

# *Easter Sunday – The Lord is Risen*

## *He is Risen Indeed Alleluia!*



### **Collect:**

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.

### **1<sup>st</sup> Reading :** Acts 10 34-43

Then Peter began to speak: “I now realize how true it is that God does not show favoritism but accepts from every nation the one who fears him and does what is right. You know the message God sent to the people of Israel, announcing the good news of peace through Jesus Christ, who is Lord of all. You know what has happened throughout the province of Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John preached— how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and power, and how he went around doing good and healing all who were under the power of the devil, because God was with him.

“We are witnesses of everything he did in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They killed him by hanging him on a cross, but God raised him from the dead on the third day and caused him to be seen. He was not seen by all the people, but by witnesses whom God had already chosen—by us who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one whom God

appointed as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name

**Gospel Reading:** John 20 1-18

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene went to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the entrance. So, she came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved, and said, “They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we don’t know where they have put him!”

So, Peter and the other disciple started for the tomb. Both were running, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent over and looked in at the strips of linen lying there but did not go in. Then Simon Peter came along behind him and went straight into the tomb. He saw the strips of linen lying there, as well as the cloth that had been wrapped around Jesus’ head. The cloth was still lying in its place, separate from the linen. Finally, the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went inside. He saw and believed. (They still did not understand from Scripture that Jesus had to rise from the dead.) Then the disciples went back to where they were staying.

Jesus Appears to Mary Magdalene

<sup>1</sup>Now Mary stood outside the tomb crying. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb and saw two angels in white, seated where Jesus’ body had been, one at the head and the other at the foot.

They asked her, “Woman, why are you crying?”

“They have taken my Lord away,” she said, “and I don’t know where they have put him.” At this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not realize that it was Jesus.

He asked her, “Woman, why are you crying? Who is it you are looking for?”

Thinking he was the gardener, she said, “Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have put him, and I will get him.”

Jesus said to her, “Mary.”

She turned toward him and cried out in Aramaic, “Rabboni!” (which means “Teacher”).

Jesus said, “Do not hold on to me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father. Go instead to my brothers and tell them, ‘I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.’”

Mary Magdalene went to the disciples with the news: “I have seen the Lord!” And she told them that he had said these things to her.



### Hymn: Thine be the Glory

Thine be the glory, risen, conqu'ring Son:  
endless is the vict'ry thou o'er death hast won;  
angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away,  
kept the folded grave-clothes where thy body lay.

Refrain:

*Thine be the glory, risen, conqu'ring Son;  
endless is the vict'ry 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. [Refrain]

*Thine be the glory, risen, conqu'ring Son;  
endless is the vict'ry thou o'er death hast won.*

3 No more we doubt thee, glorious Prince of life;  
life is naught without thee: aid us in our strife;  
make us more than conqu'rors, thro' thy deathless love:  
bring us safe thro' Jordan to thy home above. [Refrain]

*Thine be the glory, risen, conqu'ring Son;  
endless is the vict'ry thou o'er death hast won*

### Homily

Our homily today is by Cliff Caswell who is a member of our congregation and is discerning his path in ministry. Cliff preached for us on Remembrance Sunday and is a pleasure to virtually welcome him back this Easter Sunday.

Cliff will be referring to the poem **The Explosion By Philip Larkin**



*On the day of the explosion,  
Shadows pointed towards the pithead.  
In the sun the slagheap slept.*

*Down the lane came men in pit boots,  
Coughing oath-edge talk and pipe smoke,  
Shouldering off the freshened silence.  
One chased after rabbits; lost them.  
Came back with a nest of larks eggs.  
Showed them; lodged them in the grasses.*

*So they passed in beards and moleskins,  
Fathers, brothers, nicknames, laughter,  
Through the tall gates standing open.*

*At noon there came a tremor.  
Cows stopped chewing for a second.  
Sun, scarfed as in a heat haze, dimmed.*

*The dead go on before us. They are sitting in God's house in comfort. We shall see them face-to-face.  
Plain as lettering in the chapels, it was said.  
And for a second, wives saw men of the explosion.*

*Larger than in life they managed  
Gold as on a coin, or walking,  
Somehow from the sun towards them.*

*One showing the eggs unbroken*



### **Prayer**

God our Father, on this Easter day we come together to offer praise and adoration for Jesus-risen, alive, powerful and victorious, the salvation of the World –

Lord without the resurrection of your son our faith would be empty and without hope, but he is alive and we rejoice in the knowledge that in Jesus all that separates, injures and destroys has been overcome by that which unites and heals and creates.

We pray for your Church here at St Michaels and St Mary's We think of your church today celebrating in their own way all over the world. Our language race and nationalities may be different, but our worship is one and our praise for you united.

We pray that your spirit may guide and strengthen us all in mission and service to you , to our own community and to the world outside in whatever way we can each contribute and we pray that day by day we may draw closer to you, experiencing your love for us .

### **Lord in your mercy**

Lord, on this special day grant us peace in your world for countries where there is war and communities that are broken. We remember today those involved in conflicts around the world and in our prayers

We pray for those living in our own country in areas of deprivation where high unemployment and crime levels make daily living a tough challenge especially In today's climate.

May all who struggle know that you are always with them in their suffering and will follow them step by step down whichever road they choose to take.

### **Lord in your mercy**

Lord we pray for ourselves, you know the needs of human life. As we seek to live our lives according to your example, help us by your presence to overcome our hasty speech that hurts others, to be free from greed and selfishness, from pride and jealousy that spoil our life.

Help us to curb our temper, to be free from moodiness and wanting our own way, let your presence help us to care about the feelings of others to be gentle and ready to say we are sorry.

You know us Lord bring out the best in us so that our lives may reflect your way for the world.

### **Lord in your mercy**

Lord we pray for those in your world who are in need .We pray for the broken hearted that you would bind up their sorrows, for the sick that you would heal their infirmities, for the lonely that in you they would discover the perfect friend, for the bereaved that in the midst of their unmeasurable loss they would know the depths of your love .

Jesus Christ is the light of the world a light which no darkness can quench we remember before God all those who have died and light a candle to symbolise the light of Christ which always eternally shines and brings hope.

You turn our darkness into light in your light shall we see light

### **Lord in your mercy**

Ever living God help us now to celebrate our joy in the resurrection of Jesus and to express in our lives the love we celebrate.

Death cannot hold the Lord of Life, new life for him means new life for all who believe in Christ.

**Merciful father accept these prayers for the sake of you son our Saviour Jesus Christ.**

We say together the Lord's Prayer

**Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name;  
thy kingdom come;  
thy will be done;  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation;  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
the power and the glory,  
for ever and ever.  
Amen.**

Melvin's Voluntary: Organ Voluntary: Saraband for the Morning of Easter - Herbert Howells (1892-1983)



***Have a blessed Easter!***