

**Welcome to worship in  
Port Talbot Ministry Area  
St Agnes' Church  
Easter 7 - year A**

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**Christ is the King, O friends rejoice!  
brothers and sisters, with one voice  
tell all the world he is your choice.  
Alleluia.**

**O magnify the Lord, and raise  
anthems of joy and holy praise  
for Christ's brave saints of ancient days.  
Alleluia.**

**They with a faith for ever new  
followed the King, and round him drew  
thousands of faithful hearts and true.  
Alleluia.**

**O Christian women, Christian men,  
all the world over, seek again  
the Way disciples followed then.  
Alleluia.**

**Christ through all ages is the same;  
place the same hope in his great name,  
with the same faith his word proclaim.  
Alleluia.**

**Let love's unconquerable might  
your scattered companies unite  
in service to the Lord of light.  
Alleluia.**

**So shall God's will on earth be done,  
new lamps be lit, new tasks begun,  
and the whole church at last be one.  
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!**

Sometimes in the Christian life we are called to suffer. Sometimes we witness the suffering of others. So let us ask for the courage to face suffering and pain.

**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**

O God the King of glory, you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven: we beseech you, leave us not comfortless, but send your Holy Spirit to strengthen us and exalt us to the place where our Saviour Christ is gone before, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

#### **Sit**

#### **A reading from the Acts of the Apostles 1. 6-14**

When the apostles had come together, they asked Jesus, 'Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?' He replied, 'It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. 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.' When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up towards heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. 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.'

Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day's journey away. When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying, Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

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

#### **Psalm 68**

**May God, our God, arise,  
put all his foes to flight,  
and show his saving power  
in majesty and might:  
though battles rage, come good or ill,  
we know God's love enfolds us still.**

**The Lord upholds the weak  
and calls the lonely friends;  
unshackled hearts enjoy  
the freedom he extends:  
our burdens every day he bears —  
he sees, he understands, he cares.**

**The food our bodies need  
his gracious hand supplies,  
and with abundant gifts  
he takes us by surprise —  
but more than this: he feeds the soul;  
his word makes broken spirits whole.**

**A reading from the first letter of St Peter 4. 12-14; 5. 6-11**

Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that is taking place among you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. But rejoice in so far as you are sharing Christ's sufferings, so that you may also be glad and shout for joy when his glory is revealed. If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the spirit of glory, which is the Spirit of God, is resting on you.

Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time. Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you. Discipline yourselves; keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour. Resist him, steadfast in your faith, for you know that your brothers and sisters throughout the world are undergoing the same kinds of suffering. And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you. To him be the power for ever and ever. Amen.

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

**Alleluia! Alleluia!**

I will not leave you orphans, says the Lord; I will come back to you, and your hearts will be full of joy.

**Alleluia! Alleluia!**

Listen to the Gospel of Christ according to St John 17. 1-11

**Glory to you O Lord**

Jesus looked up to heaven and said, 'Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. So now, Father, glorify

me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed. 'I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.

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**

Jesus said, Peace is my parting gift to you, my  
own peace such as the world cannot give.  
Trust in God always; trust also in me.

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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Church



## The Offertory Hymn

**Jesus is Lord! Creation's voice proclaims it,  
for by His power each tree and flower was  
planned and made.**

**Jesus is Lord! The universe declares it;  
sun, moon and stars in heaven cry:  
Jesus is Lord!**

*Jesus is Lord! Jesus is Lord!  
praise him with alleluias, for Jesus is Lord!*

**Jesus is Lord! yet from his throne eternal  
in flesh he came to die in pain  
on Calvary's tree  
Jesus is Lord! From him all life proceeding  
yet gave his life a ransom thus setting us free:**

**Jesus is Lord! O'er sin the mighty conqueror  
from death he rose, and all his foes  
shall own his name.  
Jesus is Lord! God sends his Holy Spirit  
to show by works of power that Jesus is Lord!**

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.

Who after his resurrection showed himself to  
his apostles and in their sight ascended into  
glory to prepare a place for us, that where he  
is, we might be also.

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**

**Come, see the Lord in his breathtaking splendour  
gaze at his majesty – bow and adore!  
Enter his presence with wonder and worship-  
he is the King, and enthroned evermore.**

**He is the Word who was sent by the Father,  
born as a baby, a child of our race:  
God here among us, revealed as a servant,  
walking the pathway of truth and of grace.**

**He is the Lamb who was slain to redeem us-  
there at the cross his appearance was marred;  
though he emerged from the grave as victor,  
still from the nails and the spear he is scarred.**

**He is the Lord who ascended in triumph-  
ever the sound of his praises shall ring!  
Hail him the First and the Last, the Almighty:  
Jesus, our Prophet, our Priest and our King.**

**Come, see the Lord in his breathtaking splendour:  
gaze at his majesty – bow and adore!  
Come and acknowledge him  
Saviour and Sovereign:  
Jesus our King is enthroned evermore.**

## **Stand**

### **The Sending Out**

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

**Eternal Giver of love and power, your Son  
Jesus Christ has sent us into all the world to  
preach the gospel of his kingdom: confirm us  
in this mission, and help us to live the good  
news we proclaim; through Jesus Christ our  
Lord. Amen.**

*Sit for the notices etc.*

## **Stand**

### **The Blessing**

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

**Christ our exalted King pour on you his  
abundant gifts that you may serve him and  
reign with him in glory 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**

**Jesus shall reign where'er the sun  
does his successive journeys run;  
his kingdom stretch from shore to shore,  
till moons shall wax and wane no more.**

**People and realms of every tongue  
dwell on his love with sweetest song;  
and infant voices shall proclaim  
their early blessings on his name.**

**Blessings abound where'er he reigns:  
the prisoner leaps to lose his chains;  
the weary find eternal rest,  
and all the sons of want are blest.**

**To him shall endless prayer be made,  
and praises throng to crown his head;  
his name like incense shall arise  
with every morning sacrifice.**

**Let every creature rise and bring  
peculiar honours to our King;  
angels descend with songs again,  
and earth repeat the loud Amen.**