

# La Côte Anglican Church

*Morning Prayer*

*1<sup>st</sup> Sunday after Easter*

## Welcome

## Greeting

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**All He is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

## Song: *Alleluia, sing to Jesus*

1. Alleluia, sing to Jesus,  
his the sceptre, his the throne;  
alleluia, his the triumph,  
his the victory alone:  
hark, the songs of peaceful Sion  
thunder like a mighty flood:  
Jesus, out of ev'ry nation,  
hath redeemed us by his blood.
2. Alleluia, not as orphans  
are we left in sorrow now;  
alleluia, he is near us,  
faith believes, nor questions how;  
though the cloud from sight received him  
when the forty days were o'er,  
shall our hearts forget his promise,  
'I am with you evermore?'
4. Alleluia, King eternal,  
he the Lord of lords we own;  
alleluia, born of Mary,  
earth his footstool, heav'n his throne;  
he within the veil has entered  
robed in flesh, our great High Priest;  
he on earth both priest and victim  
in the Eucharist Feast.

### **Prayer**

Lord Jesus Christ,  
risen from death to life in the Father's love,  
raise us to share in the new life,  
that we may know your presence among us now,  
and serve you in the power of the Spirit.

**All Amen.**

### **Prayers of penitence**

'The doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews; Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." (*John 20:19*)

In this Easter season we bring our fears and failings to the risen Christ.

When we are faced with a challenge, but regress into old attitudes...  
Lord, have mercy.

**All Lord, have mercy.**

When we allow past hurts to undermine our present relationships...  
Christ, have mercy.

**All Christ, have mercy.**

When we face difficult times but fail to trust in your loving purposes...  
Lord, have mercy.

**All Lord, have mercy.**

When we look inwards to our selfish concerns rather than outwards to a world in need...  
Christ, have mercy.

**All Christ, have mercy.**

When we are agents of gloom rather than messengers of hope...  
Lord, have mercy.

**All Lord, have mercy.**

### **Absolution**

May Almighty God have mercy on *us*,  
forgive *us* our sins  
and bring *us* to everlasting life,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**All Amen.**

Blessed is the Lord,  
**All for he has heard the voice of our prayer;**

therefore shall our hearts dance for joy  
**All and in our song will we praise our God.**

**Song: *My song is love unknown***

My song is love unknown,  
my Saviour's love to me,  
love to the loveless shown,  
that they might lovely be.  
O who am I, that for my sake,  
my Lord should take frail flesh and die?

The night has passed, and the day lies open before us;  
let us pray with one heart and mind.

*Silence is kept.*

As we rejoice in the gift of this new day,  
so may the light of your presence, O God,  
set our hearts on fire with love for you;  
now and forever.

**All Amen.**

**First Reading**

*Acts 4:32-35*

<sup>32</sup> Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. <sup>33</sup> With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. <sup>34</sup> There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. <sup>35</sup> They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

This is the word of the Lord.

**All Thanks be to God.**

<sup>19</sup> When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." <sup>20</sup> After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. <sup>21</sup> Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." <sup>22</sup> When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. <sup>23</sup> If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

<sup>24</sup> But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. <sup>25</sup> So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

<sup>26</sup> A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." <sup>27</sup> Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." <sup>28</sup> Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" <sup>29</sup> Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

<sup>30</sup> Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. <sup>31</sup> But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

This is the word of the Lord.

**All Thanks be to God.**

## **Sermon**

### **Song: *Because he lives***

1. God sent his Son, they called Him Jesus;  
He came to love, heal, and forgive;  
He lived and died to buy my pardon,  
an empty grave is there to prove my Saviour lives.

*Because He lives I can face tomorrow;  
because He lives all fear is gone;  
because I know He holds the future,  
and life is worth the living just because He lives.*

2. How sweet to hold a new-born baby,  
and feel the pride and joy he gives;  
but greater still the calm assurance,  
this child can face uncertain days because He lives.
  
3. And then one day I'll cross the river;  
I'll fight life's final war with pain;  
and then as death give way to victory,  
I'll see the lights of glory and I'll know he lives.

### **The Creed**

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

**I 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,  
and he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come 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,  
and the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting.  
Amen.**

### **Prayers of Intercession**

#### **Collect**

Risen Christ,  
for whom no door is locked, no entrance barred:  
open the doors of our hearts, that we may seek the good of others  
and walk the joyful road of sacrifice and peace,  
to the praise of God the Father.

**All Amen.**

## The Lord's Prayer

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.**

### **Song: *This joyful Eastertide***

1. This joyful Eastertide,  
away with sin and sorrow.  
My love, the Crucified,  
hath sprung to life this morrow.

*Had Christ, that once was slain,  
ne'er burst his three-day prison,  
our faith had been in vain:  
but now hath Christ arisen,  
arisen, arisen, arisen.*

2. My flesh in hope shall rest,  
and for a season slumber;  
till trump from east to west  
shall wake the dead in number.
3. Death's flood hath lost its chill,  
since Jesus crossed the river:  
lover of souls, from ill  
my passing soul deliver.

## Concluding Prayer

Eternal God,  
our beginning and end,  
accompany us on this day's journey.  
Dawn on our darkness,  
open our eyes to praise you for your creation  
and to see the work you set before us today.  
Take us and use us  
to bring to others the new life you give  
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

**All Amen.**

## Prayer and Care

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

Please go to [www.lacotechurch.ch](http://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:

<http://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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