

A caring church where all are welcome to know the Peace
and Love of God

The Parish of Bardsey with East Keswick

The Parish Church of All Hallows, Bardsey, and The Church of Saint Mary Magdalene East Keswick

Order of Service for Ascension Day – 9th May 2024
11am at All Hallows Church

Minister: Dear brothers and sisters in Christ, for forty days we have been celebrating with joyful hearts the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ, his bursting from the tomb and his defeat of the power of sin and death. He appeared to his disciples many times and told them about the kingdom of God.

Today we recall how he left this earth and returned to his Father, ascending into heaven to take his throne over all dominions and powers. Trusting in his reign over all creation, and submitting to his kingly yet loving rule, let us shortly hear the story of his parting.

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

All: **And also with you**

Minister: Alleluia, Christ is risen

All: **He is risen indeed, Alleluia**

All: **Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hidden: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Prayers of Penitence

Minister: Seeing we have a great high priest who has passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, Let us draw near with a true heart, in full assurance of faith and make our confession to our heavenly Father

All: **Almighty God, our heavenly Father, we have sinned against you and against our neighbour in thought and word and deed, through negligence, through weakness, through our own deliberate fault. We are truly sorry 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 grant that we may serve you in newness of life to the glory of your name. Amen.**

Minister: May 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 Prayer for Ascension Day

Minister: Risen Christ,
you have raised our human nature to the throne of
heaven: help us to seek and serve you,
that we may join you at the Father's side,
where you reign with the Spirit in glory,
now and for ever. **Amen**

The bible readings for today - *please sit*

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles (1:1-11)

1 In my first book I told you, Theophilus, about everything Jesus began to do and teach 2 until the day he was taken up to heaven after giving his chosen apostles further instructions through the Holy Spirit. 3 During the forty days after he suffered and died, he appeared to the apostles from time to time, and he proved to them in many ways that he was actually alive. And he talked to them about the Kingdom of God. 4 Once when he was eating with them, he commanded them, "Do not leave Jerusalem until the Father sends you the gift he promised, as I told you before. 5 John baptized with water, but in just a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit." 6 So when the apostles were with Jesus, they kept asking him, "Lord, has the time come for you to free Israel and restore our kingdom?" 7 He replied, "The Father alone has the authority to set those dates and times, and they are not for you to know. 8 But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. And you will be my witnesses, telling people about me everywhere—in Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." 9 After saying this, he was taken up into a cloud while they

were watching, and they could no longer see him. 10 As they strained to see him rising into heaven, two white-robed men suddenly stood among them. 11 “Men of Galilee,” they said, “why are you standing here staring into heaven? Jesus has been taken from you into heaven, but someday he will return from heaven in the same way you saw him go!”

This is the word of the Lord All: **Thanks be to God**

A reading from the Letter of Paul to the Ephesians (1:15-23)

15 Ever since I first heard of your strong faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for God’s people everywhere, 16 I have not stopped thanking God for you. I pray for you constantly, 17 asking God, the glorious Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, to give you spiritual wisdom and insight so that you might grow in your knowledge of God. 18 I pray that your hearts will be flooded with light so that you can understand the confident hope he has given to those he called—his holy people who are his rich and glorious inheritance. 19 I also pray that you will understand the incredible greatness of God’s power for us who believe him. This is the same mighty power 20 that raised Christ from the dead and seated him in the place of honour at God’s right hand in the heavenly realms. 21 Now he is far above any ruler or authority or power or leader or anything else—not only in this world but also in the world to come. 22 God has put all things under the authority of Christ and has made him head over all things for the benefit of the church. 23 And the church is his body; it is made full and complete by Christ, who fills all things everywhere with himself.

This is the word of the Lord All: **Thanks be to God**

Please remain standing for the Gospel reading

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke (24:44-53)

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

44 Then he said, “When I was with you before, I told you that everything written about me in the law of Moses and the prophets and in the Psalms must be fulfilled.” 45 Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures. 46 And he said, “Yes, it was written long ago that the Messiah would suffer and die and rise from the dead on the third day. 47 It was also written that this message would be proclaimed in the authority of his name to all the nations, beginning in Jerusalem: ‘There is forgiveness of sins for all who repent.’ 48 You are witnesses of all these things. 49 “And now I will send the Holy Spirit, just as my Father promised. But stay here in the city until the Holy Spirit comes and fills you with power from heaven.” 50 Then Jesus led them to Bethany, and lifting his hands to heaven, he blessed them. 51 While he was blessing them, he left them and was taken up to heaven. 52 So they worshiped him and then returned to Jerusalem filled with great joy. 53 And they spent all of their time in the Temple, praising God.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, O Christ.

Address *(please sit)*

Affirmation of Faith – The Apostles’ Creed *(please stand)*

All: **We believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

We believe in Jesus Christ, his 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.

We 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.

Prayers of Intercession

Minister: In the power of the Spirit and in union with Christ, let us sit or kneel to pray to the Father

After: Lord, in your mercy - *please respond:* **Hear our prayer.**

After: Merciful Father - *Please respond:*

Accept these prayers, for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

The Peace (*please stand*)

Minister: Jesus says, 'Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. If you love me, rejoice because I am going to the Father' Alleluia

The peace of the Lord be always with you

All: **And also with you.**

The Eucharistic Prayer (*please sit or kneel*)

Minister: The Lord be with you

All: **and also with you.**

Minister: Lift up your hearts.

All: **We lift them to the Lord**

Minister: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: **It is right to give thanks and praise.**

Minister: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, always and everywhere to give you thanks, Holy Father, almighty and eternal God through Jesus Christ our Lord,

Born of a woman, he came to the rescue of our human race. Dying for us, he trampled death and conquered sin. By the glory of his resurrection he opened the way to life eternal, and by his ascension, gave us the sure hope that where he is we may also be.

Therefore, the universe resounds with Easter joy
And with choirs of angels we sing for ever to your praise

All: **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in
the highest.**

Minister: Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness 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.

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.

Great is the mystery of faith

All: **Christ has died: Christ is risen: Christ will come again.**

Minister: 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 of 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. **Amen**

Minister: 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.**

Minister: 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.
Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us.
Jesus, bearer of our sins, have mercy on us.
Jesus, redeemer of the world, grant us peace.**

Minister: Draw near with faith. Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ, grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit, which he gave for you, and his blood which he shed for you.

Eat and drink in remembrance that he died for you,
and feed on him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us

All: **Therefore let us keep the feast**

*You are most welcome to come to the altar rail to take communion.
If you would prefer to receive a blessing, carry this service sheet
with you.*

Prayer after Communion

Minister: God our Father,
you have raised our humanity in Christ
and have fed us with the bread of heaven:
mercifully grant that, nourished with such spiritual
blessings, we may set our hearts in the heavenly places;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

All: **Father of all, we give you thanks and praise,
that when we were still far off you met us in your Son
and brought us home.
Dying and living, he declared your love, gave us
grace, and opened the gate of glory.
May we who share Christ's body live his risen life;
we who drink his cup bring life to others;
we whom the Spirit lights give light to the world.
Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us,
so we and all your children shall be free,
and the whole earth live to praise your name; through
Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Minister: As we wait in silence, **make us ready
for your coming Spirit.**

As we listen to your word, **make us ready
for your coming Spirit.**

As we worship you in majesty, **make us ready
for your coming Spirit.**

As we long for your refreshing, **make us ready
for your coming Spirit.**

As we long for your renewing, **make us ready
for your coming Spirit.**

As we long for your equipping, **make us ready
for your coming Spirit.**

As we long for your empowering, **make us ready
for your coming Spirit.**

Minister: God the Father,
who has given to his Son the name above every name,
strengthen you to proclaim Christ Jesus as Lord. **Amen.**

God the Son,
who is our great high priest passed into the heavens,
plead for you at the right hand of the Father. **Amen.**

God the Holy Spirit,
who pours out his abundant gifts upon the Church,
make you faithful servants of Christ our King. **Amen.**

Minister: And the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

All **Amen.**

Minister: Go in the peace of Christ. Alleluia, Alleluia

All: Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia

Next Sunday 12th May

8.00 am Holy Communion All Hallows

9.15 am Family Service St Mary Magdalene

10.45am Family Service All Hallows

Sunday 19th May (Pentecost)

8.00am Morning Worship All Hallows

9.15am Holy Communion St Mary Magdalene

10.45am Holy Communion All Hallows

Sunday 26th May

No Service at All Hallows or St Mary Magdalene.

Joint Parish Service at East Keswick Methodist Church at 10.30am
with lunch afterwards

Did you know that both churches have a selection of books that you
can take away to read and return?

Did you know you can download this order of service from our
website to save paper?

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