



Easter Day 2025

Greeter: *Mehry*

Meditation Song: Bless the Lord my soul (TIS 706)
(please remain seated)

Bless the Lord my soul
and bless God's holy name.
Bless the Lord, my soul
who leads us into life.
(x3)

Welcome:

Greeting:

As we celebrate the risen Christ,
May the Lord be with you
And also with you

Moment of Stillness:

Christ Candle: *Brian*

We light this light to celebrate that Christ has risen!
Alleluia! Christ has risen indeed!

Acknowledgement of Country: *Christo*

We gather this Easter Day on the lands of the Gadigal and Wangal people. With gratitude and humility, we recognise the care of these lands since time immemorial and the legacy of dispossession and colonisation within the Church.

We reaffirm our commitment to walking together towards justice and renewal.

Call to Worship:

We are an Easter people
Ours is an Easter faith
The joy of Christ is rising in our hearts
Christ's resurrection brings us hope
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 invitation which you constantly give us.
Your transforming touch upon the bleak places of our world.

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

Hymn: Jesus Christ is Risen Today (TIS 362)

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

Prayer of Confession

In our prayer of confession, we trust that no matter what we do or don't do,
this story ends with love. So, in this knowledge, let us pray:

Gracious God, you have walked patiently with us
throughout our Lenten journey.
You have celebrated our growing understanding of your love;
and you know only too well our rejections of that 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.

**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 are invited ‘to see Christ’ too and enter into new life.

We are a forgiven people.
Thanks be to God!

Peace:

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

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

Hymn: Yours be the glory (TIS 380)

1. Yours be the glory, risen, conquering Son,
endless is the victory over death you’ve won;
angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away,
kept the folded grave-clothes where your body lay.

Yours be the glory, risen, conquering Son,
endless is the victory over death you’ve won.

2. See, 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 the Lord is living; death has lost its sting.

Yours be the glory, risen, conquering Son,
endless is the victory over death you've won.

3. No more we doubt you, glorious Prince of life;
life is naught without you: aid us in our strife;
make us more than conquerors, through your deathless love:
bring us safe through Jordan to your home above.

Yours be the glory, risen, conquering Son,
endless is the victory over death you've won.

Moment for the young at heart: Phil

Children's Activity: Carolyn

Bible Reading: Alison

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: Rev Joy

Moment of Stillness:

Prayers of the People: David

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:

Offering Prayer:

Our Easter offering will be going to the work of UNICEF bringing aid to the people of Gaza.

God of great gifts:

This morning we give you thanks and praise.

With resurrection humming in our hearts,
our minds are tuned to your song of peace.

We joyfully give these gifts to you,
a tangible chorus of thanksgiving,
a harmony of hope for your kingdom come.

Amen.

Song: May our homes be filled with dancing

1. May our homes be filled with dancing,
may our streets be filled with joy;
may injustice bow to Jesus
As the people turn and pray.

Chorus:

From the mountain to the valley,
hear our praise rise to you.

From the heavens to the nations,
hear our singing fill the air.

2. May our light shine in the darkness,
as we walk before the cross;
may your glory fill the whole earth
as the water o'er the seas.

Chorus:

From the mountain to the valley,
hear our praise rise to you.

From the heavens to the nations,
hear our singing fill the air.

Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! (repeat)

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;
Creator, Christ and Spirit
be upon you and remain with you always.

3-fold Amen

Acknowledgements:

Image: Easter Art - stushie art

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

Opening prayer: Brentwood Diocesan Commission for Justice and Peace – Let Justice Roll Down

Prayer of confession: Nancy Townley – Ministry Matters

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

Blessing: Heather Pencavel – Let Justice Roll Down