

New Town Parish Church
Order of Service, 31st March 2024 Easter Day
Our Easter Hope



Gathering music

Welcome

At this service the baptism of Hosein Far Moghaddam (Pouya) will take place. We warmly welcome Pouya into the family and fellowship of the church and offer him our loving support and prayerful best wishes on his journey of Christian discipleship.

Call to Worship

O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good;
his steadfast love endures for ever!

The LORD is my strength and my might;
he has become my salvation.

The stone that the builders rejected
has become the chief cornerstone.

This is the LORD's doing;
it is marvellous in our eyes.

This is the day that the LORD has made;
let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Hymn 410 Jesus Christ is risen today, *Alleluia!*

Opening Prayer, Collect and Lord's Prayer

Collect for Easter Day

Lord of life and power, through the mighty resurrection of your Son, you have overcome death and opened the gate of everlasting life. Grant that we, being dead to sin and alive to you in Jesus Christ, may reign with him in glory, who with you and the Holy Spirit is alive, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

The Sacrament of Baptism

The 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.**

Hymn 796 The Lord bless you and keep you

Commitment of congregation

**We will nurture one another in faith,
uphold one another in prayer,
encourage one another in service.**

Prayers and the Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven.

**Hallowed be your name
Your kingdom come,
Your will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us in the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and forever. Amen.**

Sharing the Peace

The peace of Christ be with you
and also with you

Hymn 443 He is Lord, he is Lord

Scripture Reading Acts 10: 34-43

³⁴ Then Peter began to speak to them: 'I truly understand that God shows no partiality, ³⁵ but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. ³⁶ You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. ³⁷ That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: ³⁸ how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. ³⁹ We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; ⁴⁰ but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, ⁴¹ not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. ⁴² He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. ⁴³ All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.'

Anthem The Strife is O'er Henry G. Ley

Scripture Reading *Mark 15: 42 – 16: 8*

⁴² When evening had come, and since it was the day of Preparation, that is, the day before the sabbath, ⁴³ Joseph of Arimathea, a respected member of the council, who was also himself waiting expectantly for the kingdom of God, went boldly to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. ⁴⁴ Then Pilate wondered if he were already dead; and summoning the centurion, he asked him whether he had been dead for some time. ⁴⁵ When he learned from the centurion that he was dead, he granted the body to Joseph. ⁴⁶ Then Joseph bought a linen cloth, and taking down the body, wrapped it in the linen cloth, and laid it in a tomb that had been hewn out of the rock. He then rolled a stone against the door of the tomb. ⁴⁷ Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Joseph saw where the body was laid.

When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. ² And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. ³ They had been saying to one another, 'Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?' ⁴ When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. ⁵ As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. ⁶ But he said to them, 'Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. ⁷ But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you.' ⁸ So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

Hymn 426 All heaven declares

Sermon *Our Easter Hope*

Hymn 459 Crown him with many crowns

Prayers of the People

Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you. **Amen.**

CH4 19 Ye gates, lift up your heads on high

Unveil elements.

Invitation

Gracious is the Lord, and righteous; our God is merciful.

What shall I return to the Lord for all his bounty to me? I will lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord.

Psalm 116: 5, 12, 13

Let us celebrate this joyful feast.
People will come from east and west and north and south,
And sit at table in the kingdom of God.

Luke 13:29

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Lord's Prayer

The Lord is here.

His Spirit is with us.

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 our thanks and praise.

It is our duty and delight, always and everywhere, to give you thanks and praise, Almighty God, eternal and holy Father. You created the heavens and the earth; you made us in your image; and in countless ways you show us your mercy. For all your goodness to us, known and unknown, we give you thanks with the Church universal, and with the whole company of heaven we praise you in the angels' hymn:

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.

We bless you for the gift of Jesus Christ.

Born of Mary, **he shares our life.**

Eating with sinners, **he welcomes us.**

Dying on the cross, **he rescues us.**

Risen from the dead, **he gives us new life.**

By the presence and power of the Holy Spirit bless and consecrate these gifts; so that the bread which we break may be for us a sharing in the body of Christ, and the cup which we bless a sharing in the blood of Christ, for the forgiveness of sins and the hallowing of all our lives and work.

Receive us, O God, as, together with our praise, we offer to you our very selves.

Holy Communion

We do this as Christ appointed. On the night he was betrayed, he took bread (*the minister takes bread*) and, after giving thanks to God, he broke it and said, 'This is my body, which is broken for you; do this remembering me.'

In the same way he took the cup (*the minister raises the cup*) and said: 'This cup is the new covenant sealed in my blood. Whenever you drink it, do it remembering me.'

Jesus, Lamb of God
have mercy on us.

Jesus, bearer of our sins,
have mercy on us.

Jesus, redeemer of the world
grant us peace.

(The minister gives bread)

Take this and eat it: this is the body of Christ which is broken for you. Do this remembering him.

(The minister offers the cup)

This cup is the new covenant sealed by Christ's blood which was shed that the sins of many might be forgiven. Drink from it, all of you.

(After all have received)

The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

Prayer

Great is the mystery of faith
Dying, you destroyed our death
Rising, you restored our life
Lord Jesus, come in glory.

Remembering all the witnesses and martyrs of the faith and in communion with our sisters and brothers who have fallen asleep in Christ.

Gracious God, You have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. You have fed us and renewed us for service.

Help us, who have shared Christ's body and blood, to be his faithful disciples, so that our daily living may be part of your kingdom, and our love be your love, reaching out into the life of the world. **Amen.**

CH4 419 Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son

Sending and blessing

*May the love of the Lord Jesus draw us to himself.
May the power of the Lord Jesus strengthen us in his service.
May the joy of the Lord Jesus fill our souls.*

Go now in peace to love and serve the Lord.

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Sending music

Worship Leader: Very Rev Dr Angus Morrison

Scripture Reader: Stuart Campbell

Prayers: Helen Hammond

Organist/pianist: Jamie Turnbull

Sources:

Scripture reading(s) taken from the New Revised Standard Version unless otherwise stated.

All hymns from Church Hymnary 4th Edition unless otherwise stated

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