Sunday Worship on Easter Day
from Lambeth Palace

The service takes place in the Archbishop’s kitchen.

HYMN
Jesus Christ is risen today

Jesus Christ is risen today, Alleluia.
our triumphant holy day, Alleluia.
who did once, upon the cross, Alleluia.
suffer to redeem our loss. Alleluia.

Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluia.
unto Christ, our heavenly King, Alleluia.
who endured the Cross and grave, Alleluia.
sinners to redeem and save. Alleluia.

But the pains that he endured, Alleluia.
our salvation have procured; Alleluia.
now above the sky he’s King, Alleluia.
where the angels ever sing. Alleluia.

Words: From "Surrexit Christus hodie", anon.
Tune: Easter Hymn

INTRODUCTION
The Archbishop of Canterbury says:

The light and peace of Christ be with you all. Welcome to the kitchen of our home on Easter Day, where we will celebrate together the story of God’s saving work in the resurrection of his Son Jesus Christ.

I am joined virtually by the Bishop Rose Hudson-Wilkin, who will read from the Bible and will share something of what churches in the Diocese of Canterbury are doing to enable prayer and worship while we are unable to gather together in our church buildings. And we are also joined by Theo, aged 10 who is a member of a parish church in the Diocese of Canterbury who will lead us in prayers. In common with the rest of the clergy and people of the Church of England, we are each at home, where we have recorded our own parts of the service.

The music we are using has been pre-recorded and was recorded long before this emergency.

At this very difficult time in the life of the nation and of the world, our prayers today are especially with those who are suffering, with those who care for them, and for all who mourn. God’s Son Jesus Christ experienced the fullness of human suffering.
and yet has made all things new. Let us together light the candle which represents the risen Christ, the one who said, ‘I am the light of the world; he who follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.’

LIGHTING THE EASTER CANDLE
Tracing the marks on the Easter candle, the Archbishop says:

Christ yesterday and today, the beginning and the end, Alpha and Omega, all time belongs to him, and all ages; to him be glory and power, through every age and for ever. Amen.

This is the day when our Lord Jesus Christ passed from death to life. Throughout the world Christians celebrate the awesome power of God. As we hear his word and proclaim all that God has done, we can be confident, even at this time when the future feels ever-changing and uncertain, that we shall share God’s victory over death and live with him for ever.

Lighting the Easter candle, the Archbishop says:

May the light of Christ, rising in glory, banish all darkness from our hearts and minds.

He places the candle on its pedestal, and says:

The is the light of Christ.
All: Thanks be to God.

The Archbishop:

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

GLORIA
Gloria in excelsis Deo
Sung by St Martin’s Voices and the Will Todd Ensemble

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.
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.

Music: Gloria from Jazz Missa Brevis - Will Todd

COLLECT
The Archbishop prays the Collect:

God of glory,  
by the raising of your Son  
you have broken the chains of death and hell:  
fill your Church with faith and hope;  
for a new day has dawned  
and the way to life stands open  
in our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

CANTERBURY DIOCESE STORIES
The Archbishop

Churches up and down the country are responding to this challenging time in a huge number of innovative ways. Bishop Rose, the Bishop of Dover in the Diocese of Canterbury, is going to share something of how churches are stepping up to the present challenges.

Bishop Rose introduces 2 stories of ministry and worship creatively reimagined in Canterbury.
HYMN
'This joyful Eastertide'
Sung by a chorister family from Canterbury

This joyful Eastertide,
away with sin and sorrow.
my Love, the crucified,
has sprung to life this morrow:
had Christ, that once was slain,
ne’er burst his three-day prison,
our faith had been in vain:
but now has Christ arisen,
 arisen, arisen, arisen!

Death’s flood hath lost its chill,
since Jesus crossed the river:
lover of souls, from ill
my passing soul deliver:
had Christ, that once was slain,
ne’er burst his three-day prison,
our faith had been in vain:
but now has Christ arisen,
 arisen, arisen, arisen!

Words: George Ratcliffe Woodward (1848-1934)
Tune: Vruetchen

We will hear Bishop Rose again later, when she reads from the Gospel of John. Caroline, my wife, will now read from the Bible.

BIBLE READINGS
Caroline Welby:

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles. (10.34-43)

Then Peter began to speak to them: ‘I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: 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. 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; but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, 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. 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. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.'

This is the word of the Lord.

_All_ Thanks be to God.

**HYMN**

'The day of resurrection'

The day of resurrection, earth, tell it out abroad! the Passover of gladness, the Passover of God! from death to life eternal, from earth up to the sky, our Christ has brought us over with hymns of victory.

Our hearts be pure from evil, that we may see aright the Lord in rays eternal of resurrection light; and, listening to his accents, may hear, so calm and plain, his own 'All hail!' and, hearing may raise the victor strain.

Now let the heavens be joyful, let earth her song begin, the round world keep high triumph, and all that is therein; let all things seen and unseen their notes of gladness blend, for Christ the Lord is risen, our joy that has no end.

Words: St John of Damascus, Trans J. M. Neale
Tune: Ellacombe

**GOSPEL**

*The Bishop of Dover says:*

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

_All_ Glory to you, O Lord.

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to
them, ‘They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him.’ Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went towards the tomb. The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, and the cloth that had been on Jesus’ head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. Then the disciples returned to their homes.

But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. They said to her, ‘Woman, why are you weeping?’ She said to them, ‘They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him.’ When she had said this, she turned round and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, ‘Woman, why are you weeping? For whom are you looking?’ Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, ‘Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away.’ Jesus said to her, ‘Mary!’ She turned and said to him in Hebrew, ‘Rabbouni!’ (which means Teacher). Jesus said to her, ‘Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, “I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.”’ Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, ‘I have seen the Lord’; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON
The Archbishop of Canterbury

SONG ‘In Christ Alone’
Specially recorded for this service by Geraldine Latty and Carey Lucy

In Christ alone my hope is found,
He is my light, my strength, my song
this cornerstone, this solid ground
firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
what heights of love, what depths of peace
when fears are stilled, when strivings cease
my comforter, my all in all
here in the love of Christ I stand.
There in the ground His body lay,  
light of the world by darkness slain:  
then bursting forth in glorious day  
up from the grave He rose again  
and as He stands in victory  
sin's curse has lost its grip on me,  
for I am His and He is mine  
bought with the precious blood of Christ  
No guilt in life, no fear in death,  
this is the power of Christ in me  
from life's first cry to final breath,  
Jesus commands my destiny  
no power of hell, no scheme of man,  
can ever pluck me from His hand  
till He returns or calls me home  
here in the power of Christ I'll stand.

Words: Keith Getty / Stuart Townend  
Tune: In Christ Alone

PROFESSION OF FAITH

The Archbishop of Canterbury:

Each year at Easter, many Christians affirm the faith expressed at baptism. I invite all of you to join with us if you are able.

Do you believe and trust in God the Father?

Caroline and members of the family join in:

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

The Archbishop:

Do you believe and trust in his Son Jesus Christ?

All 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.
**The Archbishop:**
Do you believe and trust in the Holy Spirit?

**All**
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.

**INTERCESSIONS**
*Led by Theodore Levings*

Lord our God be with us today as we pray together in an unusual way.

Dear almighty Father we pray for your church and for all congregations around the world who are praising you this Easter day with songs of worship and whispers alike. We praise your name and we thank you that you raised Jesus from dead, the best gift we could be given. We thank you for our Archbishop Justin Welby and the Bishops and for our Vicars and Churchwardens who help us in our journey as Christians. Help them to make the right decisions so we always do as you want. May our leaders of the world do what you want them to do. Thank you for the Queen and all she does and help her to understand what God wants her to do. May you help us all through the Holy Spirit.

Lord our God, our almighty father, thank you for bringing us together in each of our communities. Thank you for making each of us different, for showing us how to get along. Help us to be with our neighbours who aren’t just people who live next door but the entire world. Shine on us as we praise your name of names.

Lord you help us through the darkness, but some are still sick and frightened. In your kingdom death and coronavirus doesn’t exist, but we still have problems in our world. Be with everyone who is sick. Support and protect everyone who is working to care for them. Help everyone who is anxious to have hope in you. Help your kingdom to come, when death and fear will be no more. Please look after every person and animal from small to big. O God we were blind and now can see, we were sick and then we were well, remind us this special day, and every day of the great things you that have done for us through your son Jesus. Shine on us for ever as we listen to you.

**Merciful father, accept these prayers for the sake of your son, our saviour Jesus Christ.**

Amen.
**KYRIE CONFESSION**

*The Archbishop*

As we gather I invite you now to join with me in the confession and acknowledgement of our sins and our commitment to turn from them.

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.

*At the Absolution the Archbishop says:*

Almighty God,  
who in Jesus Christ has given us  
a kingdom that cannot be destroyed,  
forgive you your sins.  
open your eyes to God’s truth,  
strengthen you to do God’s will  
and give you the joy of his kingdom,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*All*  
Amen.

**THE PEACE**

*The Archbishop 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. Alleluia.

The peace of the risen Christ be always with you.

*All*  
and also with you. Alleluia.
SONG
This is Amazing Grace
Specially recorded by Geraldine Latty and Carey Luce

Who breaks the power of sin and darkness
whose love is mighty and so much stronger
the King of Glory, the King above all kings

Who shakes the whole earth with holy thunder
and leaves us breathless in awe and wonder
the King of Glory, the King above all kings

This is amazing grace
this is unfailing love
that you would take my place
that you would bear my cross
you lay down your life
that I would be set free
oh, Jesus, I sing for
all that you’ve done for me

Who brings our chaos back into order
who makes the orphan a son and daughter
the King of Glory

Who rules the nations with truth and justice
shines like the sun in all of its brilliance
the King of Glory, the King above all kings

Worthy is the Lamb who was slain
worthy is the King who conquered the grave
worthy is the Lamb who was slain
worthy, worthy

Worthy is the Lamb who was slain
worthy is the King who conquered the grave
worthy, worthy, worthy, worthy

We’ve no less days to sing your praise
Jesus I sing for
all that you’ve done for me.

Words: Jeremy Riddle / Josh Farro / Phil Wickham
Tune: This is Amazing Grace
At the preparation of the table this prayer may be said:

Lord of life,
with unbounded joy we offer you our sacrifice of praise.
As we are fed with the bread of heaven
may we know your resurrection power;
through Christ our risen Lord.
All  Amen.

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

The Archbishop

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:

SANCTUS

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 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.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus:

ALL Dying you destroyed our death, rising you restored our life: Lord Jesus, come in glory.

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 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

And so we join together in the prayer Christ himself gave us, each in our own preferred language...

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.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The Archbishop breaks the consecrated bread.

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

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

GIVING OF COMMUNION

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

All Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

THE SPIRITUAL COMMUNION PRAYER

The spiritual communion prayer is said whilst communion is received

Thanks be to you, Lord Jesus Christ, for all the benefits you have given me, for all the pains and insults you have borne for me. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, I ask you to come spiritually into my heart. O most merciful redeemer, friend and brother, may I know you more clearly, love you more dearly, and follow you more nearly, day by day. Amen.
COMMUNION HYMN
“Now the green blade riseth”

Now the green blade riseth, from the buried grain,
wheat that in dark earth many days has lain;
love lives again, that with the dead has been:
love is come again, like wheat that springeth green.

In the grave they laid him, love whom men had slain,
thinking that never he would wake again,
laid in the earth like grain that sleeps unseen:
love is come again, like wheat that springeth green.

Forth he came at Easter, like the risen grain,
He that for three days in the grave had lain;
quick from the dead my risen Lord is seen:
love is come again, like wheat that springeth green.

When our hearts are wintry, grieving, or in pain,
thy touch can call us back to life again,
fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been:
love is come again, like wheat that springeth green.

Words: J. M. C. Crum (1872–1958)
Tune: Noel Nouvelet

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION
Silence is kept.
Archbishop of Canterbury prays:

God of Life,
who for our redemption gave your only-begotten Son
to the death of the cross,
and by his glorious resurrection
have delivered us from the power of our enemy:
grant us so to die daily to sin,
that we may evermore live in him in the joy of his risen life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.
BLESSING
The Archbishop

God the Father,
by whose love Christ was raised from the dead,
open to you who believe the gates of everlasting life.
Amen.

God the Son,
who in bursting from the grave has won a glorious victory,
give you joy as you share the Easter faith.
Amen.

God the Holy Spirit,
who filled the disciples with the life of the risen Lord,
empower you and fill you with Christ’s peace.
Amen.

And the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be amongst you and with you and all those whom you love and care for
now and always.
All Amen.

DISMISSAL
The Bishop of Dover says:

We are raised to new life in Christ.
Go in the peace of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.
All Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

HYMN
“Thine be the Glory”
A special recording based on contributions from BBC Radio 4 listeners

Thine be the glory,
Risen, conquering Son,
Endless is the victory
Thou o’er death hast won;
Angels in bright raiment
Rolled the stone away,
Kept the folded grave-clothes
Where thy body lay.
Thine be the glory,
Risen, conquering Son;
Endless is the victory
Thou o’er death hast won!
No more we doubt thee,
Glorious Prince of Life;
Life is nought without thee:
Aid us in our strife;
Make us more than conquerors
Through thy deathless love;
Bring us safe through Jordan
To thy home above:
Thine be the glory,
Risen, conquering Son;
Endless is the victory
Thou o’er death hast won!

Words: Edmond Budry (1854-1952) translated Richard Hoyle (1875-1939)
Tune: Maccabaeus

Copyright © The Archbishops’ Council of the Church of England

Material from Common Worship and New Patterns for Worship reproduced here with permission is copyright © The Archbishops’ Council 2000, 2004 and published by Church House Publishing.

Texts of copyright hymns and songs are reproduced under the terms of CCL licence 1363240 and MRL licence 1363257, Calamus Licence number 10445, or One License 733232-A. Thine be the glory courtesy of the BBC © 2020 BBC.

With thanks to Andrew Earis, St Martin’s Voices, the Will Todd Ensemble, Gerladine Latty and Carey Luce for the music recorded for this service.