



# Welcome to St Botolph's Church

Jesus said "If anyone is thirsty,  
let them come to me and drink"

**Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2026**

## **Welcome and Opening Worship**

Alleluia, Christ is risen!

**He is risen indeed, Alleluia!**

### **Hymn:**

Christ triumphant, ever reigning,  
Saviour, Master, King,  
Lord of heaven, our lives sustaining,  
Hear us as we sing:

*Yours the glory and the crown,  
The high renown, the eternal name.*

Word incarnate, truth revealing,  
Son of Man on earth!  
Power and majesty concealing  
By your humble birth:

Suffering Servant, scorned, ill-treated,  
Victim crucified!  
Death is through the cross defeated,  
Sinners justified:

Priestly King, enthroned forever  
High in heaven above!  
Sin and death and hell shall never  
Stifle hymns of love:

So, our hearts and voices raising  
Through the ages long,  
Ceaselessly upon You gazing,  
This shall be our song:

## **Confession**

I love the Lord, for he heard my voice; he heard my cry for mercy.  
Because he turned his ear to me, I will call on him as long as I live.  
(Psalm 116 vv 1,2)

When the Lord comes, he will bring to light the things now hidden in darkness, and will disclose the purposes of the heart. Therefore in the light of Christ let us confess our sins.

*We keep a short time of silence*

**Jesus Christ, risen Master and triumphant Lord, we come to you in sorrow for our sins, and confess to you our weakness and unbelief.**

**We have lived by our own strength, and not by the power of your resurrection.**

**We have lived by the light of our own eyes, as faithless and not believing.**

**We have lived for this world alone, and doubted our home in heaven.**

**In your mercy, forgive us. Lord, hear us and help us.**

## **Prayer of forgiveness**

For it is the God who said, "Let light shine out of darkness", who has shone in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord, **Amen.**

**The Lord is gracious and righteous; our God is full of compassion. The Lord protects the unwary; when I was brought low, he saved me. Return to your rest, my soul, for the Lord has been good to you.** (Psalm 116 vv 5-7)

## **Hymn**

Good Christian men, rejoice and sing!  
Now is the triumph of our King:  
To all the world glad news we bring:  
Alleluya!

The Lord of Life is risen for ay:  
Bring flowers of song to strew his way;  
Let all mankind rejoice and say:  
Alleluya!

Praise we in songs of victory  
That Love, that Life, which cannot die,  
And sing with hearts uplifted high:  
Alleluya!

Thy name we bless, O risen Lord,  
And sing today with one accord  
The life laid down, the life restored:  
Alleluya!

## ***New Testament Reading - Acts 2:14a, 36-41*** read by Alan Grimsey

<sup>14</sup> Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd: 'Fellow Jews and all of you who live in Jerusalem, let me explain this to you; listen carefully to what I say.

<sup>36</sup> 'Therefore let all Israel be assured of this: God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Messiah.'

<sup>37</sup> When the people heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the other apostles, 'Brothers, what shall we do?'

<sup>38</sup> Peter replied, 'Repent and be baptised, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. <sup>39</sup> The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off – for all whom the Lord our God will call.'

<sup>40</sup> With many other words he warned them; and he pleaded with them, 'Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.' <sup>41</sup> Those who accepted his message were baptised, and about three thousand were added to their number that day.

This is the word of the Lord; **Thanks be to God**

### **Hymn**

The strife is o'er, the battle done;  
the victory of life is won;  
the song of triumph has begun.  
Alleluia!

The powers of death have done their worst,  
but Christ their legions has dispersed.  
Let shouts of holy joy outburst.  
Alleluia!

The three sad days are quickly sped;  
He rises glorious from the dead.  
All glory to our risen Head.  
Alleluia!

He closed the yawning gates of hell;  
the bars from heaven's high portals fell.  
Let hymns of praise his triumph tell.  
Alleluia!

Lord, by the stripes which wounded thee,  
from death's dread sting thy servants free,  
that we may live and sing to thee.  
Alleluia!

### **Gospel Reading - Luke 24:13-35** read by Alan Grimsey

Alleluia, alleluia. I am the first and the last, says the Lord, and the living one; I was dead, and behold I am alive for evermore. Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke; **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>13</sup> Now that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem. <sup>14</sup> They were talking with each other about everything that had happened. <sup>15</sup> As they talked and discussed these things with each other, Jesus himself came up and walked along with them; <sup>16</sup> but they were kept from recognising him.

<sup>17</sup> He asked them, 'What are you discussing together as you walk along?'

They stood still, their faces downcast. <sup>18</sup> One of them, named Cleopas, asked him, 'Are you the only one visiting Jerusalem who does not know the things that have happened there in these days?'

<sup>19</sup> 'What things?' he asked.

'About Jesus of Nazareth,' they replied. 'He was a prophet, powerful in word and deed before God and all the people. <sup>20</sup> The chief priests and our rulers handed him over to be sentenced to death, and they crucified him; <sup>21</sup> but we had hoped that he was the one who was going to redeem Israel. And what is more, it is the third day since all this took place. <sup>22</sup> In addition, some of our women amazed us. They went to the tomb early this morning <sup>23</sup> but didn't find his body. They came and told us that they had seen a vision of angels, who said he was alive. <sup>24</sup> Then some of our companions went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but they did not see Jesus.'

<sup>25</sup> He said to them, 'How foolish you are, and how slow to believe all that the prophets have spoken! <sup>26</sup> Did not the Messiah have to suffer these things and then enter his glory?' <sup>27</sup> And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself.

<sup>28</sup> As they approached the village to which they were going, Jesus continued on as if he were going further. <sup>29</sup> But they urged him strongly, 'Stay with us, for it is nearly evening; the day is almost over.' So he went in to stay with them.

<sup>30</sup> When he was at the table with them, he took bread, gave thanks, broke it and began to give it to them. <sup>31</sup> Then their eyes were opened and they recognised him, and he disappeared from their sight. <sup>32</sup> They

asked each other, 'Were not our hearts burning within us while he talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us?'

<sup>33</sup> They got up and returned at once to Jerusalem. There they found the Eleven and those with them, assembled together <sup>34</sup> and saying, 'It is true! The Lord has risen and has appeared to Simon.' <sup>35</sup> Then the two told what had happened on the way, and how Jesus was recognised by them when he broke the bread.

This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

### **Sermon**

### **Hymn**

Just as I am, without one plea  
But that Thy blood was shed for me,  
And that Thou bid'st me come to Thee,  
O Lamb of God, I come.

Just as I am, and waiting not  
To rid my soul of one dark blot,  
To Thee, whose blood can cleanse each spot,  
O Lamb of God, I come.

Just as I am, though tossed about  
With many a conflict, many a doubt,  
Fightings and fears within, without,  
O Lamb of God, I come.

Just as I am, poor, wretched, blind;  
Sight, riches, healing of the mind,  
Yea, all I need in Thee to find,  
O Lamb of God, I come.

Just as I am, Thou wilt receive,  
Wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve,  
Because Thy promise I believe,  
O Lamb of God, I come.

Just as I am, Thy love unknown  
Has broken every barrier down;  
Now to be Thine, yea, Thine alone,  
O Lamb of God, I come.

Just as I am, of that free love  
The breadth, length, depth and height to prove,  
Here for a season, then above,  
O Lamb of God, I come.

### **Our belief**

We say together in faith:

**Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God almighty, who was, and is, and is to come.**

We believe in God the Father, who created all things:  
**for by his will they were created and have their being.**

We believe in God the Son, who was slain:  
**for with his blood, he purchased us for God, from every tribe and language, from every people and nation.**

We believe in God the Holy Spirit:  
**the Spirit and the Bride say, 'Come!' Even so, come, Lord Jesus! Amen.**

### **Prayers** led by Pat French

*Starting with the Collect prayer for today:*

**Risen Christ, you filled your disciples with boldness and fresh hope: strengthen us to proclaim your risen life and fill us with your peace, to the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

*And ending with the Lord's Prayer:*

**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**

**Closing hymn** (*Tune: Blawern*)

Love Divine, all loves excelling,  
Joy of heaven to earth come down!  
Fix in us Thy humble dwelling,  
All Thy faithful mercies crown.  
Jesus, Thou art all compassion,  
Pure unbounded love Thou art;  
Visit us with Thy salvation,  
Enter every trembling heart.

Breathe, O breathe Thy loving Spirit  
Into every troubled breast!  
Let us all in Thee inherit,  
Let us find Thy promised rest.  
Take away the love of sinning;  
Alpha and Omega be;  
End of faith, as its beginning,  
Set our hearts at liberty.

Come, Almighty to deliver,  
Let us all Thy grace receive;  
Suddenly return, and never,  
Never more Thy temples leave.  
Thee we would be always blessing,  
Serve Thee as Thy hosts above,  
Pray, and praise Thee without ceasing,  
Glory in Thy perfect love.

Finish then Thy new creation,  
Pure and spotless let us be;  
Let us see Thy great salvation  
Perfectly restored in Thee!  
Changed from glory into glory,  
Till in heaven we take our place;  
Till we cast our crowns before Thee,  
Lost in wonder, love and praise.

## **The Blessing and Dismissal**

God the Father, by whose glory Christ was raised from the dead, strengthen us to walk with him in his risen life; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, rest upon us and remain with us and with all those we love and care for, this day and for ever. **Amen**

He is not here. He is risen. Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.  
Alleluia, alleluia.

**In the name of Christ, Amen. Alleluia, alleluia.**

**Today's voluntary is** Toccata by Dubois

*Please stay for refreshments in the hall (at the end of the corridor)*

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## **GIVING**

Giving is an important part of our worship.

One of the easiest ways to give is by using the Parish Giving Scheme?  
[www.parishgiving.org.uk/donors/find-your-parish/colchester-st-botolph-colchester/](http://www.parishgiving.org.uk/donors/find-your-parish/colchester-st-botolph-colchester/)

And if you pay tax, please ask for a Gift Aid form.

## **SAFETY AND SAFEGUARDING**

St Botolph's is a public space. Please note that CCTV operates throughout the building, and we kindly ask that you do not leave your valuables unattended.

### **Do you have a concern about a child or an adult at risk?**

You can report your concern to the St Botolph's Safeguarding Team:  
01206 542307- [sarahtruder@gmail.com](mailto:sarahtruder@gmail.com)


Or you can report your concern to the Diocesan Safeguarding Team  
01245 294444 - [safeguarding@chelmsford.anglican.org](mailto:safeguarding@chelmsford.anglican.org)

If you believe a child or adult is in immediate danger, please call the emergency services on 999 right away.

## NOTICES

### **Mid-Week Bible Study**


Wednesday, 22<sup>nd</sup> April

 10:30 am – Refreshments

10:45 am – 12:00 noon – Bible Study

### **Midday Prayer**

Wednesday, 22<sup>nd</sup> April

 12:00 pm – 1pm

🌟 *All are warmly welcome!* 🌟

**Tomorrow, 20<sup>th</sup> April** Women's Get Together meets at **2.30 pm** at Castle Methodist Church. The speaker will be Daniel Bailey from Colchester and Suffolk Hospital Trust. All are welcome to a come along.

Our Easter Red Bucket Collection for St. John's Green Primary School store cupboard amounted to **£315.70**. Thank you all for your generosity. It will be much appreciated and used wisely.

## SUNDAY SERVICES

26<sup>th</sup> April at 10.30am - St George's Day Civic Service led by Emma Smith

3<sup>rd</sup> May at 10.30am - Morning Worship led by Clive Joyce

10<sup>th</sup> May at 10.30am - Holy Communion & APCM led by Jo Jeffery

17<sup>th</sup> May at 10.30am - Morning Worship led by Sara Humphreys

Once final reminder before our APCM on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> May, we need to fill some vacancies and complete the nominations, so everything is ready for the meeting. If you might be interested in serving in one of these roles or would simply like to find out a bit more about what's involved, please do have a conversation with me or our churchwarden David. We'd love to hear from you.

We currently have vacancies for one PCC member, one Treasurer, one Churchwarden (in addition to David), and two Deanery Synod Representatives.

**PCC Member:** PCC stands for Parochial Church Council, which sounds intimidatingly official but is really just the church's committee - the group of people who meet regularly to make decisions about how the church is run, what it spends money on, and where it's heading. A PCC member is an elected volunteer who sits on that council and helps shape those decisions. They might weigh in on whether to renovate the building, how to support a new project, or what the church's priorities should be for the coming year. They help link the everyday churchgoer with the leadership, making sure every voice is part of the conversation. Being a PCC member basically means helping to think about what the church needs to be doing and working together to make it happen.

**Treasurer:** Every organisation needs someone keeping an eye on the money. The treasurer tracks what comes in (donations, fundraising, grants) and what goes out (heating bills, staff costs, maintenance), make sure the books are accurate and above board, and present the finances to the wider church community so everyone can see where things stand. They're not there to make financial decisions alone - that's a team effort - but they are the person who makes sure the church stays financially healthy and that nobody gets any nasty surprises.

**Churchwarden:** Think of the churchwardens as the church's main helpers and caretakers. It is one of the oldest roles in the Church of England (we're talking centuries of history here), they are officers of the Bishop and work closely with the vicar to keep everything running smoothly, both during services and in the day-to-day life of the church. That means making sure the building is safe and looked after, that services can actually happen, and that the congregation and clergy are cared for. Churchwardens are the first point

of contact for practical issues or questions from the congregation. They also have a formal role in representing the church members and helping the vicar make sure the church is well-run, welcoming, and safe.

Nomination forms are available from David Poppleton now.

## **STAY IN TOUCH**

Visit our website or call the parish office for more information

**[www.stbotolphs.org](http://www.stbotolphs.org)**

**01206 542307**