

St. Andrew's Gorleston
WORSHIP TOGETHER
10 am - Sunday 28th April 2024
5th Sunday of Easter



Welcome

(Please join in with words in bold type)

"I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing." John 15:5

Come away from your busyness. Leave your stresses at the door. Come and reconnect with God. Remain in him and grow. Grow closer, grow deeper. Grow and be fruitful. Come and glorify God!

We gather here, O Lord, for you, the vine, to nourish us. May we, the branches, draw our strength from you, and grow in harmony, unity and love. May we find nourishment through our rootedness in the life, teachings and love of Christ. Receive the fruits of our worship and be glorified. Amen.

Hymn The strife is o'er, the battle done;

now is the Victor's triumph won;
O let the song of praise be sung:
Alleluia.

Death's mightiest powers have done their worst,
and Jesus hath his foes dispersed;
let shouts of praise and joy outburst:
Alleluia.

On the third morn he rose again
glorious in majesty to reign;
O let us swell the joyful strain:
Alleluia.

Lord, by the stripes which wounded thee
from death's dread sting thy servants free,
that we may live, and sing to thee
Alleluia.

Finita iam sunt praelia (Latin, probably 17th century) translated by Francis Pott (1832–1909) Reproduced from Ancient & Modern Electronic Words Edition, number 217. CCLI Song #7005570 © Words: Public Domain; Music: Public Domain CCLI Licence No. 2097

Confession

Gracious God, we come to you aware of our failings and conscious that we have tried to live in our own strength. **Forgive us and reconnect us to your vine.** We have resisted the challenge of change and not trusted your truth. **Forgive us and reconnect us to your vine.** We have rooted ourselves in our wills and not in your word. **Forgive us and reconnect us to your vine.** We have looked for quick fixes and not kingdom-shaped growth. **Forgive us and reconnect us to your vine. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, your Son, our Saviour. Amen.**

Lord, we thank you that when our faith becomes straggly, you prune it with your wisdom when it becomes malnourished, you nurture it with your grace; when it becomes brittle, you strengthen it with your truth; when it becomes barren, you restore it with your life-giving energy, forgiveness and love.

Amen.

The collect for the 5th Sunday of Easter

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.**

Song Bless the Lord O my soul O my soul

Worship His holy name
Sing like never before O my soul
I'll worship Your holy name

The sun comes up it's a new day dawning
It's time to sing Your song again
Whatever may pass and whatever lies before me
Let me be singing when the evening comes

You're rich in love and You're slow to anger
Your name is great and Your heart is kind
For all Your goodness I will keep on singing
Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find

And on that day when my strength is failing
The end draws near and my time has come
Still my soul will sing Your praise unending
Ten thousand years and then forevermore

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First Reading

1 John 4:7-18

Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love. This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us. This is how we know that we live in him and he in us: He has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Saviour of the world. If anyone acknowledges that Jesus is the Son of God, God lives in them and they in God. And so we know and rely on the love God has for us. God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in them. This is how love is made complete among us so that we will have confidence on the day of judgment: In this world we are like Jesus. There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect in love.

For the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God**

Anthem by choir

Blessed be the God and Father (Samuel Sebastian Wesley)

Based on verses from 1 Peter 1:3-24

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again
unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,
to an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled,
that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you,
who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation
ready to be revealed in the last time.

But as he which hath called you is holy,
so be ye holy in all manner of conversation.

Pass the time of your sojourning here in fear.

See that ye love one another with a pure heart fervently.

Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible,
by the word of God.

For all flesh is as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of grass.

The grass withereth, and the flower thereof falleth away:

But the word of the Lord endureth for ever. Amen.

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Second Reading

John 15:1-8

“I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful. You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me. “I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. If you do not remain in me, you are like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. This is to my Father’s glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.

For the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Talk

Song *You Are The Vine*

We are the branches

Keep us abiding in You

You are the vine

We are the branches

Keep us abiding in You

And we'll go in Your love

And we'll go in Your name

That the world will surely know

That You have power

To heal and to save
You are the vine
We are the branches
Keep us abiding in You

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Affirmation of Faith

Let us declare our faith in God.

We believe in God the Father, from whom every family in heaven and earth is named. We believe in God the Son, who lives in our hearts through faith, and fills us with his love. We believe in God the Holy Spirit, who strengthens us with power from on high. We believe in one God; Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

Intercessions The Lord's Prayer

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.

Birthdays & Notices

Hymn Love divine, all loves excelling,
joy of heaven, to earth come down,
fix in us thy humble dwelling,
all thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesu, thou art all compassion,
pure unbounded love thou art;
visit us with thy salvation,
enter every trembling heart.

Come, almighty to deliver,
let us all thy grace receive;
suddenly return, and never,
never more thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing,
serve thee as thy hosts above;
pray, and praise thee, without ceasing,
glory in thy perfect love.

Finish then thy new creation:
pure and spotless let us be;
let us see thy great salvation
perfectly restored in thee;
Changed from glory into glory
till in heaven we take our place,
till we cast our crowns before thee,
lost in wonder, love, and praise.

Charles Wesley (1707–1788) * Reproduced from *Ancient & Modern Electronic Words Edition*, number 721.
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As we leave this place, may we abide with God, grafted and rooted and pruned. Lord, help us to stay connected to one another and to you, bearing fruit wherever your love takes us. Amen.

The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. Amen.

Common Worship: Services and Prayers for the Church of England (2000) (including the Psalter as published with Common Worship)

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