

# Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> April – Morning Worship for Easter Day

Led by Sue Nelms, LLM

<https://zoom.us/j/82311473640>

LORDSBRIDGE TEAM  
OF CHURCHES



## Opening Words

Jesus Christ is risen from the dead.

**Alleluia.**

He has defeated the powers of death.

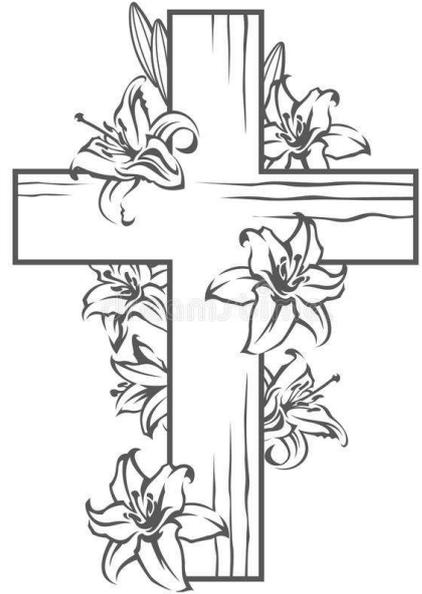
**Alleluia.**

Jesus turns our sorrow into dancing.

**Alleluia.**

He has the words of eternal life.

**Alleluia.**



## Gathering Prayer

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ!

By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. **Amen**

I Peter 1.3

## Hymn – Jesus Christ is risen today

- 1 Jesus Christ is risen today, Alleluia.  
our triumphant holy day, Alleluia.  
who did once, upon the cross, Alleluia.  
suffer to redeem our loss. Alleluia.
- 2 Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluia.  
unto Christ, our heavenly King, Alleluia.  
who endured the Cross and grave, Alleluia.  
sinners to redeem and save. Alleluia.

3 But the pains that he endured, Alleluia.  
our salvation have procured; Alleluia.  
now above the sky he's King, Alleluia.  
where the angels ever sing. Alleluia.

Surrexit Christus hodie  
Anonymous Latin, Lyra Davidica (1708), Compleat Psalmodist (1749 Arnold),  
Charles Wesley (1707-88) (Public Domain)

Here are words you may trust.

Remember Jesus Christ, risen from the dead:

**he is our salvation, our eternal glory.**

If we die with him, we shall live with him;

**if we endure, we shall reign with him.**

If we deny him, he will deny us;

**if we are faithless, he keeps faith.**

For he has broken the power of death

**and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel.**

cf 2 Timothy 2.11-13

## Confession

Jesus Christ, risen Master and triumphant Lord,  
we come to you in sorrow for our sins,  
and confess to you our weakness and unbelief.

We have lived by our own strength,  
and not by the power of your resurrection.

In your mercy, forgive us.

**Lord, hear us and help us.**

We have lived by the light of our own eyes,  
as faithless and not believing.

In your mercy, forgive us.

**Lord, hear us and help us.**

We have lived for this world alone,  
and doubted our home in heaven.

In your mercy, forgive us.  
**Lord, hear us and help us.**

May the God of love and power  
forgive us and free us from our sins,  
heal and strengthen us by his Spirit,  
and raise us to new life in Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### **Celtic Alleluia**

Alleluia, alleluia.  
Alleluia, alleluia.

Now he is living, the Christ; out of the tomb he is risen;  
he has conquered death, opened heaven to all believers.

Alleluia, alleluia. Alleluia, alleluia.

Fintan O'Carroll (1922 – 1981) and Christopher Walker (b. 1947)  
© Christopher Walker published by OCP Publications.

### **Readings by Rick Nelms**

#### **Acts 10:34-43**

<sup>34</sup>Then Peter began to speak to them: 'I truly understand that God shows no partiality, <sup>35</sup>but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. <sup>36</sup>You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. <sup>37</sup>That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: <sup>38</sup>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. <sup>39</sup>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; <sup>40</sup>but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, <sup>41</sup>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. <sup>42</sup>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. <sup>43</sup>All the prophets

testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.'

For the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **Matthew 28:1-10**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

### **The Resurrection of Jesus**

**28** After the sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. <sup>2</sup> 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. <sup>3</sup> His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. <sup>4</sup> For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. <sup>5</sup> But the angel said to the women, 'Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. <sup>6</sup> He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. <sup>7</sup> 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.' <sup>8</sup> So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. <sup>9</sup> Suddenly Jesus met them and said, 'Greetings!' And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshipped him. <sup>10</sup> Then Jesus said to them, 'Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

### **Reflection by Rev Steve Clark**



Accepts people from every nation -  
Acts10:35

**What you really need to know is .....**

What Jesus said  
– Yes but ..  
What Jesus did  
– Yes but



**What you really need to know is .....**

What Jesus said  
– Yes but ..  
What Jesus did  
– Yes but



**Resurrection**

**Witnesses**

Jesus

- Ate
- Conversed
- 'touch me'
- B B Q



**Witnesses**

Jesus

- Ate
- Conversed
- 'touch me'
- B B Q



**It's all about Bodies**

**The WOMEN'S experience**

- 'He is risen'
- 'See where He lay'
- 'Good Morning'
- They held Him



'You know the message – good news through Jesus'  
Acts 10:36

'You know what happened throughout Judea' –  
What Jesus did Acts 10:37-38

Cornelius and his household had heard all this

Peter knew that what they really needed to know was ....

Resurrection  
Jesus was physically resurrected  
The implications of this resurrection ???

Many witnesses to so much more than an apparition or really cool ghost story.

Jesus ate with them  
Conversed with them  
Invited Thomas to touch Him  
organised a BBQ on the beach

Willing to die because of this reality

Picture of the Cross draped with the empty shroud is profound.

God works hard to negate notions of a purely psychological event.

Matthew 28  
The women's experience  
the angel is specific about resurrection  
'where He lay' – past tense  
'Hail' or 'Greetings' doesn't do this astonishing moment justice.  
They held Him

**The WOMEN'S experience**

- 'He is risen'
- 'See where He lay'
- 'Good Morning'
- They held Him

**Disembodied spirit?**



**The WOMEN'S experience**

- 'He is risen'
- 'See where He lay'
- 'Good Morning'
- They held Him

**Disembodied spirit?**



Ghosts, apparitions, psychological reaction to trauma just doesn't do it.  
 Life after death as a disembodied spirit has more to do with the Ancient Greeks than Christian faith

**Resurrection Transforms lives**

- Forgiveness
- The sting of death
- Resurrection bodies!??



The disciples were transformed people  
 'Everyone who believes in Jesus receives forgiveness of sins through His name' Acts 10:43  
 There is more to life than death - 'Where O death is your sting?'  
 Paul speaks of a resurrection body!

Colossians 1:20 (MSG)  
 [20] Not only that, but all the broken and dislocated pieces of the universe—people and things, animals and atoms—get properly fixed and fit together in vibrant harmonies, all because of his death, his blood that poured down from the Cross.



The profound effect of the cross and resurrection on the whole universe is well summed up in Colossians 1:20

**Creed**

Brothers and sisters, I ask you to profess the faith of the Church.  
 Do you believe and trust in God the Father?  
**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
 creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe and trust in his Son Jesus Christ?  
**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

Do you believe and trust in the Holy Spirit?  
**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

### **Prayers of Intercession prepared by Sue Nelms**

We pray to Jesus who is present with us to eternity.

Jesus, light of the world,  
bring the light and peace of your gospel to the nations particularly  
those at war with each other...

Jesus, Lord of life,  
**in your mercy, hear us.**

Jesus, bread of life,  
give food to those who are hungry in a world where there is plenty to  
feed everyone ...  
and nourish us all with your word.

Jesus, Lord of life,  
**in your mercy, hear us.**

Jesus, our way, our truth, our life,  
be with us and all who follow you in the way particularly in the times  
when we feel lost or out of our depth ...

Deepen our appreciation of your truth  
and fill us with your life.

Jesus, Lord of life,  
**in your mercy, hear us.**

Jesus, Good Shepherd who gave your life for the sheep,  
recover those of us who straggle,  
bind up those of us who are injured,  
strengthen those of us who are sick  
and lead those of us who are healthy and strong to new pastures.

Jesus, Lord of life,  
**in your mercy, hear us.**

Jesus, the resurrection and the life,  
we give you thanks for all who have lived and believed in you ...  
Raise us with them to eternal life.

Jesus, Lord of life,  
**in your mercy, hear us,  
accept our prayers, and be with us always. Amen.**

### **Collect for Easter Day**

God of glory,  
by the raising of your Son  
you have broken the chains of death and hell:  
fill your Church with faith and hope;  
for a new day has dawned  
and the way to life stands open  
in our Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen**

## **The Lord's Prayer**

Rejoicing in God's new creation,  
as our Saviour taught us, so we pray:

**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 forever. Amen.**

## **Hymn – Thine be the glory**

- 1 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 victory, thou o'er death hast won.
- 2 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.  
Thine be the glory, risen conquering Son:  
Endless is the victory, thou o'er death hast won.
- 3 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.

Thine be the glory, risen conquering Son:  
Endless is the victory, thou o'er death hast won.

Edmund L Budry (1854-1932), translated by Richard B Hoyle (1875-1939) (Public Domain)

## Notices

### Blessing

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

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

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

May almighty God bless us, Father, Son and Holy Spirit,  
now and forever. **Amen.**

He is not here. He is risen.  
Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia.  
**In the name of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.**