

**St Andrew's Church,
Rugby**

Common Worship



Services and Prayers for the Church of England

***The Liturgy of Palm Sunday
29th March 2026***

10.30am Worship All Together

Livestreamed: [twitch.tv/standrewrugby](https://www.twitch.tv/standrewrugby)

President: The Rev'd James Sampson-Foster

Deacon: The Rev'd Canon Edmund Newey

Holy Week and its Liturgy

The services of Holy Week are unlike anything else in the Church year. They come from a very early time in Christian history and were already established to a large extent by the mid-4th century in Jerusalem, where the saving events were commemorated in the places where they were believed to have happened. As Jerusalem became a centre for pilgrimage, so these services spread throughout the Christian world.

During this week we come very close to the heart of our faith: we commemorate the events surrounding the death and resurrection of Jesus of Nazareth. As we do so we, the present day members of his body, the Church, become contemporaries with Christ in his passion. We bring the past into our present, and, as the new creation is ushered in by the death and resurrection of God's Son, so we are renewed in our Christian discipleship and brought with Christ again from death to new life.

There are services marking each day in Holy Week, of course, but Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter are the major days, when it is hoped that the whole Christian community will assemble.

Palm Sunday

On this day we commemorate Christ's entry into Jerusalem to accomplish his saving work by dying and rising again. The liturgy has two distinctive features:

The *Procession of Palms* starts the service and (literally) sets the week in motion. It is an act of praise to Christ the King, who reigns and triumphs on the cross. It expresses our own readiness to take up our cross and follow our crucified and risen Lord, as we go with him to the place of suffering and death.

The extended *Reading of the Passion* provides the opportunity, at the start of Holy Week, for an overview of the great drama of our salvation.

Maundy Thursday

The word *maundy* comes from the Latin *mandatum novum* ("new commandment") and one focus of the evening liturgy is Christ's new commandment of love: 'A new commandment I give you - love one another as I have loved you'. The Gospel reading is John's account of the Last Supper, where that love is expressed through humble service as Jesus washes the feet of his disciples. We re-enact the foot-washing as a sign of our commitment to the practical love and mutual care which should characterise our life as a community.

Christ's self-giving was also expressed at the supper by the institution of the Eucharist. Jesus, by re-interpreting the ritual of the Jewish Passover, offers his disciples the key to the meaning of his own passion. Jesus himself is the Lamb of God, the Passover lamb, whose sacrificial death will seal the new covenant God is making with his people. In this sacrament he places himself for ever at the service of the Church.

At the end of the service the Blessed Sacrament is carried to the altar of repose in the Lady Chapel and a watch of silent prayer is kept until 10pm. Here in imagination we wait with Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane as he commits himself again in obedience to the Father: *not my will, but yours.*

Good Friday

This is not a day of mourning for a dead Jesus, but a time when we can stand beside Jesus in his suffering. Jesus hung on the cross from the *sixth hour* to the *ninth hour*, that is from noon until around 3 o'clock, and those three hours are the traditional time for prayer and worship.

By ancient tradition the Eucharist is not celebrated on this day. However, the *reserved sacrament*, the consecrated bread from last night's Eucharist is distributed to the people at the Good Friday liturgy, beginning at 2pm. At the end of the service all leave in silence.

Easter Eve

The Easter liturgy marks the first day of a new creation, which extends into a season of fifty days of joyful celebration of the resurrection of Jesus. This season ends at Pentecost when we celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit to the first disciples and to us.

The darkness in our world surrenders to the rising Son of God! This is the most important moment in the whole of the Church year. It is the night of Passover, when Christ passed from death to the glory of the resurrection. We celebrate our own passing over from sin and death to newness of life in the risen Lord. The Church meets in the late evening, watching and waiting. The service is in three parts:

The *Service of Light*, during which the Easter candle is lit and carried in procession into the darkened church. The people follow and light their own candles for the Easter Proclamation.

The *Liturgy of the Word* follows, and the history of God's people in the Old Testament is proclaimed in a series of readings and psalms. This section of the service ends with '*Glory to God in the highest*' and the Easter Gospel.

The *Renewal of Baptismal Vows* enables the whole community to affirm its commitment to the Easter faith and Christian discipleship and service.

Easter Day – and beyond!

The miracle of the resurrection lies not only in the triumph of Jesus over death, but also in the experience of the Christian community, whose members were dead and have risen with Christ in baptism.

Commemoration of the Lord's Entry into Jerusalem

Clergy and congregation meet in St Andrew's Gardens and in church

The Lord be with you

All And also with you

Grace, mercy and peace
from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ
be with you

All and also with you.

Dear friends in Christ, during Lent we have been preparing by works of love and self-sacrifice for the celebration of our Lord's death and resurrection. Today we come together to begin this solemn celebration in union with the Church throughout the world. Christ enters his own city to complete his work as our Saviour, to suffer, to die, and to rise again. Let us go with him in faith and love, so that, united with him in his sufferings, we may share his risen life.

The people hold up their palms or branches

God our Saviour, whose Son Jesus Christ entered Jerusalem as Messiah to suffer and to die; let these palms be for us signs of his victory and grant that we who bear them in his name may ever hail him as our King, and follow him in the way that leads to eternal life; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

All Amen.

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

All Glory to you, O Lord.

When Jesus had come near Bethphage and Bethany, at the place called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of the disciples, saying, 'Go into the village ahead of you, and as you enter it you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden. Untie it and bring it here. If anyone asks you, "Why are you untying it?" just say this: "The Lord needs it." ' So those who were sent departed and found it as he had told them. As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, 'Why are you untying the colt?' They said, 'The Lord needs it.' Then they brought it to Jesus; and after throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. As he rode along, people kept spreading their cloaks on the road. As he was now approaching the path down from the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to praise God joyfully with a loud voice for all the deeds of power that they had seen, saying,

'Blessed is the king

who comes in the name of the Lord!

Peace in heaven,

and glory in the highest heaven!'

Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, 'Teacher, order your disciples to stop.' He answered, 'I tell you, if these were silent, the stones would shout out.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All Praise to you, O Christ.

Let us go forth, praising the Messiah.

The Procession moves towards St Andrew's Church as we sing:

Hymn 159

*All glory, laud and honour,
To thee, Redeemer, King,
To whom the lips of children
Made sweet hosannas ring.*

**Thou art the King of Israel,
Thou David's Royal Son,
Who in the Lord's name comest,
The King and blessed One.**

**The company of angels
Are praising thee on high;
And mortal men, and all things
Created, make reply.**

**The people of the Hebrews
With palms before Thee went;
Our praise and prayer and anthems
Before Thee we present.**

**To Thee, before Thy Passion,
They sang their hymns of praise:
To Thee, now high exalted,
Our melody we raise.**

**Thou didst accept their praises;
Accept the prayers we bring,
Who in all good delightest,
Thou good and gracious King.**

Invitation to confession

Let us call to mind our sin, our failure to value the love of others and our failure to love as Christ has loved us.

**All Father eternal, giver of light and grace,
we have sinned against you and against our neighbour,
in what we have thought and done,
through ignorance, through weakness,
through our own deliberate fault.
We have wounded your love,
and marred your image in us.
We are sorry and ashamed,
and repent of all our sins.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
who died for us,
forgive us all that is past;
and lead us out from darkness
to walk as children of light. Amen**

We sing together

Kyrie Eleison

Voice

The musical score is written for voice in a single system with four staves. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one flat (B-flat), and a time signature of 9/8. The lyrics 'Ky ri - e e - le - i - son. Ky ri - e' are written below the notes. The second staff continues the melody with lyrics 'e - le - i - son. Chri - ste e - le - i - son. Chri - ste'. The third staff has lyrics 'e - le - i - son. Ky ri - e e - le - i - son.' and the fourth staff concludes with 'Ky - ri - e. Ky ri - e e - le - i - son.' The score includes various time signatures such as 4/4, 9/8, and 2/4, and rests of 8 and 16 measures.

Ky ri - e e - le - i - son. Ky ri - e

e - le - i - son. Chri - ste e - le - i - son. Chri - ste

e - le - i - son. Ky ri - e e - le - i - son.

Ky - ri - e. Ky ri - e e - le - i - son.

The president says

Almighty God, our Heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all them that with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him, have mercy upon you; pardon and deliver you from all your sins; confirm and strengthen you in all goodness; and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen

The Collect

Let us pray

Almighty and everlasting God,
who in your tender love towards the human race
sent your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ
to take upon him our flesh
and to suffer death upon the cross:
grant that we may follow the example of his patience and
humility,
and also be made partakers of his resurrection;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

All Amen.

The Liturgy of the Word

Please sit

A dramatisation of The Passion according to Matthew

Overture

Act I - Betrayal to Darkness

Scene 1 The plot against Jesus

Scene 2 The Last Supper

**Hymn 455 My God, and is thy table spread,
And doth thy cup with love o'erflow?
Thither be all thy children led,
And let them all thy sweetness know.**

**Hail, sacred feast which Jesus makes,
Rich banquet of his flesh and blood!
Thrice happy he who here partakes
That sacred stream, that heavenly food.**

Scene 3 Jesus predicts Peter's denial

Scene 4 Gethsemane

Scene 5 Arrest

Music followed by silent prayer

Act 2 - Trial

Scene 1 Jesus before the High Priest

Scene 2 Peter disowns Jesus

Scene 3 Judas hangs himself

Scene 4 Jesus before Pilate

Scene 5 The soldiers mock Jesus

Music followed by silent prayer

Act 3 - Crucifixion

- Scene 1 Crucifixion
Scene 2 The death of Jesus
Scene 3 The burial of Jesus

Music

- Scene 4 The guard at the tomb

Silent prayer

Healing prayer: George W, Luci & Sophie, Gillian M, Caroline, Lily, Denise, Mary S, Mary G, Cheryl W, David, S.M, Faith F, Jane B, William B, Rosemary & John K, Sue P, Carol S, Elizabeth I, Patricia T, David P

In Memoriam: Irene Watts

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

Please stand

The Peace

Once we were far off,
but now in union with Christ Jesus
we have been brought near,
through the shedding of Christ's blood,
for he is our peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you

All And also with you

Deacon Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

We share the peace with those around us by saying 'peace be with you'

Offertory Hymn 147 My song is love unknown

This link will allow you to give to St Andrew's online:



Please remain standing

The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you R. and al-so with you.
Lift up your hearts. R. **We** lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
R. **It is right to give thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right and just,
our duty and our salvation,
always and everywhere to give you thanks,
holy Father, almighty and eternal God,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
For as the time of his passion and resurrection draws near
the whole world is called to acknowledge his hidden majesty.
The power of the life-giving cross
reveals the judgement that has come upon the world
and the triumph of Christ crucified.
He is the victim who dies no more,
the Lamb once slain, who lives for ever,
our advocate in heaven to plead our cause,
exalting us there to join with angels and archangels,
for ever praising you and singing:

Sanctus and Benedictus

We sing together

Musical score for 'We sing together'. The score is written on three staves of music. The first staff has a treble clef and a 3/4 time signature. The second staff has a treble clef and a 9/8 time signature. The third staff has a treble clef and a 6/8 time signature. The lyrics are written below the notes.

Sanc- tus__ Sanc- tus__ Sanc-tus Do-mi-nus De-us Sa-ba-oth.
Ple - ni sunt cae - li et ter - ra glo - ri - a tu - a Ho - san - na in ex - cel - sis.
Be-ne-dic-tus qui ve-nit in nom-i - ne Do-mi-ni. Ho - san - na in ex - cel__ sis.

Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness;
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit,
and according to your holy will,
these gifts of bread and wine
may be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ;
who, in the same night that he was betrayed,
took bread and gave you thanks;
he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

The sanctuary bell is rung

In the same way, after supper
he took the cup and gave you thanks;
he gave it to them, saying:
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.

The sanctuary bell is rung. The Deacon says

Jesus Christ is Lord

**All Lord, by your cross and resurrection
you have set us free.
You are the Saviour of the world.**

And so, Father, calling to mind his death on the cross,
his perfect sacrifice made once for the sins of the whole
world;
rejoicing in his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension,
and looking for his coming in glory,
we celebrate this memorial of our redemption.
As we offer you this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving,
we bring before you this bread and this cup
and we thank you for counting us worthy
to stand in your presence and serve you.
Send the Holy Spirit on your people
and gather into one in your kingdom
all who share this one bread and one cup,
so that we, in the company Blessed Virgin Mary,
St Andrew and all the saints,
may praise and glorify you for ever,
through Jesus Christ our Lord;
by whom, and with whom, and in whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father,
for ever and ever.

All Amen.

The Sanctuary bell is rung, please sit or kneel

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray

**All 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 president 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.**

Invitation to Communion

God's holy gifts
for God's holy people.

**All Jesus Christ is holy,
Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.**

Agnus Dei (The Lamb of God)

We sing together

Ag-nus De - i, qui tol-lis pec-ca - ta mun-di:
 mi - se - re - re no - bis. Ag-nus De - i, qui tol-lis pec-ca - ta mun-di:
 mi - se - re - re no - bis. Ag - nus De - i,
 qui tol - lis pec - ca - ta mun - di: do - na no - bis pa - cem.

Communion Hymn 153: There is a green hill far away

Communion Anthem *sung by the choir*

Is it nothing to you Ouseley

Post Communion Prayers

Lord Jesus Christ,
 you humbled yourself in taking the form of a servant,
 and in obedience died on the cross for our salvation:
 give us the mind to follow you
 and to proclaim you as Lord and King,
 to the glory of God the Father.

All Amen

All Faithful God,
may we who share this banquet
glory in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ,
our salvation, life and hope,
who reigns as Lord now and for ever. Amen.

Hymn 156: We sing the praise of him who died

During the hymn the Ministers process to the West End of Church.

Blessing and Final Responory

Christ crucified draw you to himself,
to find in him a sure ground for faith,
a firm support for hope,
and the assurance of sins forgiven;
and the blessing of God Almighty,
the Father, the Son and Holy Spirit
be among you and remain with you always.

All Amen

The Deacon says

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**All In the name of Christ
Amen.**

Organ Voluntary

News and Notices

Any item to be included in News & Notices should be with Kate by Wednesday, 12noon.

Electoral Roll If you a regular at any of our services we would love to have you on the Electoral Roll, our contact list of worshippers at St Andrew's. Please speak to Pat, Joyce or Hash

Easter Lilies If you would like to make a donation to help with the cost of the Easter lilies, maybe in memory of a loved one, please leave with the wardens or the office. If you are able to gift aid, please complete your details on a yellow envelope and mark as Easter flowers.

Bereavement Point 2pm - 3.30pm on the 1st & 3rd Tuesday of the month (plus the 5th if there is one!). Opportunity for group conversation and relationship building where everyone is welcome and comfort is offered <https://compassionaterugby.co.uk/>

The St Andrew's 100 Club The 11th draw took place on Sunday 1st March with the winning tickets being 101 - Eloise Khumalo, 104 - Tiago Ferreria and Joyce Woodings. It is still not too late to support the work of St Andrew's, why not consider joining for next year 2026 / 27, Renewal and Application Forms are available NOW when you will have the opportunity to join the illustrious company of the thirty one winners to date. Good Luck to all ticket holders, future draws take place on the first Sunday of the month. Thank you for your support, John, Helen and Sonia.

St Andrew's church members are warmly invited to **May Blossom Farm** on Saturday 4 April 11:00am until 2:00pm to celebrate with us as the Rugby Mayor opens our new Sensory Garden. Free entry, with sandwiches and drinks provided, and family Easter activities. Please book a parking space here: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/grand-opening-of-the-may-blossom-farm-sensory-garden-tickets-1984380798386?aff=oddtcreator>

The Parish Magazine, Easter edition is now available at the back of church. Pick up your copy now for a suggested donation of 75p to help with the cost of printing and upkeep of the church.

English Mystics Livestream. All are welcome to the second in our series of livestreams on English Mystics. On Monday 30th March at 7.30pm in the Lady Chapel we will learn more about the great fourteenth century text, *The Cloud of Unknowing*.

Holy Week, beginning today, is a wonderful annual opportunity for us to journey together with Jesus, sharing with him in the events of his entry into Jerusalem (Palm Sunday,) his Last Supper (Maundy Thursday), his crucifixion (Good Friday) and his resurrection (Easter Day). You are warmly invited and encouraged to share in any or all of the services listed opposite.

There will be organ music on Good Friday starting from 11.45am ahead of the 12pm Reflection so that people can enter quietly and prepare.

Recycling Update On 24 March your contributions enabled a further bag of 3613 Milk Container Tops to be passed on to support funds for a school in Africa, meaning since the initiative started over five years ago some 20 bags containing 69265 Milk Container Tops have been sent for recycling and saved from going to landfill. Thank you for your support of this and our other recycling initiatives.

Diary for Holy Week, Easter Day and 6th - 12th April

Monday 30th March	9.00am 12noon 7.00pm 7.30pm	Morning Prayer Holy Week Midday Prayer Compline English Mystics Livestream: <i>The Cloud of Unknowing</i>
Tuesday 31st March	9.00am 9.30am 12noon 7.00pm	Morning Prayer Reflective Communion Holy Week Midday Prayer Compline
Wednesday 1st April	9.00am 10.30am 12noon 7.00pm	Morning Prayer Easter Children's Crafting Holy Week Midday Prayer Compline
Maundy Thursday 2nd April	9.00am 12noon 7.30pm	Morning Prayer Holy Week Midday Prayer Eucharist with foot washing and Vigil to 10pm
Good Friday 3rd April	9.00am 10.00am 12—2pm 3.00pm	Morning Prayer Walk of Witness from St Andrews to Rugby Baptist Church Good Friday Reflections Good Friday Liturgy

Diary for Holy Week, Easter Day and 6th - 12th April *(continued)*

Holy Saturday 4th April	8.30pm	Service of Light
Easter Day 5th April	8.00am 10.30am	BCP Holy Communion Festal Eucharist
Monday 6th April		Church Closed
Tuesday 7th April	9.00am 9.30am 1.00pm 2.00pm	Morning Prayer Reflective Communion Tuesday Lunchtime Concert Bereavement Point
Wednesday 8th April	9.00am 12.00pm 2.15pm	Morning Prayer Middy Communion Mothers' Union
Thursday 9th April	9.00am 10.00am 6.00pm	Morning Prayer Big Table Gospel Group Eucharist
Friday 10th April	9.00am	Morning Prayer
Saturday 11th April	10.30am	Second Saturday Songs
Sunday 12th April <i>1st Sunday after Easter</i>	8.00am 10.30am	BCP Holy Communion Sung Eucharist

Common Worship – Services and Prayers for the Church of England,
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