

Welcome

Easter Greeting

Hallelujah. Christ is risen.

He is risen indeed. Hallelujah!

Opening Prayer

Lord of Resurrection surprises, open our hearts this day to the presence of Jesus Christ. Erase our excuses for unbelief, and exchange them for strong witness to the power of your mercy and love. Give us courage and challenge us to walk the path of discipleship, knowing that Jesus goes before us, leading and guiding our steps. In his name, we pray. **Amen.**

Worship in Song

See, what a morning, gloriously bright,
With the dawning of hope in Jerusalem;
Folded, the grave-clothes, tomb filled with light
As the angels announce Christ is risen.
See God's salvation plan,
Wrought in love, borne in pain, paid in sacrifice
Fulfilled in Christ the Man,
For He lives, Christ is risen from the dead.

See Mary weeping, 'Where is He laid?'
As in sorrow she turns from the empty tomb;
Hears a voice speaking, calling her name;
It's the Master, the Lord, raised to life again.
The voice that spans the years,
Speaking life, stirring hope, bringing peace to us
Will sound till he appears,
For he lives, Christ is risen from the dead.

One with the Father, Ancient of Days,
Through the Spirit who clothes faith with certainty;
Honour and blessing, glory and praise
To the King crowned with power and authority.
And we are raised with him,
Death is dead, love has won, Christ has conquered;
And we shall reign with him,
For he lives, Christ is risen from the dead.

Confession

Lord Jesus Christ, crucified, risen and ascended for us: we have not loved you as our Redeemer, nor obeyed you as our Lord; we have not brought our prayers to you, nor heeded your tears shed over the world. Forgive us, we pray; breathe into us a new spirit of service, and make us joyfully obedient to your will: for your glory's sake. **Amen**

May almighty God, who sent his Son into the world to save sinners, bring you his pardon and peace, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Special Prayer for Today

Almighty Father, you have given your only Son to die for our sins and to rise again for our justification: grant us so to put away the leaven of malice and wickedness that we may always serve you in pureness of living and truth; through the merits of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Bible Readings

Colossians 1.1-2 & 15-20 (*Church Bible p983*)

Luke 13.6-9 (*Church Bible page 872*)

Sermon

Worship in Song

My hope is built on nothing less
Than Jesus blood and righteousness
I dare not trust the sweetest frame
But wholly trust in Jesus name

Christ alone cornerstone
Weak made strong in the Saviour's love
Through the storm he is Lord, Lord of all

When darkness seems to hide his face
I rest on his unchanging grace
In every high and stormy gale
My anchor holds within the veil
My anchor holds within the veil

When he shall come with trumpet sound
Oh may I then in him be found
Dressed in his righteousness alone
Faultless I stand before the throne
Faultless I stand before the throne

Creed

Let us declare our faith in the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ:

Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures; he was buried; he was raised to life on the third day in accordance with the scriptures; afterwards he appeared to his followers, and to all the apostles: this we have received, and this we believe. Amen.

Prayers

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

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

The peace of the Lord be always with you
and also with you.

Worship in Song

Man of sorrows Lamb of God
By his own betrayed
The sin of man and wrath of God
Has been on Jesus laid

Silent as he stood accused
Beaten mocked and scorned
Bowing to the Father's will
He took a crown of thorns

Oh that rugged cross my salvation
Where your love poured out over me
Now my soul cries out hallelujah
Praise and honour unto thee

Sent of heaven God's own Son
To purchase and redeem
And reconcile the very ones
Who nailed him to that tree

Bridge: Now my debt is paid, it is paid in full
By the precious blood, that my Jesus spilled
Now the curse of sin has no hold on me
Whom the Son sets free oh is free indeed

See the stone is rolled away
Behold the empty tomb
Hallelujah God be praised
He's risen from the grave

Offertory Prayer

Lord Jesus Christ, you emptied yourself, taking the form of a servant. Through your love, make us servants of one another. Lord Jesus Christ, for our sake you became poor. May our lives and gifts enrich the life of your world. Amen.

The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord is here. **His Spirit is with us.**

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

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

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, always and everywhere to give you thanks, almighty and eternal Father, and in these days of Easter to celebrate with joyful hearts the memory of your wonderful works. For by the mystery of his passion Jesus Christ, your risen Son, has conquered the powers of death and hell and restored in men and women the image of your glory. He has placed them once more in paradise and opened to them the gate of life eternal. And so, in the joy of this Passover, earth and heaven resound with gladness, while angels and archangels and the powers of all creation sing for ever the hymn of your glory.

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. 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.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus:

Dying you destroyed our death, rising you restored our life. Lord Jesus, come in glory.

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 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.**

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.

Breaking of the Bread

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ. **Though we are many, we are one body, because we all share in one bread.**

Giving of Communion

Draw near with faith. Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ which he gave for you, and his blood which he shed for you. Eat and drink in remembrance that he died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

We receive communion

Worship in Song during communion

When I survey the wondrous cross
On which the Prince of glory died
My richest gain I count but loss
And pour contempt on all my pride.

Forbid it Lord, that I should boast
Save in the death of Christ my God
All the vain things that charm me most
I sacrifice them to his blood.

See from his head, his hands, his feet
Sorrow and love flow mingled down
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet
Or thorns compose so rich a crown?

Were the whole realm of nature mine
That were an offering far too small
Love so amazing, so divine
Demands my soul, my life, my all.

Worship in Song during communion

Oh to see the dawn of the darkest day
Christ on the road to Calvary
Tried by sinful men torn and beaten then
Nailed to a cross of wood

This the power of the cross,
Christ became sin for us
Took the blame bore the wrath
We stand forgiven at the cross

Oh to see the pain written on Your face
Bearing the awesome weight of sin
Every bitter thought every evil deed
Crowning Your bloodstained brow

Now the daylight flees now the ground beneath
Quakes as its Maker bows his head
Curtain torn in two dead are raised to life
Finished the victory cry

Oh to see my name written in the wounds
For through your suffering I am free
Death is crushed to death life is mine to live
Won through your selfless love

This the power of the cross
Son of God slain for us
What a love what a cost
We stand forgiven at the cross

Prayer after Communion

Risen Christ, for whom no door is locked, no
entrance barred: open the doors of our hearts,
that we may seek the good of others and walk
the joyful road of sacrifice and peace, to the praise
of God the Father. **Amen.**

Worship in Song

When my hope and strength is gone
You're the One who calls me on
You are the life, you are the fight that's in my soul
Oh your resurrection power
Burns like fire in my heart
When waters rise, I lift my eyes up to your throne

We are more than conquerors through Christ
You have overcome this world this life
We will not bow to sin or to shame
We are defiant in your name
You are the fire that cannot be tamed
You are the power in our veins
Our Lord our God our conqueror

I will sing into the night
Christ is risen and on high
Greater is he, living in me than in the world
No surrender no retreat
We are free and we're redeemed
We will declare, over despair you are the hope

Nothing is impossible
Every chain is breakable
With you we are victorious
You are stronger than our hearts
You are greater than the dark
With you we are victorious

Blessing

Go from here as witnesses of what you have
seen and heard. Share God's love with those
you meet. Bring hope to those who are in
despair. Live lives of gratitude and praise. And
may the blessing of God almighty, the Father,
the Son and the Holy Spirit, be with you now
and always. **Amen.**

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