



St James's
PICCADILLY

The Eucharist for the Second Sunday of Easter

**Sunday 12th April 2026
at 11am**

With a congregation in the church
and live on YouTube



Welcome to St James's Church. Whether you are with us in person or joining us online, you are very welcome.

Everyone is warmly invited to receive communion or a blessing so please do come forward at the appropriate time.

ORDER OF SERVICE

OPENING HYMN

[Tune: Truro; Words: Brian Wren (b. 1936)]

**Christ is alive! Let Christians sing.
The cross stands empty to the sky.
Let streets and homes with praises ring.
Love, drowned in death, shall never die.**

**Christ is alive! No longer bound
to distant years in Palestine,
but saving, healing, here and now,
and touching every place and time.**

**In every insult, rift and war,
where colour, scorn or wealth divide,
Christ suffers still, yet loves the more,
and lives, where even hope has died.**

**Christ is alive, and comes to bring
good news to this and every age,
till earth and sky and ocean ring
with joy, with justice, love, and praise.**

OPENING RESPONSES

The priest says

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

The priest welcomes everyone and introduces the service.

**Eternal 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.**

PRAYER OF RECONCILIATION

The deacon says

The risen Christ appeared to the disciples
behind the doors they had locked out of fear.
Let us make our confession to God,
acknowledging all that separates us from Christ
risen from the dead today.

Silence is kept.

**Ever-loving God,
we confess that we have sinned
in thought, word and deed.
We have not loved you with our whole heart.**

**We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.
In your mercy
forgive what we have been,
help us to amend what we are,
and direct what we shall be,
that we may do justly, love mercy,
and walk humbly with you our God.
Amen.**

THE ABSOLUTION

The priest says

May the God who is both power and love forgive you
and free you from your sin;
give you healing and strength,
and raise you to new life in Christ.
Amen.

THE GLORIA *(St Augustine)*

The cantor sings

Gloria, Gloria in excelsis Deo.
Gloria, Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Glory to God in the highest.
Peace to God's people on earth.
Gloria, Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Holy One, Heavenly God, our Sovereign and Creator.
Gloria, Gloria in excelsis Deo.

We worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.
Gloria, Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Jesus Christ, God's only begotten.
Miserere nobis.

Miserere nobis.

Lord God, Lamb of God.

Miserere nobis.

You take away the sin of the world.

Miserere nobis.

You are seated at the right hand of Majesty:
receive our prayer.

Gloria, Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Gloria, Gloria in excelsis Deo.

For you alone are the Holy One.

Gloria, Gloria in excelsis Deo.

You alone are the Lord.

Gloria, Gloria in excelsis Deo.

You alone are the Most High.

Gloria, Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit
in the glory of the Triune God.

Gloria, Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Gloria in saecula saeculorum. Amen.

Gloria in saecula saeculorum. Amen.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

The Collect

The priest says

Risen Christ,
for whom no door is locked,
no entrance barred:
open the doors of our hearts,
that we may seek the good of others
and walk the joyful road of sacrifice and peace
to the praise of God.

Amen.

FIRST READING

Acts 2.14a, 22-32

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, "Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. "You that are Israelites, listen to what I have to say: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with deeds of power, wonders, and signs that God did through him among you, as you yourselves know— this man, handed over to you according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of those outside the law. But God raised him up, having freed him from death, because it was impossible for him to be held in its power. For David says concerning him, 'I saw the Lord always before me, for he is at my right hand so that I will not be shaken; therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced; moreover my flesh will live in hope. For you will not abandon my soul to Hades, or let your Holy One experience corruption. You have made known to me the ways

of life; you will make me full of gladness with your presence.’
“Fellow Israelites, I may say to you confidently of our ancestor David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. Since he was a prophet, he knew that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would put one of his descendants on his throne. Foreseeing this, David spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, saying, ‘He was not abandoned to Hades, nor did his flesh experience corruption.’ This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are witnesses.

Listen for what the Spirit is saying.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand.

During the psalm, the Gospel is carried in procession down the central aisle of the church where it is read among the people. Please turn and face the Gospel as it passes.

PSALM 16

*Response: **You are at my right hand; I shall not fall.***

THE GOSPEL

The cantor sings

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

All sing

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

(repeat as a round)

The reader says

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

The cantor sings

Glory to you O Lord
Glory to you O Lord.

John 20.19-end

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

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe." Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence

of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

The cantor sings

Praise to you O Christ

Praise to you O Christ.

The cantor sings

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

All sing

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Please sit.

SERMON

The Revd Canon Dr Stephanie Spellers

Canon Stephanie+ is Canon in Residence at our partner church, St Bart's NYC, and we are delighted to welcome her to St James's.

A period of silence is kept for personal reflection.

APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,**

**born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.
Amen.**

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The deacon says

Let us pray for the world, for the church,
for all in need and for those who have asked for our prayers.

*Please kneel or sit for prayers led by a member of the
congregation.*

THE PEACE

The priest says

The risen Christ came and stood among his disciples and said
'Peace be with you'.

Then were they glad when they saw the Lord.

The deacon says

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

The priest says

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

Please share the Peace with your neighbours if you are in the building, and in the YouTube chat box if you are online.

During the offertory hymn, a collection will be taken. If you have cash, please fill in the Gift Aid envelopes in the pews with the pens available. If you don't have cash, please use the tap donate device in the collection plate, which is set to £5, or the QR code on page 21.

OFFERTORY HYMN

[Tune: Noël Nouvelet; Words: John L. Bell (b. 1949) & Graham Maule (1958-2019)]

**Jesus Christ is waiting,
waiting in the streets;
no one is his neighbour,
all alone he eats.
Listen, Lord Jesus,
I am lonely too:
make me, friend or stranger,
fit to wait on you.**

**Jesus Christ is raging,
raging in the streets,
where injustice spirals
and real hope retreats.
Listen, Lord Jesus,
I am angry too:**

in the Kingdom's causes
let me rage with you.

Jesus Christ is healing,
healing in the streets,
curing those who suffer,
touching those he greets.
Listen, Lord Jesus,
I have pity too:
let my care be active,
healing, just like you.

Jesus Christ is dancing,
dancing in the streets,
where each sign of hatred
he, with love, defeats.
Listen, Lord Jesus,
I should triumph too:
where good conquers evil
let me dance with you.

Jesus Christ is calling,
calling in the streets,
'Who will join my journey?
I will guide their feet.'
Listen, Lord Jesus,
let my fears be few:
walk one step before me;
I will follow you.

PRAYER AT THE PREPARATION OF THE TABLE

The priest says

Risen Christ Jesus,
in this bread soon to be broken
and this wine soon to be poured out,

may we know you as the fire that burns within us,
that we may bring light to your world.

Amen.

GATHERING

All are invited to gather round the altar. Should you need to sit, please use any of the benches or seats around the altar at the front of the church.

While moving to the altar, please join in singing ...

Halle- halle- halle- lujah!

Halle- halle- halle- lujah!

Halle- halle- halle- lujah!

Hallelujah, hallelujah!

The priest leads the Church's Thanksgiving for Creation and Redemption in Christ ...

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give thanks and praise.

The priest continues the Church's prayer of thanksgiving ...

SANCTUS (*Williams*)

Sing each phrase after the cantor

Holy, holy, holy Lord,

God of power and might,

Heaven and earth are full of your glory,

**Hosanna,
Hosanna,
Hosanna in the highest.**

The cantor sings

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

All sing after the cantor

**Hosanna,
Hosanna,
Hosanna in the highest.**

*The prayer of consecration continues recalling Christ's
command to his disciples at the Last Supper, ending with:
"... as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me"*

The cantor sings

Great is the mystery of faith.

All sing after the cantor

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

The prayer continues ...

At the end of the prayer, sing after the cantor ...

**Blessing and honour,
glory and power,
be yours for ever and ever.
Amen.**

Silence is kept.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

You are invited to pray in your own language.

The priest says

Let us pray in the words that Jesus gave us.

**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 Bread is broken and the priest says

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

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

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The priest says

Draw near with faith.

Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ
which he gave for you, and his blood which he shed for you.
Eat and drink in remembrance that Christ died for you,
and feed on him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

THE COMMUNION

*During Communion, Harry will sing **Clusters of Crocus/Come To My Garden** by Marsha Norman and Lucy Simon.*

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

**God of life and love,
we thank you for feeding us with the body
and blood of Jesus Christ.
As we have received these gifts of your creation,
may we go out with joy and gratitude to live as witnesses
to your hope and justice for the whole earth.
Amen.**

Notices are given by the congregation, wardens and clergy.

HYMN

[Tune: Carlisle; Words: Edwin Hatch (1835-1889)]

**Breathe on me, Breath of God;
fill me with life anew,
that I may love what thou dost love,
and do what thou wouldst do.**

**Breathe on me, Breath of God,
until my heart is pure,
until with thee I will one will,
to do and to endure.**

**Breathe on me, Breath of God,
till I am wholly thine,
until this earthly part of me
glows with thy fire divine.**

**Breathe on me, Breath of God;
so shall I never die,
but live with thee the perfect life
of thine eternity.**

THE BLESSING

The priest says

God the Creator;
by whose love Christ was raised from the dead,
open to you the gates of everlasting life.

Amen.

God the Son;
who in bursting from the grave has overcome
the forces of death and hell,
give you joy as you share the Easter faith.

Amen.

God the Holy Spirit;
who filled the disciples with the life of the risen Christ
empower you and fill you with peace.

Amen.

And the blessing of God almighty:
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit
be with you this Easter and for ever.

Amen.

The deacon says

Go in the peace of Christ.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thanks be to God.

Alleluia! Alleluia!



If you would like to support the ministry of St James's, please scan this QR code with your smartphone to make a one-off or regular donation.

Alternatively, please visit sjp.org.uk/donate, or use one of the tap donation points in the church. Donations will appear on your bank statement as 'Supported Business'.

For your prayers this week

Parish life and events

All members of our online community.

Our social outreach programmes: guests and volunteers at FEAST and Sunday Breakfast, and all involved with our International Group.

We give thanks for the opportunity to proceed with the Wren Project.

Those who have asked for our prayers

[Laura](#)

Those who are ill

[Alison](#), [Lavinia](#), [Sam](#), [Catherine](#).

Recently departed

[Marguerite](#), and for Thembi and Jelani who mourn her.

[Derek](#), and for Deborah and the family who mourn her.

May they rest in peace and rise in glory.

Choral Evensong for Eastertide

TODAY - Sunday 12th April 3pm in the church and online

Officiant and Preacher: The Revd Lucy Winkett

This timeless service of festive music, prayer and preaching for Eastertide will contain anthems by Gail Randall and Charles Stanford, 400 year-old responses by William Smith of Durham and the rarely sung Easter Anthems as set in the Book of Common Prayer.

All are warmly welcome.



Come and celebrate the next chapter of The Wren Project at St James's Piccadilly

Thursday 16th April 6.30pm - 8.30pm in the church

It was announced on 24th March that the church has been awarded a £4.75 million grant from The National Lottery Heritage Fund to support the Wren Project—a major initiative that will help restore and reimagine our historic church, its courtyard, and gardens for the needs of today and future generations.

Everyone - our congregation, our design team, our staff team, our volunteers, our supporters - is invited to come to a special evening celebrating this award which enables us to go ahead with The Wren Project. Please come along to join everyone who has been part of the journey so far alongside those who will help shape its future.

Come as you are as we gather with our whole community for drinks and canapés to mark this joyful milestone.

Please confirm your attendance at:

<https://app.donorfy.com/form/9R26B0VDA8/BGCG5>

or use the link in this week's newsletter.

