



Easter Day 2021 - Communion

Welcome:

Greeting:

As we celebrate the risen Christ,

May the Lord be with you

And also with you

Moment of Stillness:

As we begin our service, let's take a moment to be still and aware of God's presence within and all around us.

Christ Candle:

We light this light to celebrate that Christ has risen!

Alleluia! Christ has risen indeed!

Acknowledgement of First Peoples:

We acknowledge the sovereign First Peoples of this country on which we gather today; the Gadigal and Wangal people. And we pay our respects to their Elders past and present, together with all descendants.

We commit ourselves to support Voice, Treaty, Truth – justice for First Nations Peoples.

Call to Worship:

We are an Easter people
Ours is an Easter faith
The yeast is rising in our hearts
Our wine has vintage taste

Christ is risen
Christ is risen
Risen in our lives

We are an Easter people
Ours is an Easter faith
Our tears are freed to flow and heal
our shattered hopes and hearts

Christ is risen
Christ is risen
Risen in our lives

We are an Easter people
Ours is an Easter faith
Our fears have died, we rise to dream
to love, to dance, to live!

Christ is risen
Christ is risen
Risen in our lives

Opening Prayer

Risen Lord
You love us
You call us
You change us.

Let us recognise your coming,
however gently or dramatically you approach us.
Let us recognise your coming,
Whoever you use to make yourself known to us.
Let us recognise your coming

whatever time or situation you use to approach us.

Let us recognise your compassionate emergence
into the dark places of our lives.

Your generous summons which you constantly utter.

Your transforming touch upon the bleak places of our world.

Lord of life, of hope, of resurrection,
We make our prayer in your name, Jesus

AMEN

Song: Jesus Christ is Risen Today

Jesus Christ is risen today, Alleluia!
Our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!
Who did once, upon the cross, Alleluia!
Suffer to redeem our loss, Alleluia!

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!

But the pain which He endured, Alleluia!
Our salvation hath procured, Alleluia!
Now above the sky He's king, Alleluia!
Where the angels ever sing, Alleluia!

Prayer of Confession

Let us pray

Gracious God, you have walked patiently with us
throughout our Lenten journey.

You have celebrated our successes
and our growing understanding of your love;
and you have mourned our failures and rejections of your healing love.

This day, as we celebrate the joy of Easter,
let us remember that we are to become "Easter People",
people of the Resurrection;
people who know that what was thought to be impossible

has been conquered.

**Forgive our disbelief and fears.
Fill us with your healing love
and help us to become the disciples
that you need to serve in this world.
For we ask this in the name of our Risen Lord,
Jesus Christ
AMEN**

Words of Assurance:

Christ is Risen! The stone is rolled away, the tomb found empty.
Mary calls out, "I have seen the Lord!"
We have seen Christ, too,
in every hand, in every gift, in every choice to restore life in this world.
We are called to this new life, a life of forgiveness and reconciliation.

Hear then Christ's words to us.
"Your sins are forgiven"
Thanks be to God!

Know that God loves you and desires great joy for your life.
Walk forward on this journey of faith,
knowing your brothers and sisters are with you.

Peace:

May the peace of the Risen Christ be with you
And also with you.

Moment for the young at heart:

Bible Reading:

Isaiah 25:6-9

On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples
a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines,
of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear.

⁷ And he will destroy on this mountain
the shroud that is cast over all peoples,
the sheet that is spread over all nations;

⁸ he will swallow up death forever.

Then the Lord GOD will wipe away the tears from all faces,
and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth,
for the LORD has spoken.

⁹ It will be said on that day,

Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us.
This is the LORD for whom we have waited;
let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

John 20:1-18

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. ² So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him." ³ Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went toward the tomb. ⁴ The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. ⁵ He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in.

⁶ Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, ⁷ and the cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. ⁸ Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; ⁹ for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. ¹⁰ Then the disciples returned to their homes.

¹¹ But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; ¹² and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. ¹³ They said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him." ¹⁴ When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus.

¹⁵ Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?" Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away." ¹⁶ Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned and said to him in Hebrew, "Rabbouni!" (which means Teacher). ¹⁷ Jesus said to her, "Do not

hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'" ¹⁸ Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord"; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

Reflection:

Moment of Stillness:

Prayers of the People:

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 in the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom the power and the glory are yours.
Now and forever.
Amen**

Song: Let us break bread together

Let us break bread together with the Lord!
Let us break bread together with the Lord!

Refrain:

As we travel through this land,
all God's children hand in hand,
Lord, fill all our living with your life.

Let us drink wine together with the Lord!
Let us drink wine together with the Lord! [Refrain]

Let us sing songs together with the Lord!
Let us sing songs together with the Lord! [Refrain]

Let us all work together for the Lord!
Let us all work together for the Lord! [Refrain]

Communion

This is the table, not of the Church, but of Jesus.
It is to be made ready for those who love him
and those who want to love him more.
So, come, you who are hungry for God's love.
Come, you who are yearning the Christ's presence.
Come, you who want community;
know that you are welcome here.

Come, not because it is I who invite you: it is Jesus.
It is his will that those who want him
should meet him here in the place where the ordinary things
like bread and wine and ourselves
are made extraordinary by the grace of God.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

We give you thanks and praise for Jesus the Light of the world, the light that
no darkness can overpower and we thank you that you have called us from
darkness to walk in the light;

And so we praise you with the 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 the one who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest!**

Accept our praises now, loving God, as we remember Jesus, who, on the night before he died, took bread, gave you thanks, broke it, and offered it to his friends saying:

This is my body given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them saying:

Drink from this, all of you. This is my blood of the new covenant poured out for you and for everyone for the forgiveness of sins. Do this whenever you drink it, for the remembrance of me.

Come freshly to us now, present God,
as we offer you our lives, renew in us your gifts;
feed us and nourish us, that we may grow in the life of Christ;
fill us with your Spirit that we may overflow with your love,
and transform the world with your glory.

Prayer of consecration

For us you were born, for us you healed,
preached, taught and showed the way of your kingdom;
for us you were crucified, and for us, after death, you rose again.

As we do in this place what you did in an upstairs room,
send down your Holy Spirit on us
and on these gifts of bread and wine
that they may become for us your body,
healing, forgiving and making us whole;
and that we may become, for you, your body,
loving and caring in the world until your kingdom comes.

Amen.

The bread that we break is a sharing in the body of Christ
The cup that we take is a sharing in the blood of Christ
The gifts of God for the people of God.

Jesus welcomes everyone to his table,

and so, we offer everyone, without exception,
the bread and wine, which are Christ's body and blood.

Distribution

Let us receive what we are;
let us become what we receive.
The body of Christ.

Concluding prayer

Lord Jesus Christ,
you have put your life into our hands; now we put our lives into yours.
Fed and nurtured at this table we continue to be your presence in this world.
Touched by your love we take it to share with each person we encounter,
until everyone knows they are loved by you, and in turn loves one another.

Amen

Song: *Shine Jesus shine.*

Lord, the light of your love is shining
In the midst of the darkness, shining
Jesus, Light of the world, shine upon us
Set us free by the truth you now bring us
Shine on me, shine on me

Chorus:

Shine, Jesus, shine
Fill this land with the Father's glory
Blaze, Spirit, blaze
Set our hearts on fire
Flow, river, flow
Flood the nations with grace and mercy
Send forth your word
Lord, and let there be light

Lord, I come to your awesome presence
From the shadows into your radiance
By the blood I may enter your brightness
Search me, try me, consume all my darkness
Shine on me, shine on me

Chorus

As we gaze on your kingly brightness
So our faces display your likeness
Ever changing from glory to glory
Mirrored here may our lives tell your story
Shine on me, shine on me

Chorus

Benediction & Blessing:

May the God whose power breaks through
the stone, break into your life and free you
from all that binds you;

May the Risen Christ whose love is
stronger than death, speak your name and
bring you new life and joy;

May the Spirit who walks the road with
you, give you wisdom to understand and
courage to share God's new life for the
whole world.

And the blessing of God Almighty,
Lover, Beloved and Spirit of Love,
Be upon you
And remain with you always.

Amen

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Call to worship: W.L Wallace – Let Justice Roll Down

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Let Justice Roll Down*

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Prayers of the people: adapted from Geoffrey Duncan – Let Justice Roll Down

Blessing: Heather Pencavel – Let Justice Roll Down