



Easter 2 Year C - Liturgy 2022

Welcome : Leader : David

Greeter: Mehry

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 candle to remind us that,
just as he appeared to the disciples and Thomas
when they were afraid and confused,
locked away in fear,
so, Christ is with us now.

Christ is always with us.

Acknowledgement 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:

Lord Jesus Christ, the light of your love shines on,
illuminating the places where you are present.

As the bewildered disciples pondered the stories of your
appearance, you penetrated the darkness of their fear and doubt
with your word of peace.

**Increase our understanding, we pray,
and open our minds and hearts to see you.**

You showed them the appalling marks of evil
pierced on your hands and feet.

You opened their minds to understand
why you had to die to defeat evil and death.

**Increase our understanding, we pray,
and open our minds and hearts to receive you.**

Speak your word of peace to us
and let your love shine on the dark areas in our lives.

**Increase our understanding, we pray,
and open our minds and hearts to hear you.**

Opening Prayer:

Let us pray

Encounter with us now, enlivened God

Spring us from the safety-net of our sanctuaries

Expose us to the challenge of your gospel

Coax us to throw our caution to the wind.

May we, who name ourselves Christ's followers today,
embody the command to be his witnesses;
the gathered community scattered to make known your truth,
to teach and tend, revive and reconcile.

Confirm our faith and send us out rejoicing

Because we have put our trust in your liberating power.

In the name of the Risen Christ we pray

Amen

Song: The Servant King (*Graham Kendrick*)

From heaven you came helpless babe
Entered our world, your glory veiled
Not to be served but to serve
And give Your life that we might live

Chorus:

This is our God, The Servant King
He calls us now to follow Him
To bring our lives as a daily offering
Of worship to The Servant King

There in the garden of tears
My heavy load he chose to bear
His heart with sorrow was torn
'Yet not My will but Yours, ' He said

Chorus

Come see His hands and His feet
The scars that speak of sacrifice
Hands that flung stars into space
To cruel nails surrendered

Chorus

So, let us learn how to serve
And in our lives enthrone Him
Each other's needs to prefer
For it is Christ we're serving

Prayer of Confession:

We come to God
knowing that we have failed to obey the call of Jesus
to love God and one another with our whole hearts;
but we come also to a God who reaches out to us
with healing and reconciliation.

So, let us pray

When our faith stands at the grave,
grieving for a stone that's rolled away,
Forgive us.

When our faith is short of understanding
though the truth is there to see,
Forgive us.

When our faith beset by doubt,
sees no further than an empty tomb today,
Forgive us.

Bring to mind the cry of Mary,
'I have seen the Lord!'
and grant us faith to believe!
Amen

Words of Assurance:

Christ comes into every shadowed corner of our lives with the light of Easter. Christ comes into the locked rooms of our faults and graces us with hope. Christ enters rooms of despair and uncertainty to fill us with peace.

May we open the doors of our lives to receive the light, and may we open ourselves to receive hope, peace, and freedom as signs of risen life. Amen.

Peace:

May the peace of the Risen Christ be with you

And also with you.

Moment for the young at heart: ???

Song: Stand up, stand up for Jesus

1. Stand up, stand up for Jesus,
Ye soldiers of the cross;
Lift high his royal banner,
It must not suffer loss.
From victory unto victory
His army shall he lead,
Till every foe is vanquished,
And Christ is Lord indeed.

2. Stand up, stand up for Jesus,
Stand in his strength alone;
The arm of flesh will fail you,
Ye dare not trust your own.
Put on the gospel armour,
Each piece put on with prayer;
Where duty calls or danger,
Be never wanting there.

3. Stand up, stand up for Jesus,
The strife will not be long;
This day the noise of battle,
The next the victor's song.
To those who vanquish evil
A crown of life shall be;
They with the King of Glory
Shall reign eternally.

Bible Reading: Owen (online)

Acts 5:27-32 (NRSV)

²⁷ When they had brought them, they had them stand before the council. The high priest questioned them, ²⁸ saying, "We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name,^[a] yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and you are determined to bring this man's blood on us." ²⁹ But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than any human authority."^[b] ³⁰ The God of our ancestors

raised up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree.³¹ God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Saviour that he might give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins.³² And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him.”

John 20:19-31 (NRSV)

¹⁹ When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.”²⁰ After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord.²¹ Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.”²² When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit.²³ If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.”

²⁴ But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came.²⁵ So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord.” But he said to them, “Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.”

²⁶ A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.”²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.”²⁸ Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!”²⁹ Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.”

³⁰ Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book.³¹ But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

Hear the Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Reflection: Judith Townsend

Moment of Stillness:

Prayers of the People: Brian L

The Lord calls us to draw close and examine the wounded hands and feet of the Risen One and to know the depth of his love for us. So let us call on our God in confidence as we pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

God of all, as Jesus entered the locked room to show his disciples the beginning of a new world, so enter our hearts and move us to faith in Jesus as the Risen One. Show us the reality and significance of the resurrection, and free us from our fears. Give us courage in the face of death, knowing that this is the gateway to new resurrected life for those who trust in Christ.

Risen Christ

Hear our prayer.

Be with your church throughout the world so that its works of love may continue to testify to Christ's resurrection. Wherever your church is faithless and lacking in courage to do the work that Jesus has given, be present and build it up with your Spirit.

Risen Christ

Hear our prayer.

Bring peace to all parts of the earth. Wherever nations are at war and people are divided, be present and bring reconciliation. Help the world's leaders hear your voice of justice and love for all people.

Risen Christ

Hear our prayer.

Wherever homes are disrupted by anger and bitterness, and wherever relationships are distorted and dulled, be present and bring peace and safety.

Risen Christ

Hear our prayer.

Visit and comfort the sick and suffering. Heal and strengthen weak bodies and shattered minds. We bring to you now those we know in particular need...

Silent prayer

Support them all with your great love and mercy.

Risen Christ

Hear our prayer.

Heavenly Father, we offer these prayers through the Risen Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever

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

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

Community News:

The congregation share their good news

Offering Prayer:

Lord, my Rock and Redeemer, thank you that you are infinitely, consistently, and perfectly wise. You have said that whatever we give is acceptable if we give it eagerly. You have said that we should give according to what we have. Help us to bring our offerings with an eager heart, not as a comparison with others but as an act

of worship to you. May we find the comfort we desire in you and the strength we need in your name. May your presence be with us every hour of the day. Through Jesus Christ our Lord,

Amen.

Song: Thine be the Glory (*Handel / Budry*)

Thine be the glory, risen, conqu'ring 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.

Chorus:

Thine be the glory,
Risen conquering Son,
Endless is the victory,
Thou o'er death hast won.

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.

Chorus

No more we doubt Thee, glorious Prince of life;
Life is naught 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.

Chorus

Benediction & Blessing

May the love of the Father,
the tenderness of the Risen Christ,
and the presence of the Holy Spirit,
gladden your heart

and bring peace to your soul,
this day and all days.

Threefold Amen