

La Côte Anglican Church
Easter 5

The Joy of the Gospel

Welcome

O Lord, open our lips

All and our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

In your resurrection, O Christ,

All let heaven and earth rejoice. Alleluia.

Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us:

so let us celebrate the feast,

All not with the old leaven of corruption and wickedness:

but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.

1 Corinthians 5.7b, 8

Hymn All my hope on God is founded (*Richard and Heidi*)

1 All my hope on God is founded;

he doth still my trust renew.

Me through change and chance he guideth,

only good and only true.

God unknown,

he alone

calls my heart to be his own.

3 God's great goodness aye endureth,

deep his wisdom, passing thought:

splendour, light, and life attend him,

beauty springeth out of naught.

Evermore

from his store

new-born worlds rise and adore.

5 Still from earth to God eternal

sacrifice of praise be done,

high above all praises praising

for the gift of Christ his Son.

Christ doth call

one and all:

ye who follow shall not fall.

*Robert Seymour Bridges (1844-1930), based on 'Meine Hoffnung stehet feste' by
Joachim Neander (1650-1680) ©OUP*

Prayers of penitence and reconciliation

In baptism we died with Christ,
so that as Christ was raised from the dead,
we might walk in newness of life.
Let us receive new life in him as we confess our sins in penitence and faith.
Silence is kept

Like Mary at the empty tomb,
we fail to grasp the wonder of your presence.
Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Like the disciples behind locked doors,
we are afraid to be seen as your followers.
Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Like Thomas in the upper room,
we are slow to believe.
Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Absolution

May the God of love and power
forgive us and free us from our sins,
heal and strengthen us by his Spirit,
and raise us to new life in Christ our Lord.
All Amen.

First Reading

Psalm 22.25-end

²⁵From you comes my praise in the great congregation; my vows I will pay before those who fear him.

²⁶The poor shall eat and be satisfied; those who seek him shall praise the Lord. May your hearts live forever!

²⁷All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord; and all the families of the nations shall worship before him.

²⁸For dominion belongs to the Lord, and he rules over the nations.

²⁹To him, indeed, shall all who sleep in the earth bow down; before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, and I shall live for him.

³⁰Posterity will serve him; future generations will be told about the Lord,

³¹and proclaim his deliverance to a people yet unborn, saying that he has done it.

This is the Word of the Lord

All Thanks be to God.

New Testament Reading

Acts 8.26-40

²⁶Then an angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." (This is a wilderness road.) ²⁷So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship ²⁸and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. ²⁹Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over to this chariot and join it." ³⁰So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" ³¹He replied, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him.

³²Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this:

"Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter,
and like a lamb silent before its shearer,
so he does not open his mouth.

³³In his humiliation justice was denied him.

Who can describe his generation?

For his life is taken away from the earth."

³⁴The eunuch asked Philip, "About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" ³⁵Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus.

³⁶As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?" ³⁸He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. ³⁹When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. ⁴⁰But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

This is the word of the Lord

All Thanks be to God.

Reflection *The joy of the Gospel – for all!*

The Creed

Do you believe and trust in God the Father,
source of all being and life,
the one for whom we exist?

All We believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in God the Son,
who took our human nature, died for us and rose again?

All We believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit,
who gives life to the people of God
and makes Christ known in the world?

All We believe and trust in him.

This is the faith of the Church.

All This is our faith.

**We believe and trust in one God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.**

Amen.

Prayers

Collect for the day

Risen Christ,
your wounds declare your love for the world
and the wonder of your risen life:
give us compassion and courage
to risk ourselves for those we serve,
to the glory of God the Father.

Amen

The Lord's prayer

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us:

**All 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.

Hymn *There's a wideness in God's mercy (Richard and Heidi)*

1 There's a wideness in God's mercy,
like the wideness of the sea.
There's a kindness in God's justice,
which is more than liberty.

2 For the love of God is broader
than the measures of the mind,
and the heart of the Eternal
is most wonderfully kind.

3 But we make God's love too narrow
by false limits of our own,
and we magnify its strictness
with a zeal God will not own.

4 If our love were but more simple,
we should rest upon God's word,
and our lives would be illumined
by the presence of our Lord.

Frederick William Faber (1814-65)

Sending out

God the Father,
by whose glory Christ was raised from the dead,
strengthen you to walk with him in his risen life;
and the blessing ...

All Amen.

May the risen Christ grant us the joys of eternal life.

All Amen.

Let us bless the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia.

All Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

While we read the notices we will hear a piece of music from Heidi Hawkings – "La fille aux cheveux de lin" by Debussy. Thank you.

Prayer and Care

This week if you would like prayer for anything, do contact Peta Tracey, who will share your prayer request in confidence with our La Côte Church prayer group.

Please go to www.lacotechurch.ch for more information about our church.

Thank you for joining us in worship – we hope you have found hope and inspiration for your life.

If you would like to support our church with a gift, by card, click on this link:

<https://www.lacotechurch.ch/donate/>

Thank you to all of you who are pledging and donating your collections online, or putting collection money aside each week.

Here are the bank details for your online donations:

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