



31A ONLINE LITURGY EASTER SUNDAY

Delighting in God's grace

'He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him.' This is my message for you." ⁸So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. ⁹Suddenly Jesus met them and said, "Greetings!" And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshiped him.

Matt 28:7-9 (NRSV)

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31A online liturgy Easter Sunday

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Sunday, April 12, 2020 | Easter | Resurrection of the Lord Easter Day

YEAR A

<i>First Reading</i>	Acts 10:34–43 or Jeremiah 31:1–6
<i>Psalm</i>	Psalm 118:1–2, 14–24
<i>New Testament</i>	Colossians 3:1–4 or Acts 10:34–43
<i>Gospel</i>	John 20:1–18 or Matthew 28:1–10 ¹

Matthew 28.1-10

Two women, disciples of Jesus, visit his tomb once the sabbath is over. They find the tomb empty, and experience both fear and joy. They are sent by an angel to tell the rest of the disciples that Jesus is raised.

This week's resources explore: sharing the joy of Easter.

Slide	Text
	<p>Pre-Service Bell Tolls</p>
	<p>Greeting</p> <p>May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ The Love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all</p> <p>Christ is Risen He is risen indeed Hallelujah!</p>
	<p>We Gather</p> <p>Come with joy. Come with praise. Come with expectation and wonder. He has been raised from the dead! Come and worship our risen Lord.</p> <p><i>Let us Pray</i></p>

¹ [Revised Common Lectionary](#). (2009). Bellingham, WA: Faithlife.

	<p>Risen Lord Jesus, we gather today to celebrate. We gather to share in the joy of your resurrection.</p> <p>The stone has been rolled away, death has been defeated, you have overcome all the powers of darkness. May we know your risen presence with us today. Amen.</p>
	<p>Hymn/song TIS #370 – “Christ the Lord is risen today” King of Kings (Single) Hillsong Worship Brooke Ligertwood, Jason Ingram & Scott Ligertwood</p>
	<p>Welcome</p> <p><i>Let us Pray</i> Holy and risen Lord, we come to worship you on this special day, Easter Day. We thank you for all you have done for us. We lift our eyes to honour you, living Lord Jesus. You have overcome death; fill us with your joy and new life. Amen. <i>(On Line – a visual Prayer)</i></p>
	<p>Readings</p> <p><i>Matthew 28:1–10 (NRSV)</i></p> <p>28 After the sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. ² And suddenly there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. ³ His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. ⁴ For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. ⁵ But the angel said to the women, “Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. ⁶ He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. ⁷ Then go quickly and tell his disciples, ‘He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him.’ This is my message for you.” ⁸ So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. ⁹ Suddenly Jesus met them and said, “Greetings!” And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshiped him. ¹⁰ Then Jesus said to them, “Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me.”</p> <p><i>(the online version will be the NIV translation)</i> <i>Matthew 28:1–10 (NIV)</i></p>

	<p>After the Sabbath, at dawn on the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to look at the tomb.</p> <p>There was a violent earthquake, for an angel of the Lord came down from heaven and, going to the tomb, rolled back the stone and sat on it. His appearance was like lightning, and his clothes were white as snow. The guards were so afraid of him that they shook and became like dead men.</p> <p>The angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. He is not here; he has risen, just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples: 'He has risen from the dead and is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him.' Now I have told you."</p> <p>So the women hurried away from the tomb, afraid yet filled with joy, and ran to tell his disciples. Suddenly Jesus met them. "Greetings," he said. They came to him, clasped his feet and worshiped him. Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid. Go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me."</p> <p><i>respond</i> For the word of the Lord Thanks be to God</p>
	<p>Hymn/song/video TIS #376 – "I know that my Redeemer lives"</p>
	<p>We say Sorry <i>Let us Pray</i></p> <p>When we have failed to recognise you as our Saviour, when we have failed to acknowledge you as our risen Lord, when we have doubted that you are with us: forgive us, and fill our hearts with joy.</p> <p>When we have not shared your good news, when we have been too concerned with ourselves, when we have not shared the joy of knowing you with others: forgive us, and fill our hearts with joy.</p> <p>When we have failed to bring hope to the hopeless, when we have failed to bring joy to the joyless, when we have failed to offer your grace to those who hurt us: forgive us, and fill our hearts with joy. Amen</p>
	<p>Hymn/Song Come People of The Risen King by Keith and Kristyn Getty</p>
	<p>Response</p>
	<p>Prayers for all people</p> <p>Thank you, risen Jesus, that we are our Lord and Saviour. In you, we have joy and hope,</p>

	<p>always.</p> <p>God of grace, we bring before you those who have no joy and no hope, those who see no future, no light at the end of the tunnel, those scarred by pain and sadness, those who grieve.</p> <p>God of grace and resurrection power, bring your joy and healing today.</p> <p>We pray for those yet to hear your good news, whether that is because they live in far-flung places, or because they are closed to the message and the possibility of 'What if?'</p> <p>May we be Easter people, willing always to share the good news of hope, restoration and freedom to all those we meet – neighbours, friends and strangers alike.</p> <p>God of grace and resurrection power, bring your joy and healing today.</p> <p>We pray for those recovering from natural disasters such as earthquakes and hurricanes, famine, flood and poverty, for all whose darkness is very real.</p> <p>God of grace...</p> <p>May all share in the joy of your resurrection. Amen.</p>
	<p>Hymn/song TIS #390 (SA #2) – “ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA, GIVE THANKS TO THE RISEN LORD” Refrain plus 5 verses followed by refrains</p>
	<p>CELEBRATING HOLY COMMUNION</p> <p>Today we will celebrate Holy Communion, not as we have always done but in the same spirit as we have always done.</p> <p>Uniting Church President, Dr Deidre Palmer, in a Pastoral Letter said “At this moment, we cannot gather in our usual ways, because of the restrictions designed to stop the spread of COVID-19, and to keep vulnerable people safe,”</p> <p>There will be Uniting Church people, who choose not to celebrate Holy Communion in this way, but instead choose to wait until they are able to physically meet.</p> <p>We respect your decision, but for those who wish to celebrate,</p>

	<p>I ask you to have your own bread and wine (maybe a glass of juice or even water if you choose) and continue to share with us.</p> <p>Many will share today as if they were in the company of a congregation but many of you are in isolation, alone. So today I will share this in our ones and twos and small families as we share as a worldwide company of souls.</p> <p>The Invitation Christ is Risen He is risen indeed Let His people shout: Hallelujah!</p> <p>Christ our Lord invites to his table all who love him, who earnestly repent of their sin and seek to live in peace with one another.</p> <p><i>Let us pray</i> Be present, risen Lord Jesus, as you were with your disciples, and make yourself known to us in the breaking of the bread; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.</p> <p>Amen.</p>
	<p>The Prayer of Thanksgiving</p> <p>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!</p>
	<p>Living God, on this most joyous day we offer our thanks and praise to you; creator of heaven and earth; creator and lover of all humanity.</p> <p>When people rejected your ways, you never rejected them, but spoke words of mercy and love through the prophets; promising a new creation where people will live life to the full, and delight in being blessed by you.</p>
	<p>And so, with all the company of heaven and earth we praise your holy name saying:</p> <p>Holy, holy, holy,</p>

	<p>God of power and might, Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest! Blessed are those who come in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest!</p>
	<p>Holy God, this meal which we share today is the celebration that death has been defeated forever. We celebrate also how the language of your love became audible through the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ, your beloved Son, our beloved Lord; and how the shape of your love became visible through his life and sacrificial love.</p> <p>He graced lives with healing and hope, compassion and power and gave his very life for us.</p> <p>On the night of his betrayal, as he sat at the table and broke bread with his friends, he said: 'Take and eat; this is my body which is broken for you. Remember me each time you do this.'</p> <p>After they had eaten, he took the cup, and said: 'Remember me as you drink from this, for it is my life, poured out for you the beginning of a new relationship with God.'</p> <p>God of all power, breathe your Holy Spirit upon us, and upon these gifts of bread and wine, that they may be for us the life of Christ, and that we may make that life visible through our faithful witness to him. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen</p>
	<p>Lord's Prayer</p> <p>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 forever. AMEN</p>
	<p>The breaking of the bread</p>

	<p><i>The minister lifts the bread and breaks it in full view of the people</i> <i>The minister lifts the Bread and cup in full view of the people</i> We break this bread and take this cup so that we can all share in the life of Christ. God's gifts for God's people.</p>
	<p>Lamb of God</p> <p>Lamb of God, you find us in our blindness Lift us up. Lamb of God, you lead us to your fold. Hold us close. Lamb of God, you conquer all injustice. We cry for peace.</p>
	<p>Distribution</p> <p>Receive this holy sacrament of the body and blood of Christ, and feed on him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.</p> <p><i>Words such as the following are said before or during the distribution.</i> The body of Christ, given for you. Amen.</p> <p>The blood of Christ, given for you. Amen.</p>
	<p>Prayer after Communion</p> <p>Lord, We give thanks that this has been no ordinary meal. It has been one in which we have been fed and nourished with the life of Jesus, our crucified and risen Lord.</p> <p>May we go from this meal, refreshed and eager, to share that life with others. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen</p>
	<p>Hymn/song</p> <p>TIS #246 – “Christ is the world’s light, he and none other”</p>
	<p>We are sent out</p> <p>Take the light of Christ out from this place today, and share it, that all may have the opportunity to see. Amen.</p>

	<p>May the Lord bless us and keep us May His face shine upon us and be gracious to us May he lift up His countenance upon us and give us peace</p>
	<p>We are sent out Take with you the joy of the risen Lord, and share the good news with all those you meet in your home, in your phone calls in your online chats and in your prayers.</p> <p>And ... May the Lord bless us and keep us May His face shine upon us and be gracious to us May he lift up His countenance upon us and give us peace Amen.</p>
	<p>Thank you</p>

