

# St Martin's Church, North Nibley

4th April 2021

## Easter Day

### Christ is Risen

A Service of the Word at Easter

*(We say together the words printed in bold.)*

#### *The Greeting*

*The minister greets the people and says*

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

**All He is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

Praise the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**All He has given us new life and hope.**

**He has raised Jesus from the dead.**

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

**All He is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

#### **Hymn : The Day of Resurrection**

1 The day of resurrection! Earth, tell it out abroad;  
the passover of gladness, the passover of God.  
From death to life eternal, from earth unto the sky,  
our God hath brought us over, with hymns of victory.

2 Our hearts be pure from evil, that we may see aright  
the Lord in rays eternal of resurrection light;  
and listening to his accents, may hear so calm and plain,  
his own "All hail!" and hearing, may raise the victor strain.

3 Now let the heavens be joyful! and earth her song begin!  
The round world keep high triumph, and all that is therein!  
Let all things seen and unseen their notes of gladness blend,  
for Christ the Lord is risen, our joy that hath no end.

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#### **News and Notices**

#### *Opening Prayer*

**All Faithful one, whose word is life:**

**Come with saving power**

**to free our praise,**

**inspire our prayer**

**and shape our lives**

**for the kingdom of your Son,**

**Jesus Christ our Lord.**

**Amen.**

## *Prayers of Penitence*

Jesus Christ, risen Master and triumphant Lord,  
we come to you in sorrow for our sins,  
and confess to you our weakness and unbelief.  
We have lived by our own strength,  
and not by the power of your resurrection.

In your mercy, forgive us.

**All Lord, hear us and help us.**

We have lived by the light of our own eyes,  
as faithless and not believing.

In your mercy, forgive us.

**All Lord, hear us and help us.**

We have lived for this world alone,  
and doubted our home in heaven.

In your mercy, forgive us.

**All Lord, hear us and help us.**

May the God of love and power  
forgive *you* and free *you* from *your* sins,  
heal and strengthen *you* by his Spirit,  
and raise *you* to new life in Christ our Lord.

**All Amen.**

## *The 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.

## *Readings*

### ***Epistle: Acts 10: 34-43***

Then Peter began to speak to them: 'I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and 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 ordained by God 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.'

**Hymn: Make me a Channel of your Peace**

1. Make me a channel of your peace,  
where there is hatred let me bring your love;  
where there is injury, your pardon, Lord,  
and where there's doubt, true faith in you.  
Oh Master, grant that I may never seek  
so much to be consoled as to console;  
to be understood, as to understand;  
to be loved, as to love with all my soul.
  
2. Make me a channel of your peace,  
where there's despair in life let me bring hope;  
where there is darkness only light;  
and where there's sadness, ever joy.
  
3. Make me a channel of your peace,  
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned,  
in giving to all men that we receive;  
and in dying that we're born to eternal life.

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**Gospel: 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. 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.' Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went towards the tomb. The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, and the cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. Then the disciples returned to their homes.

But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; 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. 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.' When she had said this, she turned round and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, 'Woman, why are you weeping? For whom are you looking?' 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.' Jesus said to her, 'Mary!' She turned and said to him in Hebrew, 'Rabbouni!' (which means Teacher). 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."' 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.

### *Affirmation of Faith*

Let us declare our faith  
in the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**All** Christ died for our sins  
in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he was buried;  
he was raised to life on the third day  
in accordance with the Scriptures;  
afterwards he appeared to his followers,  
and to all the apostles:  
this we have received,  
and this we believe.  
Amen.

### *Anthem: The Heavens Sing Praises by Beethoven*

The heav'ns sing praises to God in his glory,  
And all earth echoes with his name.  
The universe tells the wonderful story  
and to the spheres His might proclaim!  
Who set the numberless stars in the heavens,  
Who gave to us the mighty sun,  
That shines so brightly upon us,  
and lights our path as we sing praise. *Public Domain*

### *Prayers of Intercession*

#### *The Lord's Prayer (led by prayer reader)*

Gathering our prayers and praise into one, let us pray as our Saviour taught us

**All** 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.

#### *Praise*

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

**All** He is risen indeed. Alleluia.

Praise the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**All** He has given us new life and hope.

He has raised Jesus from the dead.

God has claimed us as his own.

**All** He has brought us out of darkness.

He has made us light to the world.

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

**All** He is risen indeed. Alleluia.

## *The Peace*

The risen Christ came and stood among his disciples and said, 'Peace be with you.'  
Then were they glad when they saw the Lord. Alleluia.  
The peace of the Lord be always with you  
**All and also with you.**

### **Hymn 3: Now the green blade riseth**

1. Now the green blade riseth from the buried grain,  
Wheat that in the dark earth many days has lain;  
Love lives again, that with the dead has been:  
Love is come again, like wheat that springeth green.

2. In the grave they laid him, Love by hatred slain,  
Thinking that never he would wake again,  
Laid in the earth like grain that sleeps unseen:  
Love is come again, like wheat that springeth green.

3. Forth he came at Easter, like the risen grain,  
He that for three days in the grave had lain;  
Quick from the dead, my risen Lord is seen:  
Love is come again, like wheat that springeth green.

4. When our hearts are wintry, grieving or in pain,  
Thy touch can call us back to life again;  
Fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been:  
Love is come again, like wheat that springeth green.

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## **The Blessing**

The God of Peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep,  
Through the blood of eternal covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will,  
Working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight,  
And the Blessing of God Almighty, the Father, Son and Holy Spirit be with each one of you and those that you love this day and for ever more.  
Amen

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