

SERVICE SHEET FOR EASTER SUNDAY 4TH APRIL 2021

CALL TO WORSHIP.

Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed!

Alleluia!

HYMN:- StF 313. 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:

- 3 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:

Edmond Budry (1854-1932)

translated by Richard Birch Hoyle (1875-1939)

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PRAYERS.

From the darkness of the grave
Blood poured out, a crown of thorns
Christ the Lord is risen to-day

ALL: Alleluia!

From the triumph that is won
Over the power and fear of death
Christ the Lord is risen to-day

ALL: Alleluia!

Walking from the empty tomb
Opening wide the gates of life
Christ the Lord is risen to-day

ALL: Alleluia!

Lord of life
You defeated death
To show that we can rise
From all that binds us to the world
Pride, envy, anger, fear
The debt of sin that holds us here
Christ the Lord is risen to-day

ALL: Alleluia!

Lord of life
You defeated death
To demonstrate a love that is
Beyond our understanding
That reaches out even to me
Saving Grace to all who hear
Christ the Lord is risen to-day

ALL: Alleluia!

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!

We thank you
that Easter is not about
a people,
but all people,
that your love
and your Salvation
are for all who confess
with voices, hearts and lives
that the tomb is empty
because Jesus is risen,
that we might know
forgiveness,
that lives might be
reborn
and your name
glorified
now and for eternity.

1ST READING: - Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24.

2ND READING: - Luke 24:1-12.

MESSAGE.

HYMN:- StF 568. Alleluia! Sing to Jesus.

- 1 Alleluia! Sing to Jesus,
his the sceptre, his the throne.
Alleluia! His the triumph,
his the victory alone.
Hark! The songs of peaceful Zion
thunder like a mighty flood;
Jesus, out of every nation,
has redeemed us by his blood.

- 2 Alleluia! Not as orphans
are we left in sorrow now.
Alleluia! He is near us,
faith believes, nor questions how.
Though the cloud from sight received him
when the forty days were o'er,
shall our hearts forget his promise,
'I am with you evermore'?

- 3 Alleluia! Bread of angels,
thou on earth our food, our stay.
Alleluia! Here the sinful
flee to thee from day to day.
Intercessor, friend of sinners,
earth's Redeemer, plead for me,
where the songs of all the sinless

sweep across the crystal sea.

4 Alleluia! King eternal,
thee the Lord of lords we own.
Alleluia! Born of Mary,
earth thy footstool, heaven thy throne.
Thou within the veil hast entered,
robed in flesh, our great High Priest;
thou on earth both priest and victim
in the eucharistic feast.

William Chatterton Dix (1837-1898)

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PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION AND LORD'S PRAYER.

Lord Jesus Christ,
we remember today how you rose again,
bringing new beginnings out of what had seemed the end,
a new chapter in the life of your Church
which is still being written today.

We recall how your resurrection changed life for the disciples,
calling them to let go of the past and embrace the future –
their role no longer simply to follow but to lead,
to go out in your risen power and proclaim the good news.

We know that life must change for us too,
but sometimes it is harder than we first anticipated,
moving on is a painful business,
asking more of us than we feel able to give.

Reach out to all who are finding endings hard to bear.

We think of those reeling from the termination of employment,
the breakdown of a relationship
or eviction from their homes.

We think of those whose children are leaving home,
family and friends moving away from each other,

communities facing the upheaval of change.
we think of those coming to terms with unfulfilled ambitions,
let down by broken promises,
or overcome by sudden catastrophe.

We think of those disabled by disease,
mourning the loss of loved ones,
or suffering from terminal illness

We think not only of others but also ourselves,
show us those areas in our lives
where it is time to draw a line and move on –
forms of service which are no longer fruitful,
activities no longer appropriate,
dreams no longer viable.

Give us the wisdom we need to understand
when it is necessary to accept change
and even to welcome it,
and give us courage then to stride out in faith,
confident that you will lead us from the old to the new.

Lord Jesus Christ,
remind us again today that endings can lead to new beginnings,
that from the old, new life can spring,
and may that confidence touch our lives
and bring hope to our troubled world.
Receive our thanks for all that has been
and open our hearts to all that shall be.
We ask it in your name.

Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER.

HYMN:- StF 298. Christ the Lord is risen today.

- 1 Christ the Lord is risen today;
Alleluia!
All creation joins to say:
Alleluia!
Raise your joys and triumphs high;
Alleluia!
Sing, you heavens; let earth, reply:
Alleluia!

- 2 Love's redeeming work is done,
Alleluia!
Fought the fight, the battle won;
Alleluia!
Vain the stone, the watch, the seal;
Alleluia!
Christ has burst the gates of hell:
Alleluia!

- 3 Lives again our glorious King;
Alleluia!
Where, O death, is now your sting?
Alleluia!
Once he died our souls to save;
Alleluia!
Where's your victory, boasting grave?
Alleluia!

- 4 Soar we now where Christ has led,
Alleluia!
Following our exalted Head;
Alleluia!
Made like him, like him we rise;
Alleluia!
Ours the cross, the grave, the skies:
Alleluia!

- 5 King of Glory! Soul of bliss!
Alleluia!
Everlasting life is this,
Alleluia!
You to know, your power to prove,
Alleluia!
Thus to sing, and thus to love:
Alleluia!

Charles Wesley (1707-1788)

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BLESSING AND DISMISSAL.