



Easthampstead
Parish Church

Eastertide

Introduction to the season

The Great Fifty Days of Eastertide form a single festival period in which the tone of joy created on Easter day is sustained through the following seven weeks, and the Church celebrates the gloriously risen Christ:.

White or gold colours are used at this time, to emphasise the joy and brightness of the season.

On the fortieth day of Eastertide there has from the late fourth century, been a particular celebration of Christ's ascension. He commissions his disciples to continue his work, he promises the gift of the Holy Spirit, and then he is no longer among them in the flesh. The ascension is therefore closely connected with the theme of mission.

The arrival of the promised gift of the Holy Spirit ten days later on the day of Pentecost completes and crowns, the Easter Festival

Our website:

www.stmichaelseasthampstead.org.uk



Order of Service

Please stand as ministers, servers and choir process into the church.

OPENING HYMN

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

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

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

Please be seated. The presiding minister will begin the service with some words of welcome and any notices are given.

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.**

THE PRAYERS OF PENITENCE

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.

Lord Jesus, you raise us to new life.
Lord, have mercy.
All Lord, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, you forgive us our sins.
Christ, have mercy.

All Christ, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, you feed us with the living bread.
Lord, have mercy.

All Lord, have mercy.

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.

All Amen.

HYMN OF THE ANGELS

Please stand

All ♪ 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.

Glory to God, Glory to God, Glory to God in the highest.

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.

Glory to God, Glory to God, Glory to God in the highest.

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.

Glory to God, Glory to God, Glory to God in the highest.

THE COLLECT PRAYER

The Collect is said and all respond.

All Amen.

THE READING

At the end of the reading the reader says

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

THE GRADUAL HYMN

THE GOSPEL READING

The Gospel will be processed to the centre of the Church. Please remain standing and turn to face the Gospel.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

All ♪ Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Jesus said to them, 'I am the bread of life.
Whoever comes to me will never be hungry,
and whoever believes in me will never thirst.'

All ♪ Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

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

All ♪ Glory to you, O Lord.

The Gospel is read, after which the minister will say

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All ♪ Praise to you, O Christ.

THE SERMON

THE CREED

**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, 4

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 man.
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.**

INTERCESSIONS

This response is used at the end of each prayer.

Lord, hear us.

All Lord, graciously hear us.

This response may be used after remembering those who have died.

Rest eternal grant to them, O Lord,

All and let light perpetual shine upon them.

May they rest in peace,
All and rise in glory.
And at the end the intercessions this response is used.

Merciful Father,
**All accept these prayers
for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

THE PEACE

The risen Christ came and stood among his disciples
and said, 'Peace be with you.'
Then were they glad when they saw the Lord. Alleluia.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
All And also with you.
Let us offer one another a sign of peace.



OFFERTORY HYMN

During the hymn a collection will be taken. You can make a one off donation or regular contribution through the Parish Giving Scheme. You can access the scheme through the QR code below.



Any amount you can give will make a difference. The gifts of the people are presented during the hymn. The altar will also be prepared, of bread and upon it. with the gift wine placed



PREPARATION OF THE TABLE

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.

All Amen.

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

Please be seated

The Lord be with you

All ♪ and also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

All ♪ We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All ♪ 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 men and women 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.

**All ♪ Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blesséd is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest.**

We praise and bless you, loving Father, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; and as we obey his command, send your Holy Spirit, that broken bread and wine outpoured may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

On the night before he died he had supper with his friends and, taking bread, he praised you. He broke the bread, gave it to them and said: Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.

When supper was ended he took the cup of wine. Again he praised you, gave it to them and said: 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.

So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did, in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice made once for all upon the cross. Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation, we proclaim his death and resurrection until he comes in glory.

Great is the mystery of faith:

**All ♪ Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.**

Lord of all life, help us to work together for that day when your kingdom comes and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth.

Look with favour on your people, gather us in your loving arms and bring us with the Blessed Virgin Mary, St Michael, St Mary Magdalene, and all the saints to feast at your table in heaven.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father, for ever and ever.

All ♪ Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Rejoicing in God's new creation,
as our Saviour taught us, so we pray

**All 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.**

THE BREAKING OF BREAD

Jesus says, I am the bread of life,
whoever eats this bread will live for ever.

**All Lord, our hearts hunger for you;
give us this bread always.**

**All ♪ Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,
Grant us peace.**

THE GIVING OF COMMUNION

Alleluia. Christ our passover is sacrificed for us.

All Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Communion is distributed at the Chancel Steps. All who usually receive Communion in their home church are welcome to do so here. If you wish to receive a blessing instead please carry your hymn book. If you are sensitive to gluten, we do have gluten free wafers.

COMMUNION HYMN

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

The post-Communion prayer is said and all respond.

All Amen.

**All 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.**

THE DISMISSAL

The God of peace,
who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus,
that great shepherd of the sheep,
through the blood of the eternal covenant,
make you perfect in every good work to do his will,
working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

All Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

Go in the peace of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.

All Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

The ministers, servers and choir will process out of the church.

Refreshments will be served

in the annexe.

*Don't forget to turn your
mobile devices back on.*

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