

# A Service of the Word

## Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2026 • The Fifth Sunday of Easter

### Introduction, Greeting

In the name of the Father...

The Lord be with you:

Alleluia! Christ is risen

We have come together as the family of God...

Here are words you may trust. Remember Jesus Christ, risen from the dead:

**All: and also with you.**

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

**All: he is our salvation, our eternal glory.**

**All: if we endure, we shall reign with him.**

**All: if we are faithless, he keeps faith.**

**All: and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel.**

If we die with him, we shall live with him;

If we deny him, he will deny us;

For he has broken the power of death

### 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.**

### Hymn 678

1. 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.
2. In Christ alone! – who took on flesh,  
fullness of God in helpless babe!  
This gift of love and righteousness,  
scorned by the ones he came to save:  
till on that cross as Jesus died,  
the wrath of God was satisfied –  
for every sin on him was laid;  
here in the death of Christ I live.
3. 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.
4. 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!

### Confession

Lord, have mercy

Christ, have mercy

Lord, have mercy

**All: Lord, have mercy**

**All: Christ, have mercy**

**All: Lord, have mercy.**

### Absolution

#### Peruvian Gloria (words may vary)

Glory to God, glory to God, glory to the Father.

To God be glory for ever!

Alleluia, amen.

*Repeat with: Glory to God, glory to God, Son of the Father.*

*Repeat with: Glory to God, glory to God, glory to the Spirit.*

**All: Glory to God, glory to God, glory to the Father.**

**All: To God be glory for ever!**

**All: Alleluia, amen. Alleluia, amen. Alleluia, amen.**

### Collect for The Fifth Sunday of Easter

#### A reading from the acts of the apostles

This is the word of the Lord

**All: Thanks be to God**

*Acts 7. 55-end*

#### Psalm 31. 1-5, 15-16

**Refrain: Into your hands I commend my spirit.**

#### A reading from the first letter of Peter

This is the word of the Lord

**All: Thanks be to God**

*1 Peter 2. 2-10*

### Hymn 828

1. Ye that know the Lord is gracious, ye for whom a corner-stone  
stands, of God elect and precious, laid that ye may build thereon,  
see that on that sure foundation ye a living temple raise,  
towers that may tell forth salvation, walls that may re-echo praise.
2. Living stones, by God appointed each to his allotted place,  
kings and priests, by God anointed, shall ye not declare his grace?  
Ye, a royal generation, tell the tidings of your birth,  
tidings of a new creation to an old and weary earth.
3. Tell the praise of him who called you out of darkness into light,  
broke the fetters that enthralled you, gave you freedom, peace and sight:  
tell the tale of sins forgiven, strength renewed and hope restored,  
till the earth, in tune with heaven, praise and magnify the Lord.

## Gospel Reading *please stand*

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John  
*After ...* This is the Gospel of the Lord.

John 14. 1-14

**All: Glory to you, O Lord.**

**All: Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Choir Anthem for meditation** *Magdalen, cease from sobs and sighs (Hurford)*

**Homily** *The Vicar*

## Affirmation of faith

Let us declare our faith in the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures; he was buried; he was raised to life on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures; afterwards he appeared to his followers, and to all the apostles: this we have received, and this we believe. Amen.** *(cf 1 Corinthians 15. 3-7)*

**Prayers using the response:**

Jesus, our way and our truth: **give us your life.**

## Prayerful Hymn 807

1. Thine for ever! God of love,  
hear us from thy throne above;  
thine for ever may we be  
here and in eternity.
2. Thine for ever! Lord of life,  
shield us through our earthly strife;  
thou the Life, the Truth, the Way,  
guide us to the realms of day.
3. Thine for ever! O how blest  
they who find in thee their rest!  
Saviour, guardian, heavenly friend,  
O defend us to the end.
4. Thine for ever! Shepherd, keep  
us thy frail and trembling sheep;  
safe alone beneath thy care,  
let us all thy goodness share.
5. Thine for ever! Thou our guide,  
all our wants by thee supplied,  
all our sins by thee forgiven,  
lead us, Lord, from earth to heaven.

## The Lord's Prayer

## Notices and Banns of Marriage

## Peace

## Hymn 809

1. Thou art the Way: by thee alone  
from sin and death we flee;  
and they who would the Father seek  
must seek him, Lord, by thee.
2. Thou art the Truth: thy word alone  
true wisdom can impart;  
thou only canst inform the mind  
and purify the heart.
3. Thou art the Life: the rending tomb  
proclaims thy conquering arm;  
and those who put their trust in thee  
nor death nor hell shall harm.
4. Thou art the Way, the Truth, the Life:  
grant us that Way to know,  
that Truth to keep, that Life to win,  
whose joys eternal flow.

## Blessing

## Acclamation

Alleluia. Christ is risen.  
Praise the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

God has claimed us as his own.

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

**He is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

**He has given us new life and hope. He has raised Jesus from the dead.**

**He has brought us out of darkness. He has made us light to the world.**

**He is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

## Dismissal

Go in the peace of Christ. Alleluia, Alleluia!!

**All: Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia!!**

## Closing Music

*No Collection is taken, please donate by Text or leave a gift (in a completed gift aid envelope if you are able to do so) in the Offertory Plates or by contactless card giving as you leave. Thank you. We are encouraging supporters of the church to give by Bank Transfer to support our work. Details are on our website at [www.saintmichaelweb.org.uk](http://www.saintmichaelweb.org.uk) or contact the Parish Office at [church@saintmichaelweb.org.uk](mailto:church@saintmichaelweb.org.uk)*

*Thank you for joining this service, whether by Zoom or in person.*