



EASTER DAY!

**Alleluia! Christ is risen!
He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

Hymn: [Christ the Lord is risen today!](#)

(Hymn 298 in Singing the Faith, there are many great YouTube versions – N.B. words differ. I like this one as it is a virtual choir from our lock-down times)

Let us pray:

Glory to you, O God: you raised Jesus from the grave, bringing us victory over death and giving us eternal life. Glory to you, O Christ; for us and for our salvation you overcame death and opened the gate to everlasting life. Glory to you, O Holy Spirit; you lead us into the truth and breathe new life into us. Glory to you, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and for ever.

Amen.

If we have fallen into despair, **Lord forgive us.**

If we have failed to hope in you, **Lord forgive us.** If we have forgotten the victory of Christ, **Lord forgive us.**

Silence

May the living God raise us from despair, give us victory over sin and set us free in Christ.

Amen.

Reading: [Luke 24: 1-35](#)

Hymn 309: [See, what a morning!](#)

Greetings! It's Easter Day. And what a strange Easter Day – somehow it feels like perhaps we shouldn't be celebrating resurrection while the world is still in the grip of this terrible pandemic. Perhaps you might feel like it's still Saturday? We know Jesus has died for us – we know there is suffering in the world and God feels it – we have hope – but everything seems dead and buried, shut-up and entombed – and we want this time of waiting and grieving to pass. That Jesus is risen – that Jesus has power over death and the grave – might still sound to us as foolish as it did to those first disciples when the women came running back from the tomb. But it is true! We know it is true. Jesus is alive – and alive to bless us and save us! How do we know? Not just because we have read it in the Bible, not because we have been told it by someone else, not even because we have seen the transformation Christ's life brings to others.... No – we know Jesus is alive because our hearts have burned within us as he has walked beside

us down the road. Today – when we can't be together in church – is a day to look back on your own experience of walking with Jesus Christ. How has he made himself know to you? When did he last surprise you with his presence as you walked in the sunshine, or prayed, or read the Bible, or sat in silence? And have you shared that experience with others? As we can't share in Holy Communion today – perhaps you might sit at the table and invite Jesus to sit down with you. Take some bread in your hands. Thank God for it – for its fragrance, its familiarity and its life-giving power. Then break the bread, as Jesus body was broken for you. And as you share it and eat it – may the risen Christ be revealed to you in the breaking of the bread. **Amen!**

Prayers of Intercession and Lord's Prayer

Let us pray that the power of Christ's resurrection might be felt in all the distressing and difficult circumstances of today. We cry to God for healing. We pray for an end to the pandemic. Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Hymn 313 – [Thine be the glory!](#)

God the Father, by whose glory Christ was raised from the dead, strengthen you to walk with him in his risen life; and may almighty God bless you, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Amen. Alleluia!