

The Church of Ireland

HOLY COMMUNION

Easter 4 – Sunday 3rd May 2020

WELCOME

Welcome to Rossorry Parish Church today for our service of Holy Communion on this 4th Sunday of Easter. The scripture readings today tell us of Christ the shepherd who tends his flock and who comes to us to bring us life in all its fullness. In our service we reflect on this and focus upon the amazing care which our NHS staff and care workers are giving to patients in hospital, care homes and in the community. We begin our service as Andrew Irwin leads us in the **HYMN No 9 – *There's a wideness in God's mercy.***

Christ is risen!

The Lord is risen indeed, Alleluia!

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

In his great mercy we have been born into a living hope, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. *1 Peter 1:3*

COLLECT FOR PURITY

**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.**

PENITENCE

Let us confess to Almighty God our sins against his love and ask him to cleanse us.

CONFESSION

**Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
we have sinned in thought and word and deed,
and in what we have left undone.**

**We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us,
that we may walk in newness of life
to the glory of your name. Amen.**

ABSOLUTION

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

THE GLORIA

Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to God's people on earth. Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and
Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.
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. 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. Amen.

THE COLLECT

Almighty God,
whose Son Jesus Christ is the resurrection and the life:
Raise us, who trust in him,
from the death of sin to the life of righteousness,
that we may seek those things which are above,
where he reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

1 Peter 2: 19-25

¹⁹For it is to your credit if, being aware of God, you endure pain while suffering unjustly. ²⁰If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, where is the credit in that? But if you endure when you do right and suffer for it, you have God's approval. ²¹For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps.

²² 'He committed no sin,
and no deceit was found in his mouth.'

²³When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten; but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly. ²⁴He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross,* so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds* you have been healed. ²⁵For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

GRADUAL HYMN No 224 How deep the Father's love for us

THE GOSPEL

Hear the Gospel of our Saviour Christ, according to Chapter...beginning at...
Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

John 10: 1-10

'Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. ²The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. ³The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. ⁴When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. ⁵They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.' ⁶Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

⁷ So again Jesus said to them, 'Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. ⁸All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. ⁹I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. ¹⁰The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.

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

A REFLECTION

NICENE CREED

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 by the Holy Spirit of 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.

THE INTERCESSIONS

Let us pray.

THE PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS

We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord, whose property is always to have mercy: Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body, and our souls washed through his most precious blood, and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

THE PEACE

Jesus says: 'Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Do not let your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid.'
The peace of the Lord be always with you
and also with you.

We sing HYMN no. 20 a version of the 23rd Psalm

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord is here.
His Spirit is with us.

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

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Father, almighty and ever living God,
at all times and in all places
it is right to give you thanks and praise:

Above all we praise you
For the glorious resurrection of you Son
Jesus Christ our Lord,
The true Paschal lamb who was sacrificed for us;
By dying he destroyed our death;
By rising he restored our life.

And so with all your people,
with angels and archangels,
and with all the company of heaven,
we proclaim your great and glorious name,
for ever praising you and saying:

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

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest!**

On the night that he was betrayed, took bread;
and when he had given thanks to you, 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 when he had given thanks to you,
he gave it to them, saying, Drink this, all of you,
for 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.

Therefore, Father, with this bread and this cup
we do as Christ your Son commanded:
**we remember his passion and death,
we celebrate his resurrection and ascension,
and we look for the coming of his kingdom.**

Accept through him, our great high priest,
this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving;
and as we eat and drink these holy gifts,
grant by the power of the life-giving Spirit
that we may be made one in your holy Church
and partakers of the body and blood of your Son,
that he may dwell in us and we in him:

Through the same Jesus Christ our Lord,
by whom, and with whom, and in whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
**all honour and glory are yours, Almighty Father,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

As our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are bold to say
Our Father...

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The bread which we break
is a sharing in the body of Christ.
**We being many are one body,
for we all share in the one bread.**

**Jesus Lamb of God, have mercy upon us,
Jesus, bearer of our sins, have mercy upon us.
Jesus, Redeemer of the world, grant us peace.**

THE COMMUNION

CLOSING PRAYERS

Merciful Father,
you gave your Son Jesus Christ to be the good shepherd,
and in his love for us to lay down his life and rise again.
Keep us always under his protection,
and give us grace to follow in his steps;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

A HYMN No. 683 All people that on earth do dwell

THE BLESSING

God the Father,
by whose glory Christ was raised from the dead,
raise you up to walk with him in the newness of his risen life.
And the blessing...
Amen.