



Saint Matthew's Church
Big Lamp ~ Summerhill Street
Newcastle

**Solemn Evensong and Benediction for Low Sunday (12th April)
2026**

Joy to thee, O Queen of Heaven. Alleluia!
He whom thou wast meet to bear. Alleluia!
As He promised hath arisen. Alleluia!
Pour for us to God thy prayer. Alleluia!

Rejoice and be glad, O Virgin Mary, alleluia!
For the Lord is risen indeed, alleluia!

Let us pray:

O God, Who through the Resurrection of Thy Son, hath brought joy to the whole world; grant us with the Blessed Virgin Mary to attain to the joys of life eternal; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

O Lord, open thou our lips.
And our mouth shall shew forth thy praise.

O God, make speed to save us.

O Lord, make haste to help us.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end.
Amen.

Praise ye the Lord.

The Lord's Name be praised.

The Lamb's high banquet we await
In snow-white robes of royal state,
And now, the Red Sea's channel past,
To Christ our Prince we sing at last.

Upon the altar of the Cross
His Body has redeemed our loss,
And tasting of His precious Blood,
Our life is hid with Christ in God.

That Paschal eve God's arm was bared,
The devastating angel spared;
By strength of hand our hosts went free
From Pharaoh's ruthless tyranny.

Now Christ our Passover is slain,
The Lamb of God that knows no stain,
And He, the true unleavened Bread,
Is truly our oblation made.

O Thou from Whom Hell's monarch flies,
O great, O very Sacrifice,
Thy captive people are set free,
And endless life restored in Thee.

For Christ, arising from the dead,
From conquered Hell victorious sped,
He thrusts the tyrant down to chains,
And Paradise for man regains.

Maker of all, to Thee we pray,
Fulfil in us Thy joy today;
When death assails, grant, Lord,
that we May share Thy Paschal victory.

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To Thee Who, dead, again dost life,
All glory, Lord, Thy people give,
All glory to the Father be
And Spirit blest, eternally. Amen.

(81: 1 - 10) SING we merrily unto God our strength : make a cheerful noise unto the God of Jacob.

2 Take the psalm, bring hither the tabret : the merry harp with the lute.

3 Blow up the trumpet in the new-moon : even in the time appointed, and upon our solemn feast-day.

4 For this was made a statute for Israel : and a law of the God of Jacob.

5 This he ordained in Joseph for a testimony : when he came out of the land of Egypt, and had heard a strange language.

6 I eased his shoulder from the burden : and his hands were delivered from making the pots.

7 Thou calledst upon me in troubles, and I delivered thee : and heard thee what time as the storm fell upon thee.

8 I proved thee also : at the waters of strife.

9 Hear, O my people, and I will assure thee, O Israel : if thou wilt hearken unto me,

10 There shall no strange god be in thee : neither shalt thou worship any other god.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end.
Amen.

A Reading from the Book of the Exodus.

The LORD said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt, "This month shall be for you the beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year for you. Tell all the congregation of Israel that on the tenth day of this month they shall take every man a lamb according to their fathers' houses, a lamb for a household;

(continued over the page)

and if the household is too small for a lamb, then a man and his neighbour next to his house shall take according to the number of persons; according to what each can eat you shall make your count for the lamb. Your lamb shall be without blemish, a male a year old; you shall take it from the sheep or from the goats; and you shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month, when the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel shall kill their lambs in the evening. Then they shall take some of the blood, and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat them. They shall eat the flesh that night, roasted; with unleavened bread and bitter herbs they shall eat it. Do not eat any of it raw or boiled with water, but roasted, its head with its legs and its inner parts. And you shall let none of it remain until the morning, anything that remains until the morning you shall burn. In this manner you shall eat it: your loins girded, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand; and you shall eat it in haste. It is the LORD's Passover. For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will smite all the first-born in the land of Egypt, both man and beast; and on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments: I am the LORD. The blood shall be a sign for you, upon the houses where you are; and when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague shall fall upon you to destroy you, when I smite the land of Egypt. "This day shall be for you a memorial day, and you shall keep it as a feast to the LORD; throughout your generations you shall observe it as an ordinance for ever. Seven days you shall eat unleavened bread; on the first day you shall put away leaven out of your houses, for if any one eats what is leavened, from the first day until the seventh day, that person shall be cut off from Israel. On the first day you shall hold a holy assembly, and on the seventh day a holy assembly; no work shall be done on those days; but what every one must eat, that only may be prepared by you. And you shall observe the feast of unleavened bread, for on this very day I brought your hosts out of the land of Egypt: therefore you shall observe this day, throughout your generations, as an ordinance for ever.

Here endeth the first lesson.

The Lord is risen indeed: Alleluia, alleluia!

The Lord is risen indeed: Alleluia, alleluia!

And hath appeared to Simon:

Alleluia, alleluia!

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost:

The Lord is risen indeed: Alleluia, alleluia!

As the MAGNIFICAT is sung, the Presence of God (signified by the Altar) is honoured with incense.

After eight days when the doors were shut, the Lord entered and said unto them, Peace be with you, Alleluia, alleluia!

MY soul doth magnify the Lord : and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.

For he hath regarded : the lowliness of his hand-maiden.

For behold, from henceforth : all generations shall call me blessed.

For he that is mighty hath magnified me : and holy is his Name.

And his mercy is on them that fear him : throughout all generations.

He hath shewed strength with his arm : he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.

He hath put down the mighty from their seat : and hath exalted the humble and meek.

He hath filled the hungry with good things : and the rich he hath sent empty away.

He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel : as he promised to our forefathers, Abraham and his seed, for ever.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son : and to the Holy Ghost;

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be : world without end. Amen.

And when they looked, they saw that the stone was rolled away for it was very great. Alleluia!

A Reading from the former Letter of Saint Paul to the Church in Corinth.

Do you not know that a little leaven leavens the whole lump? Cleanse out the old leaven that you may be a new lump, as you really are unleavened. For Christ, our paschal lamb, has been sacrificed. Let us, therefore, celebrate the festival, not with the old leaven, the leaven of malice and evil, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.

Here endeth the second lesson.

LORD, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace : according to thy word.

For mine eyes have seen : thy salvation;

Which thou hast prepared : before the face of all people;

To be a light to lighten the Gentiles : and to be the glory of thy people Israel.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son : and to the Holy Ghost;

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be : world without end. Amen.

I BELIEVE in God

the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth: And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord, Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, Born of the Virgin Mary, Suffered under Pontius Pilate, Was crucified, dead, and buried: He descended into hell; The third day he rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, And sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; The holy Catholick Church; The Communion of Saints; The Forgiveness of sins;

The Resurrection of the body,

And the Life everlasting. Amen.

The Lord be with you.

And with thy spirit.

Let us pray.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

OUR Father,

which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy Name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, in earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; And forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive them that trespass against us;

And lead us not into temptation,

But deliver us from evil. Amen.

O Lord, shew thy mercy upon us.

And grant us thy salvation.

O Lord, save the King.

And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.

Endue thy Ministers with righteousness.

And make thy chosen people joyful.

O Lord, save thy people.

And bless thine inheritance.

Give peace in our time, O Lord.

Because there is none other that fighteth for us, but only thou, O God.

O God, make clean our hearts within us.

And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.

Almighty Father, Who has given Thine only Son to die for our sins, and to rise again for our justification: Grant us so to put away the leaven of malice and wickedness, that we may always serve Thee in pureness of living and Truth; through the merits of the same Thy Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, Who liveth and reigneth with Thee in the unity of the Holy Ghost, God, throughout all ages world without end.

Amen.

O GOD, from whom all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works do proceed: Give unto thy servants that peace which the world cannot give; that both our hearts may be set to obey thy commandments, and also that by thee we being defended from the fear of our enemies may pass our time in rest and quietness; through the merits of Jesus Christ our Saviour.

[Amen.](#)

LIGHTEN our darkness, we beseech thee, O Lord; and by thy great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of thy only Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

[Amen.](#)

The Lord be with you.

[And with thy spirit.](#)

Let us bless the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia!

[Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!](#)

May the souls of the departed, through the mercy and love of God, rest in peace.

[Amen.](#)

The Altar is prepared for Benediction during the hymn that precedes the Liturgy. A bell rings and the Sacrament is brought to the Altar.

Let all mortal flesh keep silence, and with fear and trembling stand;
Ponder nothing earthly-minded, for with blessings in His hand,
Christ our God to earth descendeth, our full homage to demand.

King of kings, yet born of Mary, as of old on earth He stood,
Lord of lords in human vesture – in the Body and the Blood –
He will give to all the faithful His own self for heavenly food.

Rank on rank the host of Heaven spreads its vanguard on the way,
As the Light of light descendeth from the realms of endless day,
That the powers of hell may vanish as the darkness clears away.

At His feet the six-winged Seraph; Cherubim with sleepless eye,
Veil their faces to the Presence, as with ceaseless voice they cry.
Alleluya, alleluya, alleluya, Lord most high.

Words: Liturgy of S James
Tr Gerard Moultrie 1829 - 85
Music: Picardy
French Carol prob C17
Found in Tiersot's Melodies 1887

The Presence of Christ in the Sacrament is honoured with incense as the following hymn is sung:

O salutaris Hostia,	<i>O saving Victim, opening wide</i>
Quae caeli pandis ostium:	<i>The gate of Heaven to man below,</i>
Bella premunt hostilia,	<i>Our foes press hard on every side,</i>
Da robur, fer auxilium.	<i>Thine aid supply, Thy strength bestow.</i>

Uni trinoque Domino	<i>All praise and thanks to Thee ascend</i>
Sit sempiterna gloria,	<i>For evermore, blest One in Three,</i>
Qui vitam sine termino	<i>And grant us life that shall not end,</i>
Nobis donet in patria.	<i>In our true native land with Thee.</i>
Amen.	<i>Amen.</i>

A Period of silence follows.

Visita, quæsumus, Dómine,	<i>Visit, we beseech Thee, O Lord,</i>
habitatiónem istam, et omnes	<i>this dwelling and drive far from it</i>
insídias inimíci ab ea longe	<i>all assaults of the enemy; let Your</i>
repélle: Angeli tui sancti hábitent	<i>holy angels dwell herein that we</i>
in ea, qui nos in pace custódiant;	<i>may be kept in peace and Your</i>
et benedíctio tua sit super nos	<i>blessing always rest upon us,</i>
semper. Per Dóminum nostrum	<i>through Jesus Christ our Lord.</i>
Jesum Christum.	<i>Amen.</i>
<i>Amen.</i>	

Benedictus Deus.	<i>Blessed be God.</i>
Benedictum Nomen Sanctum eius.	<i>Blessed be His holy Name. Blessed</i>
Benedictus Iesus Christus, verus	<i>be Jesus Christ, true God</i>
Deus et verus homo	<i>and true man.</i>
Benedictum Nomen Iesu	<i>Blessed be the Name of Jesus.</i>
Benedictus Iesus in sanctissimo	<i>Blessed be Jesus in the most holy</i>
altaris Sacramento	<i>Sacrament of the Altar.</i>
Benedictus Sanctus Spiritus,	<i>Blessed be the Holy Ghost, the</i>
Paraclitus	<i>Paraclete.</i>
Benedictus Deus in Angelis suis,	<i>Blessed be God in His angels and</i>
et in Sanctis suis	<i>in His saints.</i>

Sit Benedicatus laudatusque Blessed, praised, hallowed and
sanctificatusque et adoratus Jesus adored be Jesus Christ on His
Christus in cathedram gloriae throne of glory.
Suae.

Et in sanctissimo altaris And in the most holy Sacrament of
Sacramento the Altar.

The Presence of Christ is then honoured with incense again during the following hymn:

Tantum ergo Sacramentum *Therefore, we before Him bending,*
Veneremur cernui: *This great Sacrament revere;*
Et antiquum documentum *Types and shadows have their ending,*
Novo cedat ritui: *For the newer rite is here;*
Præstet fides supplementum *Faith our outward sense befriending*
Sensuum defectui. *Makes the inward vision clear.*

Genitori, Genitoque *Glory let us give and blessing,*
Laus et Jubilatio, *To the Father and the Son,*
Salus, honor, virtus quoque *Honour, might and praise addressing*
Sit et benedictio: *While eternal ages run;*
Procedenti ab utroque *Ever to His love confessing,*
Compar sit laudatio. *Who from Both with Both is One.*
Amen. *Amen.*

Panem do caelo praestitisti eis.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Omne delectamentum in se
habentem. Alleluia, alleluia!

*Thou gavest them Bread from
Heaven. Alleluia, alleluia!
Containing in Itself all sweetness.
Alleluia, alleluia!*

Oremus:

Let us pray:

Deus, qui nobis sub Sacramento mirabili Passionis, mortisque et Resurrectionis gloriosae tuae memoriam reliquisti; tribue, ita nos Corporis et Sanguinis tui sacra mysteria venerari, ut redemptionis tuae fructum in nobis iugiter sentiamus: Qui vivis et regnas in saecula saeculorum.
Amen.

*O God, Who under a wonderful Sacrament hast left unto us a memorial of Thy wonderful Passion and Death and glorious Resurrection; grant us so to venerate the Sacred Mysteries of Thy Body and Blood that evermore perceive within ourselves the fruit of Your Redemption: Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.
Amen.*

The priest goes to the Altar and gives Benediction, during which a bell rings three times. As the Sacrament is returned to the Tabernacle, all sing:

Adoremus in aeternum
sanctissimum Sacramentum.

*Let us adore for ever the most holy
Sacrament.*

Laudate Dominum omnes gentes :
laudate eum omnes populi.
Quoniam confirmata est super nos
misericordia ejus : et veritas
Domini manet in aeternum. Gloria
Patri et Filio : et Spiritui Sancto;
Sicut erat in principio, et nunc, et
semper : et in saecula saeculorum.
Amen.

*O praise the Lord all ye nations,
praise Him all ye peoples. Let us
adore for ever the most holy
Sacrament. Glory be to the Father
and to the Son and to the Holy
Ghost: as it was in the beginning,
is now and ever shall be, world
without end. Amen.*

Adoremus &c

Let us adore &c

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