

St. Peter's Church, Swettenham

EASTER SUNDAY FAMILY SERVICE WITH BAPTISM 27TH MARCH 2016



A very warm welcome to the community here at St. Peter's where worship has been offered on this site since Saxon times. The present Church building has its origins in the late 13th Century and has been the place of worship for the village of Swettenham since then. An induction loop system operates here. A very warm welcome to Daniel & Jane together with their family and friends as they bring their son Joseph for baptism.

If you make use of a hearing aid please switch to "T" for enhanced sound. There will be a collection taken during the Offertory Hymn for the Ministry, Mission and upkeep of this beautiful Church building that costs £2,417 month to maintain. Please use one of the Gift Aid envelopes in the pews as this adds 25% to the value of your offering. Thank you.

The Eucharist's of Easter Day is the principal act of worship in the Christian year, and all Sunday Eucharist's throughout the year derive from them since every Eucharist is a celebration of, and participation in, Christ's risen presence.

The readings and sermon proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ, risen from the dead. We rejoice in the sacramental presence of the risen Lord as he comes among us in the broken bread and wine outpoured – renewing and empowering us for service in his world.

The baptism of Joseph into the living body of the Church is his first step into the new life offered by the risen Lord.

All who regularly receive Holy Communion in this or other churches are invited to do so at this service.

The Presider begins the service with the lighting of the Paschal Candle. Please turn to face the back

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

All Blessed be God for ever.

THE EASTER CANDLE IS MARKED

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 for
ever. **Amen.**

NAILS ARE INSERTED INTO THE EASTER CANDLE

By his holy and glorious wounds, may Christ our Lord guard and keep us. **Amen.**

THE EASTER CANDLE IS LIT

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

All Thanks be to God.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN:

Jesus Christ is risen to-day, Alleluya,
Our triumphant holy day, Alleluya,
Who did once, upon the cross, Alleluya,
Suffer to redeem our loss. Alleluya.

Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluya,
Unto Christ, our heavenly King, Alleluya,
Who endured the Cross and grave, Alleluya,
Sinners to redeem and save. Alleluya.

But the pains that he endured, Alleluya,
Our salvation have procured, Alleluya;
Now above the sky he's King, Alleluya,
Where the angels ever sing. Alleluya.

THE GATHERING

All remain standing. The Presider says

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

Risen Lord Jesus, as Mary Magdalene met you in the garden on the morning of your resurrection, so may we meet you today and every day: speak to us as you spoke to her; reveal yourself as the living Lord: renew our hope and kindle our joy; and send us to share the good news with others. **Amen.**

Alleluia. Alleluia. Christ is risen.

All He is risen indeed. Alleluia. Alleluia.

God raised Jesus Christ from the dead and sent the Holy Spirit to recall the whole world to himself. In baptism we die to sin and rise to newness of life in Christ. Here we find rebirth in the Spirit, and set our minds on his heavenly gifts. As children of God, we are continually created anew, as we walk the path of faith, and feed on the forgiveness of his healing grace.

All remain standing to say GLORIA IN EXCELSIS DEO:

**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.
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.
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.
Amen.**

All remain standing. The Vicar says THE EASTER COLLECT:

Lord of all life and power, who through the mighty resurrection of your Son, Jesus Christ, overcame the old order of sin and death to make all things new in him: grant that we, being dead to sin and alive to you in Jesus Christ, may reign with him in glory; to whom with you and the Holy Spirit be praise and honour, glory and might, now and in all eternity. **Amen.**

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

All sit for THE NEW TESTAMENT READING: Acts 10: 34–43

Peter began to speak to those assembled in the house of Cornelius. 'I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ – he is Lord of all.

That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem.

They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.'

At the end of the reading:

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

All stand for THE GRADUAL HYMN: The Day of Resurrection!

1. The Day of Resurrection!
Earth, tell it out abroad;
the Passover of gladness,
the Passover of God;
from death to life eternal,
from earth unto the sky,
our God hath brought us over
with hymns of victory.

2. Our hearts be pure from evil,
that we may see aright
the Lord in rays eternal
of resurrection light;
and, listening to his accents,
may hear so calm and plain
his own 'All hail,' and, hearing,
may raise the victor strain.

3. Now let the heavens be joyful,
and earth her song begin,
the round world keep high triumph,
and all that is therein;
let all things seen and unseen
their notes of gladness blend,
for Christ the Lord is risen,
our joy that hath no end.

All remain standing for THE GOSPEL.

At the start the reader says:

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

All Glory to you, O Lord.

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, 'They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him.' Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went towards the tomb. The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in.

Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, and the cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; for as yet they did

not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. Then the disciples returned to their homes.

But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. They said to her, 'Woman, why are you weeping?' She said to them, 'They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him.' When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus.

Jesus said to her, 'Woman, why are you weeping? For whom are you looking?' Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, 'Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away.' Jesus said to her, 'Mary!' She turned and said to him in Hebrew, 'Rabbouni!' which means Teacher. Jesus said to her, 'Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.' Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, 'I have seen the Lord'; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

At the end:

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All Praise to you, O Christ.

Please sit for THE ADDRESS - Revd Ian Godfrey

The parents and Godparents will stand for THE LITURGY OF BAPTISM beginning with THE PRESENTATION OF THE CANDIDATE:

The Vicar addresses the whole congregation:

Faith is the gift of God to his people. In baptism the Lord is adding to our number those whom he is calling. People of God, will you welcome Joseph and uphold him in his new life in Christ?

All: With the help of God, we will.

The Vicar then says to the parents and godparents:

Parents and godparents, the Church receives Joseph with joy. Today we are trusting God for his growth in faith. Will you pray for him, draw him by your example into the community of faith and walk with him in the way of Christ?

Answer: With the help of God, we will.

In baptism he begins his journey in faith. You speak for him today. Will you care for him, and help him to take his place within the life and worship of Christ's Church?

Answer: With the help of God, we will.

All remain standing for THE DECISION

The Vicar addresses the candidate through his parents and godparents:

In baptism, God calls us out of darkness into his marvellous light. To follow Christ means dying to sin and rising to new life with him. Therefore I ask:

Do you reject the devil and all rebellion against God?

Answer: I reject them.

Do you renounce the deceit and corruption of evil?

Answer: I renounce them.

Do you repent of the sins that separate us from God and neighbour?

Answer: I repent of them.

Do you turn to Christ as Saviour?

Answer: I turn to Christ.

Do you submit to Christ as Lord?

Answer: I submit to Christ.

Do you come to Christ, the way, the truth and the life?

Answer: I come to Christ.

All remain standing for THE SIGNING WITH THE CROSS:

The Vicar makes the sign of the cross on the forehead of the candidate, saying:

Christ claims you for his own. Receive the sign of his cross.

The Vicar invites parents and godparents to sign the candidate with the cross. When the candidate has been signed, the president continues:

Do not be ashamed to confess the faith of Christ crucified.

All: Fight valiantly as a disciple of Christ against sin, the world and the devil, and remain faithful to Christ to the end of your life.

Vicar: May almighty God deliver you from the powers of darkness, restore in you the image of his glory, and lead you in the light and obedience of Christ.
Amen.

Please stand for the Vicar & Baptism party as they process to the Font during which we sing the first two verses of Be still for the presence of the Lord

1. Be still for the presence of the Lord
The holy one is here
Come bow before him now
With reverence and fear
In him no sin is found
We stand on holy ground
Be still for the presence of the Lord
The holy one is here

2. Be still for the glory of the Lord
Is shining all around
He burns with holy fire
With splendour he is crowned
How awesome is the sight
Our radiant king of light
Be still for the glory of the Lord
Is shining all around

PRAYER OVER THE WATER

The president stands before the water of baptism and says

Praise God who made heaven and earth,

All: who keeps his promise for ever.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give thanks and praise.

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ was baptised in the river Jordan: we thank you for the gift of water to cleanse us and revive us.

We thank you that through the waters of the Red Sea you led your people out of slavery to freedom in the promised land. We thank you that through the deep waters of death you brought your Son, and raised him to life in triumph.

Bless this water, that your servants who are washed in it may be made one with Christ in his death and in his resurrection, to be cleansed and delivered from all sin. Send your Holy Spirit upon them, bring them to new birth in the household of faith, and raise them with Christ to full and eternal life; for all might, authority, and power are yours, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Vicar invites the congregation to make THE PROFESSION OF FAITH:

Let us affirm, together with those who are being baptized, our common faith in Jesus Christ.

Do you believe and trust in God the Father, source of all being and life, the one for whom we exist?

All: We believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in God the Son, who took our human nature, died for us and rose again?

All: We believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit, who gives life to the people of God and makes Christ known in the world?

All: We believe and trust in him.

This is the faith of the Church.

All: This is our faith. We believe and trust in one God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

All remain standing for THE BAPTISM: The Vicar pours water on the candidate, saying:

Joseph Charles I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

The Vicar continues:

May God, who has received you by baptism into his Church, pour upon you the riches of his grace, that within the company of Christ's pilgrim people you may daily be renewed by his anointing Spirit, and come to the inheritance of the saints in glory. **Amen.**

The Baptism party return to the front of the Church during which we sing the third verse of Be still for the presence of the Lord.

3. Be still for the power of the Lord
Is moving in this place
He comes to cleanse and heal
To minister his grace
No work to hard for him
In faith receive from him
Be still for the power of the Lord
Is moving in this place

All sit or kneel for THE INTERCESSIONS:

God of glory, whose radiance shines from the face of Christ, give your children such assurance of your mercy and such knowledge of your grace, that, believing all you promise, and receiving all you give, they may be transformed ever more closely by your Spirit into the image of Jesus, your Son. Especially at this time we pray for your children in ... Father of life,

All: make known your glory.

God of light, whose life shines beyond all things, give us and all your Church the will to follow Christ and to bear his peace, that the light of Christ may bring confidence to the world, and faithfulness to all who look to you in hope. Especially those in our community who are unwell, or housebound or in any need ... Father of life,

All: make known your glory.

God of power, whose word gives life to heaven and earth, pour your abundant gifts on all your creation, that the blind may see, the fallen may be raised, and your people find tongues to confess your promises of a broken world made new. Especially to those who have died ... Father of life,

All: make known your glory.

All stand for THE WELCOME:

Vicar Joseph Charles Knight by one Spirit we are all baptized into one body.

All: We welcome you into the fellowship of faith; we are children of the same heavenly Father; we welcome you.

All remain standing. Following the WELCOME, and during THE OFFERTORY HYMN, and a COLLECTION is taken. Please use one of the Gift Aid envelopes. This adds 25% to the value of your offering: We sing the following hymn:

Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son,
Endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won;
Angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away,
Kept the folded grave-clothes where thy body lay.

*Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son,
Endless is the vict'ry thou o'er death hast won.*

Lo, Jesus meets us, risen from the tomb;
Lovingly he greets us, scatters fear and gloom;
Let the Church with gladness hymns of triumph sing,
For her Lord now liveth, death hath lost its sting:

No more we doubt thee, glorious Prince of Life;
Life is nought without thee: aid us in our strife,
Make us more than conquerors through thy deathless love;
Bring us safe through Jordan to thy home above:

Presider: The Lord be with you

All: And also with you

Presider: Lift up your hearts

All: We lift them to the Lord

Presider: Let us give thanks to the Lord

All: It is meet and right so to do

But chiefly are we bound to praise you because you raised him gloriously from the dead. For he is the true paschal lamb who was offered for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has restored to us everlasting life.

Therefore with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we proclaim your great and glorious name, for ever praising you and singing:

All: 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.

We praise and bless you, loving Father, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; and as we obey his command, send your Holy Spirit, that broken bread and wine outpoured may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

On the night before he died he had supper with his friends and, taking bread, he praised you. He broke the bread, gave it to them and said: Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me. When supper was ended he took the cup of wine. Again he praised you, gave it to them and said:

Drink this, all of you; 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.

So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did, in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice made once for all upon the cross. Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation, we proclaim his death and resurrection until he comes in glory.

Great is the mystery of faith:

**All: Christ has died
Christ is risen
Christ will come again.**

Lord of all life, help us to work together for that day when your kingdom comes and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth. Look with favour on your people, gather us in your loving arms and bring us with the Blessed Virgin Mary, Peter, Luke and all the saints to feast at your table in heaven.

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

Please sit or kneel for THE LORD'S PRAYER:

Vicar: Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught 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.

All remain kneeling for THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD:

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

**All Though we are many, we are one body,
 because we all share in one bread.**

All remain kneeling for THE INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Alleluia. Alleluia. Christ our passover is sacrificed for us.

All Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia. Alleluia.

COMMUNION:

Those wishing to receive Communion come forward, if you receive communion in your own church you are welcome to do so here. Those who do not wish to receive Communion are invited to come for a blessing. Please carry this booklet with you to indicate to that you are asking for a blessing.

After COMMUNION all kneel for THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER:

All God of Life, who for our redemption gave your only-begotten Son to the death of the cross, and by his glorious resurrection have delivered us from the power of our enemy: grant us so to die daily to sin, that we may evermore live with him in the joy of his risen life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Presider says THE BLESSING:

God the Father,

by whose love Christ was raised from the dead, open to you who believe the gates of everlasting life. **Amen.**

God the Son,

who in bursting from the grave has won a glorious victory, give you joy as you share the Easter faith. **Amen.**

God the Holy Spirit,

who filled the disciples with the life of the risen Lord, empower you and fill you with Christ's peace. **Amen.**

And the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

All stand for the POST-COMMUNION HYMN

I danced in the morning when the world was begun,
And I danced in the moon and the stars and the sun,
I came down from heaven and I danced on the earth;
At Bethlehem I had my birth.

*Dance, then, wherever you may be;
I am the Lord of the Dance, said he,
And I'll lead you all, wherever you may be,
And I'll lead you all in the dance, said he.*

I danced for the scribe and the pharisee,
But they would not dance and they would not follow me.
I danced for the fishermen, for James and John—
They came with me and the dance went on.

I danced on the Sabbath and I cured the lame;
The holy people said it was a shame.
They whipped and they stripped and they hung me on high
They left me there on a cross to die.

I danced on a Friday when the sky turned black—
It's hard to dance with the devil on your back.
They buried my body and they thought I'd gone;
But I am the dance and I still go on.
They cut me down and I leapt up high;
I am the life that will never, never die;
I'll live in you if you'll live in me—
I am the Lord of the Dance said he.

During the preceding hymn a candle is lit from the Paschal candle. The Vicar gives the candle and the Bible to Joseph's parents Daniel & Jane, saying:

God has delivered us from the dominion of darkness and has given us a place with the saints in light. You have received the light of Christ; walk in this light all the days of your life.

All Shine as a light in the world to the glory of God the Father.

Vicar With the power that raised Jesus from the dead at work within you, go in the light and peace of Christ. Alleluia! Alleluia!

All Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia.

Evensong at St. Peter's this evening 6.30pm

Next Week at St. Peter's

EVENSONG — 6.30PM

THIS WEEK

Wednesday 30th 8.00 pm W.I. Committee Meeting at The Swettenham Club

*Ian & Audrey wish
you all a joyful Easter*



St. Peter's
CHOIR
Swettenham

New
Choir Members
Welcome!

Please speak to Ian 01477 532109

Thank you to all who have contributed in various ways, through cleaning of the Church to arranging the beautiful flowers and participating in other ways to prepare for our Services this Easter.



Petertide Festival

Friday 1st - Sunday 3rd July

St. Peter's Church, Swettenham

Exhibition of



Christening Gowns
through the years



together with photos

Saturday 2nd July

7.30pm

Concert with



The Kingsfield Singers

Rogation Service

Sunday 5th June at 11.15 am



Followed by lunch at
The Fields Farm, Kermincham
Further details to follow