



**Order of Service**  
**17<sup>th</sup> April 2022**  
**Easter Sunday**

*(People and leaders of worship gather in silence)*

The Lord is risen!  
**He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

Hymn: 370 (TiS) 'Christ the Lord is risen today:'

Grace be to you and peace, from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of kings on earth.

Acknowledgement:

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Confession:

What words will ever be enough, O God? What songs can we sing to shout aloud our praise?  
The whole of creation springs for joy at the sound of your voice, assuring the world that the darkness of death gives way to the dawn of new life.  
We thank you we cannot destroy you, the Divine in all that lives.  
**We thank you that you give us this living symbol that the Christ will be among us for ever.**

Living God, even as we announce your rising, we confess that hidden within our lives lie questions which challenge our faith and your victory.  
Doubts besets us as we look at the world around us, fears that we may be wrong in holding to faith when your life among us seems so often to be defeated.  
**Forgive our doubts, O God. Spring forth in truth before us, we pray.**

Forgive us, O God, if we choose to stay with our own deaths, rather than accepting your gift of life to us.  
We hold onto old guilt; we stay paralysed before our fears; We are stricken by events long past which you call us to leave behind us.  
**Forgive our doubts, O God. Spring forth in truth before us, we pray, that we may share more fully in your risen life. Amen.**

Declaration of Forgiveness:

Doxology: 771 (TiS) 'Now to him who loved us, gave us'

Time with the children:

Readings: 1 Corinthians 15: 19-26, Luke 24: 1-12

Hymn: 349 (TiS) 'In the cross of Christ I glory'

Sermon brief:

Women went to see the tomb of their friend, to see where he is buried, hoping that it will help their recollection of what he had said, what he did while he was with them, and to come to grips with the most terrible thing that happened to him three days earlier.



Unfortunately for them, there was an earthquake and a terrifying storm. The stone that sealed the tomb is rolled away and there was an angel who frightened them and the guards

But the angel comforted the women and gave them some instructions. Do not be afraid. Jesus is not here. He has been raised. Go and tell the disciples that he is going ahead of you.

The women left the tomb with both fear and great joy. There is fear but there is also joy. Something new is happening. Resurrection happens not only to Jesus but to them also. It happens not only for the one inside the tomb but also to those outside standing.

This means that resurrection is not only what happens to Jesus, and to us after we die. It is not only for those who have died an earthly death. It happens to us now; the resurrection is also for the living.

Resurrection is for those who stand at the grave of those we love. We too experience death in so many ways. Deaths that come in the forms of grief, betrayals, broken relationships, shattered dreams, violated trust, diminished capacities, loss of purpose, and despair about the state of the world.

Resurrection is for us who are experiencing death outside the tomb, like the women on that first Easter.

Hymn: 209 (TiS) 'And can it be'

Holy Communion:

Narrative of the Institution:

The great prayer of Thanksgiving:

The Lord be with you.

**And also, with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

Holy God, we praise you.

Let the heavens be joyful, and the earth be glad.

We bless you for creating the whole world, for your promise to your people Israel, and for the life we know in Jesus Christ your Son.

Born of Mary, he shares our life. Eating with sinners, he welcomes us. Leading his followers, he guides us. Dying on the cross, he rescues us.

Risen from the dead, he gives new life.

And so, we praise you with faithful of every time and place, joining with choirs of angels and the whole creation in the eternal hymn:

**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.**

With thanksgiving we take this bread and this cup and proclaim his death and resurrection.

Receive our sacrifice of praise.

Send to us the Holy Spirit, that this meal may be holy, and your people may become one. Unite us in faith, inspire us to love, encourage us with hope, that we may receive Christ as he comes to us in this holy banquet.

We praise you, almighty Father, through Christ your Son, in the Holy Spirit.

**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.  
Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours  
now and for ever. Amen.**

The breaking of the bread:

Lamb of God:

Jesus, lamb of God,  
**have mercy on us.**

Jesus, bearer of our sins,  
**have mercy on us.**

Jesus, redeemer of the world,  
**grant us your peace.**

The communion:

Prayer after communion:

Notices:

Joys and concerns:

Offering:

We give you all that we have at this moment, O God. What else can we offer in the face of your abundant life for us!  
**Receive all that we bring in faith, loving Jesus. Amen.**

Prayers of the people:

On this day when we celebrate your risen life, O Christ, we think of all the places and people who rarely share in that joy because their own lives are bowed down with weight of war, of want and the domination of oppressive powers. We remember them before you now:  
Lift up your risen life among them, we pray.  
**Rise in righteous indignation, rise in courage and strength, rise in justice which knows no end.**

And then emerge as risen life in our lives, O Christ, for we are always part of the future of others who suffer. Show your life in our life, O God.  
**Rise in clear commitment to those who struggle.**

Rise as daring in facing the truth about ourselves and the society in which we live.  
**Rise as brave stands for peace and compassion and as faithfulness in never giving up on ourselves and others.**

Rise in an end to apathy and hopelessness, and in celebration of your vision for a world we have not yet seen.  
**Be alive in us this day and every day, Jesus Christ, for we long to be the people of the living God. Amen.**



Hymn: 224 (TiS) 'All hail the power of Jesus' name'

Blessing:

