## Sunday 14 April 2024 Easter 2

# Opening Hymn 687 Come let us praise

### Come, let us praise the Lord, with joy our God acclaim,

### his greatness tell abroad and bless his saving Name.

### Lift high your songs before his throne

### to whom alone all praise belongs.

### 2 Our God of matchless worth, our King beyond compare,

### the deepest bounds of earth, the hills, are in his care.

### He all decrees, who by his hand

### prepared the land and formed the seas.

### 3 In worship bow the knee, our glorious God confess;

### the great Creator, he, the Lord our Righteousness.

### He reigns unseen: his flock he feeds

### and gently leads in pastures green.

### 4 Come, hear his voice today, receive what love imparts;

### his holy will obey and harden not your hearts.

### His ways are best; and lead at last,

### all troubles past, to perfect rest.

### The Greeting

### The Lord be with you **and also with you**

### O Lord, open our lips **and our mouth will proclaim your praise**.

### Let us worship the Lord. **All praise to his name.**

### Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.**Blessed be God for ever.**

# Penitence

### Father, forgive us: **save us and help us**

# Hearing God’s word

### Let us hear the word of the Lord.

#### So may the light of your presence shine into our hearts.

# 1 John 3.1–7

### See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are! The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Dear friends, now we are children of God, and what we will be has not yet been made known. But we know that when Christ appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is. All who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure. Everyone who sins breaks the law; in fact, sin is lawlessness. But you know that he appeared so that he might take away our sins. And in him is no sin. No one who lives in him keeps on sinning. No one who continues to sin has either seen him or known him. Dear children, do not let anyone lead you astray. The one who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

### This is the Word of the Lord **Thanks be to God**

# Children’s Spot

# Song 213 Jesus’ hands were kind hands

### Jesus’ hands were kind hands, doing good to all,

### healing pain and sickness,  blessing children small;

### washing weary feet, and saving those who fall;

### Jesus’ hands were kind hands, doing good to all.

### 2 Take my hands, Lord Jesus,  let them work for you,

### make them strong and gentle, kind in all I do;

### let me watch you, Jesus, till I’m gentle too,

### till my hands are kind hands, quick to work for you

# Psalm 4

### Answer me when I call to you,

### my righteous God.

#### Give me relief from my distress;

#### have mercy on me and

#### hear my prayer.

### How long will you people turn

### my glory into shame?

#### How long will you love delusions

#### and seek false gods?

### Know that the LORD has set apart

### his faithful servant for himself;

#### the LORD hears

#### when I call to him.

### Tremble and do not sin;

#### when you are on your beds,

#### search your hearts and be silent.

#### Offer the sacrifices

of the righteous

#### and trust in the LORD.

### Many, LORD, are asking,

### ‘Who will bring us prosperity?’

#### Let the light of your face

#### shine on us.

### Fill my heart with joy when their

### grain and new wine abound.

#### In peace I will lie down and sleep,

#### for you alone, LORD,

#### make me dwell in safety.

### Glory to the Father, and to the Son,

### and to the Holy Spirit;•

#### as it was in the beginning,

#### is now, and shall be for ever. Amen.

# John 4:45–54 please be seated

### When Jesus arrived in Galilee, the Galileans welcomed him. They had seen all that he had done in Jerusalem at the Passover Festival, for they also had been there. Once more he visited Cana in Galilee, where he had turned the water into wine. And there was a certain royal official whose son lay ill at Capernaum. When this man heard that Jesus had arrived in Galilee from Judea, he went to him and begged him to come and heal his son, who was close to death. ‘Unless you people see signs and wonders,’ Jesus told him, ‘you will never believe.’ The royal official said, ‘Sir, come down before my child dies.’ ‘Go,’ Jesus replied, ‘your son will live.’ The man took Jesus at his word and departed. While he was still on the way, his servants met him with the news that his boy was living. When he enquired as to the time when his son got better, they said to him, ‘Yesterday, at one in the afternoon, the fever left him.’ Then the father realised that this was the exact time at which Jesus had said to him, ‘Your son will live.’ So he and his whole household believed. This was the second sign Jesus performed after coming from Judea to Galilee.

### This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God**

# Thanks & Praise 134 Speak, O Lord

### 1 Speak, O Lord, as we come to you

### to receive the food of your holy word.

### Take your truth, plant it deep in us;

### shape and fashion us in your likeness,

### that the light of Christ might be seen today

### in our acts of love and our deeds of faith.

### Speak, O Lord, and fulfil in us

### All your purposes, for your glory.

### 2 Teach us, Lord, full obedience,

### holy reverence, true humility.

### Test our thoughts and our attitudes

### in the radiance of your purity.

### Cause our faith to rise, cause our eyes to see,

### your majestic love and authority.

### Words of power that can never fail;

### let their truth prevail over unbelief.

### 3 Speak, O Lord, and renew our minds;

### Help us grasp the heights of your plans for us.

### Truths unchanged from the dawn of time,

### that will echo down through eternity.

### And by grace we’ll stand on your promises;

### and by faith we’ll walk as you walk with us.

### Speak, O Lord, ’til your church is built

### and the earth is filled with Your glory.

# The Sermon

# Hymn 103 O Christ the same

### 1 O Christ the same, through all our story’s pages

### Our loves and hopes, our failures and our fears

### Eternal Lord, the King of all the ages

### Unchanging still, amid the passing years

### O living Word, the source of all creation

### Who spread the skies, and set the stars ablaze

### O Christ the same, who wrought our whole salvation

### We bring our thanks for all our yesterdays

### 2 O Christ the same, the friend of sinners, sharing

### Our inmost thoughts, the secrets none can hide

### Still as of old upon Your body bearing

### The marks of love, in triumph glorified

### O Son of Man, who stooped for us from heaven

### O Prince of life, in all Your saving power

### O Christ the same, to whom our hearts are given

### We bring our thanks for this the present hour

### 3 O Christ the same, secure within whose keeping

### Our lives and loves, our days and years remain

### Our work and rest, our waking and our sleeping

### Our calm and storm, our pleasure and our pain

### O Lord of love, for all our joys and sorrows

### For all our hopes, when earth shall fade and flee

### O Christ the same, beyond our brief tomorrows

### We bring our thanks for all that is to be

# Declaring Faith affirming our belief

#### I believe in God,

#### the Father almighty,

#### creator of heaven and earth.

#### I believe in Jesus Christ,

#### God’s 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 again 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.

# Praying Together Intercessions

### Let us pray to the Lord

#### Lord, have mercy.

# Closing Hymn 92 How sweet the sound!

### How sweet the name of Jesus sounds in a believer’s ear!

### It soothes our sorrows, heals our wounds, and drives away our fear.

### 2 It makes the wounded spirit whole, and calms the troubled breast;

### ’tis manna to the hungry soul,

### and to the weary rest.

### 3 Dear Name! the rock on which I build my shield and hiding-place,

### my never-failing treasury, filled

### with boundless stores of grace.

### 4 Jesus, my saviour, shepherd, friend, my prophet, priest, and king,

### my lord, my life, my way, my end,

### accept the praise I bring.

### 5 Weak is the effort of my heart,

### and cold my warmest thought;

### but when I see thee as thou art,

### I'll praise thee as I ought.

### 6 Till then I would thy love proclaim with every fleeting breath;

### and may the music of thy Name

### refresh my soul in death.

# Dismissal

### We go into the world to walk in God’s light,

#### to rejoice in God’s love & to reflect God’s glory.