

St John's and Ponteland United Reformed Church



Introit MP30. Alleluia, alleluia give thanks

Introduction and call to worship

Jesus has been raised to life, leading all humanity out of slavery of sin and death to the glorious freedom of eternal life in God. Today we give thanks for Christ's resurrection and we pray for an ever-deeper understanding of what this means for us.

The Easter acclamation.

Ldr. Jesus Christ is risen.

All. **Hallelujah, he is risen in deed**

Hymn MP1045 From the squalor of a borrowed stable

Prayers of praise

Hymn MP 988 How deep the Fathers love for us

First Reading Acts 10:34-43

Peter tells the Roman soldier Cornelius about Jesus Christ, how he lived, how he died and how he was raised from death. Anyone who believes in him, whatever their religious background, will find real life and forgiveness through him.

Hymn MP367 Jesus is Lord! Creations voice proclaims it

Second Reading Colossians 3:1-4

As Christians we share in Christ's risen life: knowing this puts our earthly lives in a different perspective.

Gospel John 20:1-18

The friends and disciples of Jesus, consumed by their grief, find his tomb empty. Their despair turns to incredulity and unexpected joy when they realise the tomb is empty because he is no longer dead.

Sermon. Family

Prayers of intercession

Concluding prayer

Father, your Son's resurrection fills us with hope and wonder. Hear our prayers for all your people and give us strength to bring the good news of Christ to the whole world. We ask this through the same Christ our Lord. Amen..

Dedication of the offering

Communion Hymn MP 987 Here is love vast as the ocean

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Communion Liturgy

Blessed are you, lord, God of all creation.

Through your goodness we have this bread to offer,
which earth has given and human hands have made.

It will become for us the bread of life.

Blessed be God forever.

Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation.

Through your goodness we have this wine to offer,
fruit of the vine and the work of human hands.

It will become for us the cup of salvation.

Blessed be God forever.

Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation.

Through your goodness we have ourselves to offer,
Fruit of the womb, and formed by your love.

We will become your people for the world.

Blessed be God forever.

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.

It is our joy

to give you thanks and praise,

our Creator and Redeemer,

God of love and holiness.

In your image you made us all;

your universe you put into our care;

your creation you entrust to our hands,

with all its wonders and its travail.

You make us partners in your labours

and invite us to share in your peace.

We give you thanks that you so loved the world

that you gave your only Son,

that everyone who has faith in him

may not die but have eternal life.

Therefore with all your people in heaven

and on earth we sing the triumphant hymn of your glory.

**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

Lord, send on us
and on this thanksgiving meal the Spirit of life,
who spoke through Moses and the prophets
who descended on Jesus at the river Jordan
and on the apostles on the first day of Pentecost
Send this same Spirit of fire
that its coming may transfigure our humanity
by the power of Christ's blood.
During supper, Jesus took bread,
and having said the blessing
broke it and gave it to them saying,
"Take, eat, this is my body"
then he took a cup
and, having given thanks,
he gave it to them, saying
"This is my blood, the blood of the new covenant,
shed for the many for the remission of sins.
Truly I declare to you
I will never again drink of the fruit of the vine
until the day I drink it new in the kingdom of God. **Matthew 26:26**

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith.

**Christ has died
Christ is risen
Christ will come again. 1Corin 15:20ff**

As we celebrate before you the memorial of the death and resurrection of your Son we offer you thanks,
Lord, for having chosen us to serve in your presence.

We pray that you will make us partakers
of Christ's body and blood
and unite us in a single body.
Grant that we, with the faithful of all times,
may share in eternal life and sing your praises
through Jesus Christ, your beloved Son.
Through Him, with Him and in him
be all honour and glory to you,
God the Father almighty,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen**

We sing the Lord's prayer. (traditional St John's)

Please be seated as we listen to Stewart play a piece of music called deep harmony, Its meaning is “It is a joy produced by **deep harmony** amongst people, which allows them to savour the beauty of being together, and supporting each other on life's journey”. Lets us feel that togetherness before we share in this most sacred meal.

The Lord be with you
And also with you.

Let us now share a sign of that peace and Deep Harmony.

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us
Let us keep the feast.
The bread which we break is the communion
of the body of Christ
The cup of blessing which we bless is the
communion of the blood of Christ.

Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin
of the world. Blessed are those who are called
to the wedding feast of the Lamb John 1:29
Alleluia.

THE SHARING OF THE BREAD AND WINE

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Accomplished and concluded, O Christ our Lord,
is the mystery which you have ordained.
For we have tasted your death
seen your resurrection
and have been filled with your unending life.
We have enjoyed your inexhaustible love
through the grace of your eternal Father,
and the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen**

Hymn MP 33 And can it be

Blessing

May God, who raised Jesus Christ from the dead,
scatter the darkness, and give you new life.
Now may the blessing of God be always upon you,
The Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit . Choral Amen.
