory:

The image shows a musical score for the hymn "Hosanna in the Highest". It consists of five staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are written below the notes. The score includes dynamic markings such as *mf* (mezzo-forte), *f* (forte), and *ff* (fortissimo). There are also trill ornaments (marked with a '3') and hairpins indicating volume changes. The lyrics are: "Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord, God of po - wer and might, Hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na, Ho - san - na, Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bles - sed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na, Ho - san - na, Ho - san - na in the high - est."

*Please sit or kneel*

Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness;  
 grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit,  
 and according to your holy will,  
 these gifts of bread and wine  
 may be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ;  
 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.

*Deacon* Great is the mystery of faith;  
*All* **Christ has died:**  
**Christ is risen:**  
**Christ will come again.**

And so, Father, calling to mind his death on the cross,  
his perfect sacrifice  
made once for the sins of the whole world;  
rejoicing in his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension,  
and looking for his coming in glory,  
we celebrate this memorial of our redemption.

As we offer you this our sacrifice  
of praise and thanksgiving,  
we bring before you this bread and this cup  
and we thank you for counting us worthy  
to stand in your presence and serve you.

Send the Holy Spirit on your people  
and gather into one in your kingdom  
all who share this one bread and one cup,  
so that we, in the company of the Blessed Virgin Mary,  
Saint Peter the Apostle and all the saints,  
may praise and glorify you for ever,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord;  
by whom, and with whom, and in whom,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father,  
for ever and ever.

*All* **Amen.**

## The Lord's Prayer

*A short silence is kept before we pray the Lord's Prayer in our first language whichever that may be.*

*Nous récitons le Notre Père dans notre langue maternelle.*

*Mēs lūdzam Tēvreizi katrs savā dzimtajā valodā.*

*Wir beten das Vaterunser in unserer Muttersprache.*

As we join our prayers with the Church Universal,  
so we say, each in our own language, the prayer that  
Jesus taught us.

*All*

**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.**

*Notre Père...*

*Vater Unser...*

*Mūsu Tēvs ...*

*Padre Nuestro...*

*Pai Nosso...*

*Onze Vader...*

*Ein Tad...*

*Ojcze Nasz...*

## Breaking of the Bread

*The president breaks the consecrated bread.*

We break this bread  
to share in the body of Christ

All

**Though we are many we are one body,  
because we all share in one bread.**

*We sing the Agnus Dei as the bread is broken.*

*Andante* (♩ = 60)

[Organ] *mp* Lamb of God, you

*mf* take a - way the sin of the world, have mer - cy on us.

*mf* Lamb of God, you take a - way the

sin of the world, have mer - cy on us.

*mp* Lamb of God, *mf* Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the

God. *non rall.* *p* world, Grant us peace. **2**

## Giving of Communion

*The president says the following invitation to communion*

The table of bread and wine is now ready.  
 It is the table of the company of Jesus  
 And with all those who love him.  
 It is the table of the poor of the world,  
 with whom Jesus identified himself.  
 It is the table of communion with the earth  
 In which Christ became incarnate.  
 So come to this table,  
 You who have much faith  
 And you who would like to have more;  
 You who have been to this sacrament often,  
 And you who have not been for a long time;  
 You who have tried to follow Jesus,  
 And you who have struggled. Come.

*All*

**It is Christ who invites us to meet him here.**

*All those who wish to receive communion are welcome to receive communion here today. Please receive the bread, then move to the right to receive the chalice or left for the pipette. If you do not wish to receive communion but would like a blessing, please come forward with everyone else and hold this service booklet in your hands as an indication of this wish. If you do not want to do either of these then, please feel free to stay in your seat.*

*The president and people receive communion.*

## Communion Anthem

*Be thou my vision* Chilcott

## Prayer after Communion

*Please sit or kneel*

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.

*All*      **Amen.**

*All*      **Faithful God,  
in baptism you have adopted us as your children,  
made us members of the body of Christ  
and chosen us as inheritors of your kingdom:  
we thank you that in this Eucharist  
you renew your promises within us,  
empower us by your Spirit  
to witness and to serve,  
and send us out as disciples of your Son,  
Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.**

*Notices may be given*



*The Dismissal***Final Hymn (122)**

**Father, Lord of all creation,  
ground of Being, Life and Love;  
height and depth beyond description  
only life in you can prove:  
you are mortal life's dependence:  
thought, speech, sight are ours by grace;  
yours is ev'ry hour's existence,  
sovereign Lord of time and space.**

**Jesus Christ, the Man for Others,  
we, your people, make our prayer:  
help us love - as sisters, brothers -  
all whose burdens we can share.  
Where your name binds us together  
you, Lord Christ, will surely be;  
where no selfishness can sever  
there your love the world may see.**

**Holy Spirit, rushing, burning  
wind and flame of Pentecost,  
fire our hearts afresh with yearning  
to regain what we have lost.  
May your love unite our action,  
nevermore to speak alone:  
God, in us abolish faction,  
God, through us your love make known.**

## The Blessing

*The president says*

Christ, who out of defeat brings new hope  
and a new future, fill you with his new life;  
and the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always.

*All*        **Amen.**

*Deacon*    With the risen life of Christ within you,  
Go in the peace of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.

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

## Organ Voluntary

*Praeludium in D*    Buxtehude

***Please join us for refreshments in the South Aisle***

## NOTICES

### **MAY ROTA**

Please sign up for May. Thank you.

### **SUNDAY 5<sup>th</sup> MAY**

A Literary Festival Service with Terry Waite will be held at 11 am.

A Sung Eucharist will be held that evening at 6.30 pm.

### **CONFIRMATION**

If you are thinking about being baptised or confirmed please contact Penny as there will be a confirmation on the island later in the year.

### **NEW GROUP!**

The Lent Group completed thinking about the film 'Chocolat' in Holy Week. There was enthusiasm from the group to continue to meet. This will be monthly in the Rectory. It may be to watch a film and have a discussion, to read a book, to have a Bible Study or discuss a topic, so a wide variety. If you are interested in joining this friendly group, please let Penny know.

### **LIBERATION DAY & ASCENSION DAY - THURSDAY 9<sup>th</sup> MAY**

Ascension Day this year falls on Liberation Day. Arrangements are as follows;

- **7.30 am** Said Eucharist
- **8.15 am** Morning Prayer at the Liberation Monument
- **11 am** Liberation Day Service

All are very welcome.

## WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK

**Morning Prayer**  
**(in church & online)**

**7.45 am** Monday to Thursday

**Evening Prayer**  
**(in church)**

**5.30 pm** Monday to Thursday

### Wednesday 1st May

**10 am – 12 pm** Wednesday Welcome

### Thursday 2nd May

**1.10 pm** Come to the Quiet  
Said Eucharist with reflective music.

### Next Sunday 5th May

**8 am** Said Eucharist (BCP)  
**11 am** Literary Festival Service  
with Terry Waite  
**6.30 pm** Sung Eucharist

### Thursday 9th May

**7.30 am** Said Eucharist for Ascension Day  
**8.15 am** Morning Prayer at the Liberation Monument  
**11 am** Liberation Day Service

For more details about the life of Town Church please visit our website [www.townchurch.net](http://www.townchurch.net) or



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