

**THE GROUPED PARISHES OF  
ANNAHILT AND MAGHERAHAMLET**

**A SERVICE OF  
MORNING PRAYER  
ON THE SUNDAY AFTER ASCENSION DAY  
16 MAY 2021**

**THE GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE**

*Stand*

*The Rector introduces the Service and greets the congregation*

Christ is risen.

**The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!** *Luke 24: 34*

Since we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast to the faith we profess. *Hebrews 4: 14,16*

*Hymn CH 266*

Hail the day that sees him rise, *alleluia!*  
to his throne above the skies; *alleluia!*  
Christ the Lamb for sinners given, *alleluia!*  
enters now the highest heaven. *alleluia!*

There for him high triumph waits;  
lift your heads, eternal gates!  
he has conquered death and sin;  
take the King of glory in!

Still for us he intercedes,  
his prevailing death he pleads;  
near himself prepares our place,  
first-fruits of the human race.

Lord, though parted from our sight,  
far above the starry height,  
grant our hearts may thither rise,  
following thee beyond the skies.

There we shall with thee remain,  
partners of thine endless reign;  
there thy face unclouded see,  
find our heaven of heavens in thee.

Beloved in Christ,  
we come together to offer to Almighty God  
our worship and praise and thanksgiving,  
to confess our sins and to receive God's forgiveness,  
to hear his holy word proclaimed,  
to bring before him our needs and the needs of the world,  
and to pray that in the power of his Spirit  
we may serve him and know the greatness of his love.  
Let us confess our sins to God our Father.

*Kneel*

*Silence is kept.*

**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;  
by what we have done  
and by what we have failed to do.  
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.**

*The Rector pronounces the absolution.*

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

*Stand*

O Lord, open our lips  
**and our mouth will proclaim your praise.**

God, make speed to save us.  
**O Lord, make haste to help us.**

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;  
**as it was in the beginning, is now, and shall be for ever. Amen.**

Praise the Lord.  
**The Lord's name be praised.**

### *FIRST CANTICLE*

#### **THE EASTER ANTHEMS**

Christ our passover is | sacri • ficed | for us;  
therefore | let us | keep the | feast,  
Not with the old leaven nor with the leaven of | malice • and |  
wickedness;  
but with the unleavened bread | of sin | cerity • and | truth.

Christ being raised from the dead | dieth • no | more:  
death hath no | more do | minion | over him.  
For in that he died he died unto | sin | once:  
but in that he liveth he | liveth | unto | God.  
Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed | unto | sin:  
but alive unto God through | Jesus | Christ our | Lord.

Christ is | risen • from the | dead:  
and become the first | fruits of | them that | slept.  
For since by | man came | death:  
by man came also the resur | rection | of the | dead.  
For as in Adam | all | die:  
even so in Christ shall | all be | made a | live.

Glory to the Father and | to the | Son: and | to the | Holy | Spirit;  
as it was in the be | ginning is | now: and shall be for | ever.  
A- | men

#### **PSALM 24** *Domini est terra.*

- 1 The earth is the Lord's, and all that therein is:  
**the compass of the world, and they that dwell therein.**
- 2 For he hath founded it upon the seas:  
**and prepared it upon the floods.**
- 3 Who shall ascend into the hill of the Lord:  
**or who shall rise up in his holy place?**
- 4 Even he that hath clean hands, and a pure heart:  
**and that hath not lift up his mind unto vanity, nor sworn  
to deceive his neighbour.**

- 5 He shall receive the blessing from the Lord:  
**and righteousness from the God of his salvation.**
  - 6 This is the generation of them that seek him: **even of them  
that seek thy face, O Jacob.**
  - 7 Lift up your heads, O ye gates, and be ye lift up, ye  
everlasting doors:  
**and the King of glory shall come in.**
  - 8 Who is the King of glory:  
**it is the Lord strong and mighty, even the Lord mighty in  
battle.**
  - 9 Lift up your heads, O ye gates, and be ye lift up, ye  
everlasting doors:  
**and the King of glory shall come in.**
  - 10 Who is the King of glory:  
**even the Lord of hosts, he is the King of glory.**
- Glory to the Father, and to the Son,  
and to the Holy Spirit;  
**as it was in the beginning, is now,  
and shall be for ever. Amen.**

### *FIRST READING*

#### **A reading is from the book of the Acts of the Apostles, Chapter 1 beginning at verse 1**

1 In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning<sup>2</sup> until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen.<sup>3</sup> After his suffering he presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them over the course of forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God.<sup>4</sup> While staying\* with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for the promise of the Father. 'This', he said, 'is what you have heard from me;<sup>5</sup> for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with\* the Holy Spirit not many days from now.'<sup>7</sup>

6 So when they had come together, they asked him, 'Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?'<sup>7</sup> He replied, 'It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority.<sup>8</sup> But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the

earth.’<sup>9</sup> When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight.<sup>10</sup> While he was going and they were gazing up towards heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them.<sup>11</sup> They said, ‘Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up towards heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.’

This is the word of the Lord

### **SECOND CANTICLE**

#### **TE DEUM *Parts 1 & 2***

##### *Part 1*

- 1 We praise | thee O | God, ■  
we acknowledge | thee to | be the | Lord.
- 2 All the earth doth | worship | thee, ■  
the | Father | ever|lasting.
- 3 To thee all angels cry aloud  
the heavens and all the | powers there|in, ■  
to thee Cherubim and Seraphim con|tin·ual|ly do | cry,
- 4 Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord | God · of Sa·baoth: ■  
heaven and earth are full of the | majes·ty | of thy | glory.
- 5 The glorious company of the apostles | praise | thee; ■  
the goodly fellowship of the | prophets | praise | thee.
- 6 The | noble | army ■ ◡ of | martyrs | praise | thee.
- 7 The | holy | Church ■  
throughout all the world | doth ac|knowledge | thee;
- 8 The Father of an | infin·ite | majesty, ■  
thine honourable, true, and only Son,  
also the | Holy | Spirit · the | Comforter.

##### *Part 2*

- 9 Thou art the King of | glory · O | Christ. ■  
Thou art the ever|lasting | Son of · the | Father.
- 10 When thou tookest upon thee to de|liver | man, ■  
thou didst not ab|hor the | Virgin's | womb.
- 11 † When thou hadst overcome the | sharpness · of | death, ■  
thou didst open the kingdom of | heaven · to | all be|lievers.
- 12 Thou sittest at the right | hand of | God, ■  
in the | glory | of the | Father.
- 13 We be·lieve that | thou ■ ◡ shalt | come to | be our | judge.

- 14 We therefore pray thee | help thy | servants, ■  
whom thou hast re|deemed · with thy | precious | blood.
- 15 Make them to be numbered | with thy | saints ■  
in | glory | ever|lasting

### **SECOND READING**

#### **A Reading from the Gospel according to Saint Luke Chapter 24 beginning at verse 44**

44 Then he said to them, ‘These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.’<sup>45</sup> Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures,<sup>46</sup> and he said to them, ‘Thus it is written, that the Messiah<sup>\*</sup> is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day,<sup>47</sup> and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem.<sup>48</sup> You are witnesses<sup>\*</sup> of these things.<sup>49</sup> And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised; so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high.’

50 Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them.<sup>51</sup> While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven.<sup>52</sup> And they worshipped him, and<sup>\*</sup> returned to Jerusalem with great joy;<sup>53</sup> and they were continually in the temple blessing God.<sup>\*</sup>

### **THIRD CANTICLE**

#### **BENEDICTUS**

- 1 Blessed be the Lord | God of | Israel, • for he hath visited | and re | deemed his | people,
- 2 And hath raised up a mighty sal | vation | for us • in the | house of  
• his | servant | David;
- 3 As he spake by the mouth of his | holy | Prophets • which have  
been | since the | world be | gan;
- 4 That we should be | saved from our | enemies, • and from the |  
hands of | all that | hate us,
- 5 To perform the mercy | promised • to our | forefathers, • and to re  
| member • his | holy | covenant;

6 To perform the oath which he swore to our | forefather | Abraham:  
 • that | he would | give | us,  
 7 That we being delivered out of the | hand of our | enemies • might  
 serve | him with | out | fear,  
 8 In holiness and | righteousness be | fore him • all the | days | of our  
 | life.  
 9 And thou, child, shalt be called the | Prophet of the | Highest, •  
 for thou shalt go before the face of the | Lord • to pre | pare his |  
 ways;  
 10 To give knowledge of salvation | unto • his | people, • for the re |  
 mission | of their | sins,  
 11 Through the tender mercy | of our | God • whereby the day-  
 spring from on | high hath | visited | us,  
 12 To give light to them that sit in darkness and in the | shadow • of  
 | death, • and to guide our feet | into • the | way of | peace.

Glory to the Father, and | to the | Son, and | to the | Holy | Spirit;  
 as it was in the be | ginning, is | now, and shall be for | ever. |  
 A | men.

### ***THE APOSTLES CREED***

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
 creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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.**

**I 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.**

### **THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

The Lord be with you  
**and also with you.**

Let us pray.

Lord, have mercy.  
**Christ, have mercy.**  
 Lord, have mercy.

**Our Father, who art in heaven,  
 hallowed be thy name,  
 thy kingdom come,  
 thy will be done,  
 on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread.  
 And forgive us our trespasses  
 as we forgive those who trespass against us.**

**And lead us not into temptation,  
 but deliver us from evil.  
 For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory,  
 for ever and ever. Amen.**

*The versicles and responses may be said.*

Show us your mercy, O Lord,  
**and grant us your salvation.**

O Lord, save the Queen  
**and grant her government wisdom.**

Let your ministers be clothed with righteousness  
**and let your servants shout for joy.**

O Lord, save your people  
**and bless those whom you have chosen.**

Give peace in our time, O Lord,  
**and let your glory be over all the earth.**

O God, make clean our hearts within us  
**and renew us by your Holy Spirit**

## THE COLLECTS

O God the King of glory,  
you exalted your only Son Jesus Christ  
with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven;  
Mercifully give us faith to know  
that, as he promised,  
he abides with us on earth to the end of time:  
who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

**O God, the author of peace and lover of concord,  
to know you is eternal life, and to serve you is perfect freedom:  
Defend us in all assaults of our enemies,  
that we, surely trusting in your protection,  
may not fear the power of any adversaries;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everliving God,  
we give you thanks for bringing us safely to this day:  
Keep us from falling into sin or running into danger,  
and in all things guide us to know and do your will;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*Hymn T&P 80*

King of kings, majesty,  
God of heaven living in me,  
gentle Saviour, closest friend,  
strong deliverer, beginning and end,  
all within me falls at your throne.

*Your majesty, I can but bow,  
I lay my all before you now.  
In royal robes I don't deserve  
I live to serve your majesty,  
I live to serve your majesty.*

Earth and heaven worship you,  
love eternal, faithful and true,  
who bought the nations, ransomed souls,  
brought this sinner near to your throne;  
all within me cries out to praise.

## THE PRAYERS

*We acknowledge Jesus Christ, the exalted Lord of our lives:*

Almighty and everlasting God, we worship and adore you because  
you have exalted your Son our Lord Jesus Christ and caused him to  
triumph mightily.

We serve him as King of glory, enthroned at your right hand.

We trust him as our great High Priest, who has entered the heavenly  
sanctuary to intercede for us.

We obey him as Lord of the church, to whom all authority has been  
given.

To him who sits on the throne and to the lamb be praise and honour,  
glory and dominion, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

*We offer praise that our risen and ascended Lord is preparing a  
place for us:*

We praise you, God our Father, that our ascended Lord has entered  
heaven as the forerunner of his people and has gone to prepare a  
place for us, so that where he is, there we may be also.

May our faith that he now reigns at your right hand make heaven a  
more real and wonderful place to us; and may we be enabled to lay  
hold more firmly on the hope that is set before us, that we may  
come at last where he has gone before, through the merits and  
mediation of his great name. **Amen.**

*We celebrate the kingship of Jesus:*

Almighty God and Father, we thank you that the head that once was  
crowned with thorns is crowned with glory now. We celebrate with  
joy the kingship of Jesus.

Give us grace to acknowledge his rule  
in our lives as well as with our lips,  
and to serve his worldwide kingdom,  
that the day may be hastened  
when all nations shall own him Lord  
and he shall reign for ever and ever. **Amen.**

*We pray for those preparing for Confirmation:*

Heavenly Father, Lord of the Church:

we join in our prayers to you for all those now preparing for  
confirmation.

By your Holy Spirit may they have  
a growing understanding of your word,  
a growing commitment to their Saviour,  
a growing experience of you,  
and a growing awareness of the fellowship of your church.  
May they then be resolved to confess Christ crucified, and  
strengthened to serve him until their lives' end,  
to the glory of your name. **Amen.**

*We offer thanks for the Covid 19 vaccine roll-out:*

Dear Lord, we thank you for the wisdom of scientists, for the  
courage of trial volunteers, for the strength and compassion of  
healthcare professionals for the patience of delivery workers, for all  
who have brought us to this moment.  
May these vaccines offer protection.  
May they offer strength,  
May they offer hope.  
Thank you Lord for sustaining us through worrying times and  
reaching this significant development. **Amen.**

*We pray for all who exercise the authority of leadership in various  
present international crises:*

God of all wisdom and might:

We pray for those involved in the present health crisis in India, the  
drought and famine in Kenya, the Horn of Africa and Yemen and  
the conflict in Israel and Gaza, remembering in particular all who  
bear the responsibility of leadership.

May the Holy Spirit so direct their counsels and actions that justice  
and mercy may prevail, evil be averted, and harmony restored, to  
the honour of your great name; through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

Almighty God, the fountain of all wisdom, you know our needs  
before we ask, and our ignorance in asking; have compassion on  
our weakness, and give us those things which for our unworthiness  
we dare not, and in our blindness we cannot ask; for the sake of  
your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

**The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and  
the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. Amen.**

*Hymn CH 285*

The head that once was crowned with thorns  
is crowned with glory now;  
a royal diadem adorns  
the mighty victor's brow.

The highest place that heaven affords  
is his, is his by right,  
the King of kings, and Lord of lords,  
and heaven's eternal light.

The joy of all who dwell above:  
the joy of all below,  
to whom he manifests his love,  
and grants his name to know.

To them the cross, with all its shame,  
with all its grace, is given:  
their name an everlasting name,  
their joy the joy of heaven.

They suffer with their Lord below,  
they reign with him above,  
their profit and their joy to know  
the mystery of his love.

The Cross he bore is life and health,  
though shame and death to him;  
his people's hope, his people's wealth,  
their everlasting theme.

### ***THE SERMON***

*Hymn CH 267*

HAIL the risen Lord, ascending  
to his holy Father's side,  
angels, lost in awe and wonder,  
now acclaim the Lord who died.

*Alleluia, alleluia,*  
Christ triumphant, glorified.

He who once, from royal splendour  
came to share our state of blame  
now ascends, in clouds of glory,

to the heights from which he came  
*Alleluia, alleluia,*  
Christ for evermore the same!

He will grant his praying servants,  
from the riches of his pow'r,  
grace to live as risen people  
in this present watching hour.

*Alleluia, alleluia,*  
God on us his blessing shower.

Now he bids us tell the story,  
where the lost and fearful roam  
he will come again triumphant,  
and will lead his people home,

*Alleluia, alleluia,*  
Maranatha!<sup>1</sup> Come, Lord, come.

<sup>1</sup> Maranatha = Our Lord, come

#### *The Blessing*

Christ our exalted King  
pour on you his abundant gifts,  
make you faithful and strong to do his will  
that you may reign with him in glory:  
and the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,  
be with you and remain with you always. (*All sing*) Amen.

#### *Hymn Old ICH 149*

Golden harps are sounding,  
Angel voices sing,  
Pearly gates are opened,  
Opened for the King;  
Christ, the King of glory,  
Jesus, King of love,  
Is gone up in triumph  
To his throne above:

*All his work is ended,  
Joyfully we sing,  
Jesus hath ascended!  
Glory to our King!*

He who came to save us,  
He who bled and died,  
Now is crowned with glory  
At his Father's side.  
Never more to suffer,  
Never more to die;  
Jesus, King of glory,  
Has gone up on high:

*All his work is ended,  
Joyfully we sing,  
Jesus hath ascended!  
Glory to our King!*

Praying for his children,  
In that blessed place,  
Calling them to glory;  
Sending them his grace;  
His bright home preparing,  
Faithful ones for you;  
Jesus ever liveth,  
Ever loveth too:

#### *Going Out as God's People*

The Lord be with you  
**and also with you.**

Let us bless the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

#### *Notices*