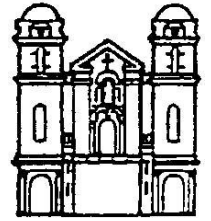


The Church of St James the Greater  
Leicester  
**Dawn Service**



*We gather in silence.*

*After a while the Easter fire is lit, whilst the following prayer is said:*

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation, to you be glory and praise for ever.  
Your steadfast love extends to the heavens and your faithfulness never ceases.  
Illuminate our hearts with your wisdom and strengthen our lives with your word, for you are the fountain of life; in your light we see true light.

Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

**Blessed be God for ever.**

As we await the risen Christ, let us hear the record of God's saving deeds in history, recalling how he saved his people in ages past and in the fullness of time sent his Son to be our Redeemer; and let us pray that through this Easter celebration God may bring to perfection in each of us the saving work he has begun.

*Reading: Genesis 7:1-5, 11-18, 8:6-19, 9:8-13 – Noah and the flood*

In baptism we died to sin.

**In Christ we are raised to life**

*Reading: Genesis 22:1-18 – Abraham and Isaac*

God so loved the world

**That he gave his only Son.**

*Reading: 14:10-15:1 – Crossing the Red Sea*

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

**Therefore let us keep the feast.**

*Silence*

*A light is lit from the fire.*

Eternal God, who made this most holy night to shine with the brightness of your one true light, set us aflame with the fire of your love, and bring us to the radiance of your heavenly glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen**

Jesus Christ is risen from the dead.

**Alleluia**

He has defeated the powers of death.

**Alleluia**

Jesus turns our sorrow into dancing.

**Alleluia**

He has the words of eternal life.

**Alleluia**

*The light is taken into church.*

*The Pascal candle is marked as these words are said:*

Christ yesterday and today,

The beginning and the end,

Alpha and Omega,

All time belongs to him,

And all ages:

To him be glory and power,

Through every age and forever.

**Amen.**

*The pascal candle is kindled.*

May the light of Christ, rising in glory, banish all darkness from our hearts and minds.

The light of Christ

**Thanks be to God.**

*The procession moves further into church*

The light of Christ

**Thanks be to God.**

*The procession continues to the chancel steps*

The light of Christ

**Thanks be to God.**

*The Exsultet is sung.*

The Lord be with you

**And also with you**

Lift up your hearts

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

**It is right to give thanks and praise.**

*The prayer of thanksgiving continues, concluding with,*

...Christ lives and reigns for ever and ever!

**Amen.**

Alleluia, Christ is risen!

**He is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

*Gospel reading: Mark 16:1-8*

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Mark

This is the Gospel of the Lord

**Praise to you O Christ**

**Hymn 77**

**Jesus Christ is Risen today**

*The Renewal of Baptismal Vows*

Do you turn to Christ?

**I turn to Christ.**

Do you repent of your sins?

**I repent of my sins.**

Do you renounce evil?

**I renounce evil.**

Praise God who made heaven and earth,

**Who keeps his promise for ever.**

*The Statement of Faith*

Do you believe and trust in God the Father, who made the world?

**I believe and trust in him.**

Do you believe and trust in his Son Jesus Christ, who took our human nature, died for us and rose again?

**I believe and trust in him.**

Do you believe and trust in his Holy Spirit, who gives life to the people of God?

**I believe and trust in him.**

This is the faith of the Church.

**This is our faith.**

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

*The Peace*

The risen Christ came and stood among his disciples and said, "Peace be with you." Then were they glad when they saw the Lord. Alleluia.

Alleluia. The peace of Christ be always with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

*The Dismissal*

Alleluia, Christ is risen!

**He is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Praise the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**He has given us new life and hope by raising Jesus from the dead.**

God has claimed us as his own.

**He has brought us out of darkness.**

**He has made us light to the world.**

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

**He is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

Go in the peace of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.

**Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**