



Saint Matthew's Church
Big Lamp ~ Summerhill Street
Newcastle

Solemn Evensong and Benediction for Easter IV (26th 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.

(106: 6 - 24) We have sinned with our fathers : we have done amiss,
and dealt wickedly.

7 Our fathers regarded not thy wonders in Egypt, neither kept they
thy great goodness in remembrance : but were disobedient at the sea,
even at the Red sea.

8 Nevertheless, he helped them for his Name's sake : that he might
make his power to be known.

9 He rebuked the Red sea also, and it was dried up : so he led them
through the deep, as through a wilderness.

10 And he saved them from the adversaries' hand : and delivered
them from the hand of the enemy.

11 As for those that troubled them, the waters overwhelmed them :
there was not one of them left.

12 Then believed they his words : and sang praise unto him.

13 But within a while they forgot his works : and would not abide his
counsel.

14 But lust came upon them in the wilderness : and they tempted God
in the desert.

15 And he gave them their desire : and sent leanness withal into their
soul.

16 They angered Moses also in the tents : and Aaron the saint of the
Lord.

17 So the earth opened, and swallowed up Dathan : and covered the
congregation of Abiram.

18 And the fire was kindled in their company : the flame burnt up the
ungodly.

19 They made a calf in Horeb : and worshipped the molten image.

20 Thus they turned their glory : into the similitude of a calf that
eateth hay.

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21 And they forgat God their Saviour : who had done so great things in Egypt;

22 Wondrous works in the land of Ham : and fearful things by the Red sea.

23 So he said, he would have destroyed them, had not Moses his chosen stood before him in the gap : to turn away his wrathful indignation, lest he should destroy them.

24 Yea, they thought scorn of that pleasant land : and gave no credence unto his word.

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.

Reading from the Book of Nehemiah.

Ezra said: "Thou art the LORD, thou alone; thou hast made heaven, the heaven of heavens, with all their host, the earth and all that is on it, the seas and all that is in them; and thou preservest all of them; and the host of heaven worships thee. Thou art the LORD, the God who didst choose Abram and bring him forth out of Ur of the Chalde'ans and give him the name Abraham; and thou didst find his heart faithful before thee, and didst make with him the covenant to give to his descendants the land of the Canaanite, the Hittite, the Amorite, the Per'izzite, the Jeb'usite, and the Gir'gashite; and thou hast fulfilled thy promise, for thou art righteous. "And thou didst see the affliction of our fathers in Egypt and hear their cry at the Red Sea, and didst perform signs and wonders against Pharaoh and all his servants and all the people of his land, for thou knewest that they acted insolently against our fathers; and thou didst get thee a name, as it is to this day. And thou didst divide the sea before them, so that they went through the midst of the sea on dry land; and thou didst cast their pursuers into the depths, as a stone into mighty waters. By a pillar of cloud thou didst lead them in the day, and by a pillar of fire in the night to light for them the way in which they should go.

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Thou didst come down upon Mount Sinai, and speak with them from heaven and give them right ordinances and true laws, good statutes and commandments, and thou didst make known to them thy holy sabbath and command them commandments and statutes and a law by Moses thy servant. Thou didst give them bread from heaven for their hunger and bring forth water for them from the rock for their thirst, and thou didst tell them to go in to possess the land which thou hadst sworn to give them.

Here endeth the first lesson.

The Lord is risen from the tomb: Alleluia, alleluia!

The Lord is risen from the tomb: Alleluia, alleluia!

Who for our sakes hung upon the Cross:

Alleluia, alleluia!

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

The Lord is risen from the tomb: Alleluia, alleluia!

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

Your sorrow, shall be turned into joy, alleluia! And your joy no make takes from 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.

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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.

Your sorrow, shall be turned into joy, alleluia! And your joy no make takes from you. Alleluia, alleluia!

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

I want you to know, brethren, that our fathers were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, and all ate the same supernatural food and all drank the same supernatural drink. For they drank from the supernatural Rock which followed them, and the Rock was Christ. Nevertheless with most of them God was not pleased; for they were overthrown in the wilderness. Now these things are warnings for us, not to desire evil as they did. Do not be idolaters as some of them were; as it is written, "The people sat down to eat and drink and rose up to dance." We must not indulge in immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. We must not put the Lord to the test, as some of them did and were destroyed by serpents; nor grumble, as some of them did and were destroyed by the Destroyer. Now these things happened to them as a warning, but they were written down for our instruction, upon whom the end of the ages has come. Therefore let any one who thinks that he stands take heed lest he fall. No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your strength, but with the temptation will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.

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.

O ALMIGHTY God, who alone canst order the unruly wills and affections of sinful men; Grant unto thy people, that they may love the thing which thou commandest, and desire that which thou dost promise; that so, among the sundry and manifold changes of the world, our hearts may surely there be fixed, where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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.

The king of love my shepherd is,
Whose goodness faileth never;
I nothing lack if I am his
And he is mine for ever.

Where streams of living water flow
My ransomed soul he leadeth,
And where the verdant pastures grow
With food celestial feedeth.

Perverse and foolish oft I strayed,
But yet in love he sought me,
And on his shoulder gently laid,
And home rejoicing brought me.

In death's dark vale I fear no ill
With thee, dear Lord, beside me;
Thy rod and staff my comfort still,
Thy cross before to guide me.

Thou spread'st a table in my sight;
Thy unction grace bestoweth;
And O what transport of delight
From thy pure chalice floweth!

And so through all the length of days
Thy goodness faileth never:
Good shepherd, may I sing thy praise
Within thy house for ever.

Words: HW Baker 1821 - 77
Music: S Columba
Irish melody
(Petrie Collection)

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

O salutaris Hostia,
Quae caeli pandis ostium:
Bella premunt hostilia,
Da robur, fer auxilium.

*O saving Victim, opening wide
The gate of Heaven to man below, Our
foes press hard on every side, Thine aid
supply, Thy strength bestow.*

Uni trinoque Domino
Sit sempiterna gloria,
Qui vitam sine termino
Nobis donet in patria.
Amen.

*All praise and thanks to Thee ascend
For evermore, blest One in Three,
And grant us life that shall not end,
In our true native land with Thee.
Amen.*

A Period of silence follows.

Visita, quæsumus, Dómine,
habitatiónem istam, et omnes
insídias inimíci ab ea longe
repélle: Angeli tui sancti hábitent
in ea, qui nos in pace custódiant;
et benedíctio tua sit super nos
semper. Per Dóminum nostrum
Jesum Christum.
Amen.

*Visit, we beseech Thee, O Lord,
this dwelling and drive far from it
all assaults of the enemy; let Your
holy angels dwell herein that we
may be kept in peace and Your
blessing always rest upon us,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
*Amen.**

Benedictus Deus.
Benedictum Nomen Sanctum eius
Benedictus Iesus Christus,
verus Deus et verus homo
Benedictum Nomen Iesu
Benedictus Iesus
in sanctissimo altaris Sacramento
Benedictus Sanctus Spiritus,
Paraclitus
Benedictus Deus in Angelis suis,
et in Sanctis suis

*Blessed be God.
Blessed be His holy Name.
Blessed be Jesus Christ, true God
and true man.
Blessed be the Name of Jesus.
Blessed be Jesus in the most holy
Sacrament of the Altar.
Blessed be the Holy Ghost,
the Paraclete.
Blessed be God
in His angels and in His saints.*

Sit Benedicatus laudatusque sanctificatusque et adoratus Jesus Christus in cathedram gloriae Suae. Et in sanctissimo altaris Sacramento	<i>Blessed, praised, hallowed and adored be Jesus Christ on His throne of glory. And in the most holy Sacrament of the Altar.</i>
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The Presence of Christ is then honoured with incense again during the following hymn:

Tantum ergo Sacramentum Veneremur cernui: Et antiquum documentum Novo cedat ritui: Præstet fides supplementum Sensuum defectui.	<i>Therefore, we before Him bending, This great Sacrament revere; Types and shadows have their ending, For the newer rite is here; Faith our outward sense befriending Makes the inward vision clear.</i>
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Genitori, Genitoque Laus et Jubilatio, Salus, honor, virtus quoque Sit et benedictio: Procedenti ab utroque Compar sit laudatio. Amen.	<i>Glory let us give and blessing, To the Father and the Son, Honour, might and praise addressing While eternal ages run; Ever to His love confessing, Who from Both with Both is One. Amen.</i>
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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:
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.

*Let us pray:
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.*

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

Adoremus &c

Adoremus &c

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