

**Welcome to worship in
Port Talbot Ministry Area
St Agnes' Church
Easter 5 - year A**

**Good Christians all, rejoice and sing
Now is the triumph of our King.
To all the world glad news we bring:
Alleluia!**

**The Lord of life is ris'n for ay:
bring flow'rs of song to strew his way;
let all mankind rejoice and say:
Alleluia!**

**Praise we in songs of victory
that love, that life, which cannot die,
and sing with hearts uplifted high:
Alleluia!**

**Thy name we bless, O risen Lord,
and sing today with one accord
the life laid down, the life restored:
Alleluia!**

In the name of the Father, and of the Son and of
the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Alleluia! Christ is risen.
He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

As God's own people, let us be together in this
place to proclaim the mighty acts of the one
who called us out of darkness and into God's
marvellous light

**Father of glory, holy and eternal, look upon us
now in power and mercy. May your strength
overcome our weakness, your radiance
transform our blindness, and your Spirit draw
us to that love shown and offered to us by
your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

Lord have mercy, Lord have mercy.

Christ have mercy, Christ have mercy.

Lord have mercy, Lord have mercy.

Christ our Passover lamb has been sacrificed
for us. Let us therefore rejoice by putting away
all malice and evil and confessing our sins with
a sincere and true heart.

Silence

**Heavenly Father, we have sinned in thought,
word and deed, and have failed to do what
we ought to have done. We are sorry and
truly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus
Christ who died for us, forgive us all that is
past and lead us in his way to walk as children
of light. Amen.**

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly
repent, have mercy on you and set you free
from sin, strengthen you in goodness and keep
you in eternal life; through Jesus Christ our
Lord. **Amen.**

**Glory to God, Glory to God,
Glory to God in the highest.
Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
We worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory**

**Glory to God, Glory to God,
Glory to God in the highest.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin
of the world, Have mercy on us;
You are seated at the right hand of the Father,
Receive our prayer.**

**Glory to God, Glory to God,
Glory to God in the highest.
For you alone are the holy one,
you alone are the Lord,
You alone are the most high, Jesus Christ,
With the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father.
Glory to God, Glory to God,
Glory to God in the highest.**

The Collect

Almighty God, who through your only-begotten Son Jesus Christ have overcome death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life: grant that, as by your grace going before us you put into our minds good desires, so by your continual help we may bring them to good effect; through Jesus Christ our risen Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Sit

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles 7. 55-60

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Stephen gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. 'Look,' he said, 'I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!' But

they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, 'Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.' Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, 'Lord, do not hold this sin against them.' When he had said this, he died.

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

Psalm 31

**My Rock and my Refuge, take note of my cry;
my Strength and my Saviour, on you I rely.
My righteous Deliverer, preserve me from
shame —
may I know your guidance, and honour your
name.**

**What power can dissuade me from trusting in
you?
My heart will be yours, for I know you are
true!
My soul was imprisoned till you set me free;
I bask in the love you have lavished on me.**

**Such total protection, such answers to prayer
—
may all who revere you rejoice in your care!
Take courage, you saints, and be strong in the
Lord,
for he is your Hope, your eternal Reward.**

A reading from the first letter of St Peter 2. 2-10

Like new-born infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation— if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and like living stones, let yourselves be built

into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For it stands in scripture: 'See, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious; and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.' To you then who believe, he is precious; but for those who do not believe, 'The stone that the builders rejected has become the very head of the corner', and 'A stone that makes them stumble, and a rock that makes them fall.' They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvellous light. Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

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

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Jesus said: "I am the Way, the Truth and the Life. No one can come to the Father except through me."

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Listen to the Gospel of Christ according to St John 14. 1-14

Glory to you O Lord

Jesus said to his disciples, 'Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling-places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going.' Thomas said to him, 'Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?' Jesus said to him, 'I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do

know him and have seen him.'

Philip said to him, 'Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.' Jesus said to him, 'Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, "Show us the Father"? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.

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

The Sermon

Stand

The Creed

**We believe in one God, the Father,
the almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven;
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified
under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.
We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son
is worshipped and glorified,
who has spoken through the Prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic
and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism
for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

The Intercessions

Lord, in your mercy.
Hear our prayer.

The prayers end with:

Merciful Father, **accept these prayers for the
sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ.
Amen.**

Stand

The Peace

The risen Christ came and stood among his disciples and said, "Peace be with you!" They were overjoyed on seeing the Lord.

The Peace of the Lord be with you always.
And also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

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The Offertory Hymn

How sweet the name of Jesus sounds
in a believer's ear!
It soothes our sorrows, heals our wounds,
and drives away our fear.

It makes the wounded spirit wholes,
and calms the troubled breast;
'tis manna to the hungry soul,
and to the weary rest.

Dear name! the rock on which I build,
my shield and hiding-place,
my never-failing treas'ry filled
with boundless stores of grace.

Jesus! my shepherd, brother, friend,
my prophet, priest, and king,
my Lord, my life, my way, my end,
accept the praise I bring.

Weak is the effort of my heart,
and cold my warmest thought;
but when I see thee as thou art,
I'll praise thee as I ought.

Till then I would thy love proclaim
with ev'ry fleeting breath;
and my the music of thy name
refresh my soul in death.

Pray, my brothers and sisters, that our sacrifice
may be acceptable to God the Almighty Father.
**May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your
hands for the praise and glory of his name, for
our good and the good of all his Holy Church.**

The Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, it is our duty and our joy at
all times and in all places to give you thanks,
holy Father, all-powerful and everliving God,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Because in his victory over death a new age
has dawned, the long reign of sin is ended, a
broken world is being renewed and we are
once again made whole.

And so with the hosts of angels and all the
company of heaven we proclaim the glory of
your name and join in their unending hymn of
praise:

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

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the
Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

All praise and thanks to you, true and living
God, Creator of all things, Giver of life. You
formed us in your own image; but we have
marred that image and fall short of your
glory.

We give you thanks that you sent your Son to
share our life; you gave him up to death that
the world might be saved, and you raised him
from the dead that we might live in him and
he in us.

Sanctify with your Spirit this bread and wine,
your gifts to us, that they may be for us the
body and blood of our Saviour Jesus Christ.

On the night he was betrayed, he took bread, and when he had given 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 when he had given thanks he gave it to them, saying, Drink from this, all of you, for 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.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come in glory.

As he has commanded us, Father, we remember Jesus Christ, your Son. Proclaiming his victorious death, rejoicing in his resurrection and waiting for him to come in glory we bring to you this bread, this cup.

Accept our sacrifice of thanks and praise. Restore and revive your people, renew us and all for whom we pray with your grace and heavenly blessing, and at the last receive us with all your saints into that unending joy promised by your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honour and glory are yours, almighty Father, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Let us pray with confidence to the Father in the words our Saviour gave us:

**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.**

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

Though we are many, we are one body for we all share in one bread.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: grant us peace.

Behold the lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world: Happy are those who are called to his supper.

Lord, I am not worthy to receive you, but only say the word and I shall be healed.

During Communion

**Bread of heav'n, on thee we feed,
for thy flesh is meat indeed;
ever may our souls be fed
with this true and living bread;
day by day with strength supplied
through the life of him who died.**

**Vine of heav'n, thy blood supplied
this blest cup of sacrifice;
Lord, thy wounds our healing give,
to thy cross we look and live:
Jesus, may we ever be
grafted, rooted, built on thee.**

Stand

The Sending Out

Give thanks to the Lord for he is gracious:
his love is everlasting.

**Eternal God, whose Son Jesus Christ is the way,
the truth, and the life: grant us to walk in his
way, to rejoice in his truth, and to share his
risen life; who is alive and reigns, now and for
ever. Amen.**

Sit for the notices etc.

Stand

The Blessing

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Almighty God, who through the resurrection of
our Lord Jesus Christ has given us the victory,
give you joy and peace in believing and the
blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son,
and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain
with you always. **Amen.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia,
alleluia.

In the name of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.

The Regina Coeli

**Joy to thee, O Queen of heaven, alleluia!
He whom thou wast meet to bear, alleluia!
As he promised hath arisen, alleluia!
Pour for us to God thy prayer, alleluia!**

Let us pray

O God, who by the resurrection of your Son,
Our Lord Jesus Christ, brought joy to the whole
world: grant that, aided by the prayers of his
Mother, the Virgin Mary, we may know the
joys of eternal life; through Jesus Christ our
Lord. **Amen.**

Recessional Hymn

**Love's redeeming work is done,
fought the fight, the battle won.
Lo, our Sun's eclipse is o'er!
Lo, he sets in blood no more!**

**Vain the stone, the watch, the seal;
Christ has burst the gates of hell;
death in vain forbids his rise;
Christ has opened paradise.**

**Lives again our glorious King;
where, O death, is now thy sting?
Dying once, he all doth save;
where thy victory, O grave?**

**Soar we now where Christ has led,
foll'wing out exalted Head;
made like him, like him we rise,
ours the cross, the grave, the skies.**

**Hail the Lord of earth and heav'n!
Praise to thee by both be giv'n:
thee we greet triumphant now;
hail, the Resurrection thou!**

