



Sunday 12th April 2020 – Easter Day

Dear friends, what follows is a service which you can use as a way to worship in your homes this Sunday (or any other day of the week).

If you have the Internet, you will find a video to accompany this sheet on YouTube from Sunday morning – search for Isle of Man Methodist Church and you will find it on our YouTube channel, along with a video for MAST Youth (teenagers) and MAST Kids (6-11yrs).

If you don't have access to the Internet or emails, and would like to receive this sheet by post each week, please let your local minister know and this will be arranged.

Our prayers are with you all,

Isle of Man Methodist Staff Team

Welcome and Easter Greeting

On this Easter day,
we join our voices with the whole church,
across the world and across time,
as we proclaim:

Alleluia! Christ has risen!
He is risen indeed, Alleluia!

Opening Prayer

We praise you,
God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.
By your great mercy
we have been born anew to a living hope
for you have raised your Son from the dead.
In his name we praise and adore you.
Alleluia! **Amen.**

(Michael J. Townsend)

Hymn: Christ the Lord is risen today

Sing/ Read /pray / the words below

- 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)

Prayer of Adoration

Eternal God,
with gladness in our hearts
and songs on our lips

we join together this Easter Day
to worship you
and celebrate your mightiest act —
the raising of Jesus Christ from the dead.

We praise you that death could not hold him,
for you raised him up triumphant,
to greet his incredulous disciples,
convincing them that he was the same Jesus
who was dead but is alive for evermore,
changing their sorrow into joy
and giving them new life and hope.

We too are his disciples.
May the risen Christ be in our midst,
in power and love,
as we offer you our worship.
We ask it in his name. **Amen.**

(Neil Dixon)

Gospel Reading: John 20:1-18

Find a Bible and read the above passage.

A time of reflection

Try to imagine -
how it was on that first Easter morning . . .
the disciples feeling utterly desolate . . .
all their hopes ended in the sad and awful scenes
of three days before . . .
Mary standing in the garden in the cool morning air...
afraid, not knowing what to expect. . .
the followers of Jesus in confusion
and fearing for their own lives . . .

Then - the news breaks - and what news it is!

(Peter Sheasby)

The message of Easter is of new life and hope.
Like Mary, may we be inspired to proclaim the good
news – that, through us, others may come to know
the love of the risen Christ for themselves.

*Take time to read the gospel passage again.
Let the Holy Spirit speak to your heart.*

Hymn: Thine be the glory

Sing/ Read /pray / the words below

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!*

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.

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)

Prayers of Intercession

Let's pray

When hope lies dead in the tomb with Jesus
and we cannot see that things can improve
for our world, our country, our church,
for our loved ones, for ourselves:
God of Life and Love: **Raise us to new life with Christ.**

When joy lies dead in the tomb with Jesus
and life seems a dreary, uphill struggle for
the needy, the sick, the depressed,
for our loved ones, for ourselves:
God of Life and Love: **Raise us to new life with Christ.**

When peace lies dead in the tomb with Jesus
and intolerance, conflict and warfare abound
between nations, races and religions,
between loved ones and within ourselves:
God of Life and Love: **Raise us to new life with Christ.**

When love lies dead in the tomb with Jesus
and the world is a harsh, uncaring place
for the hungry, the homeless, the needy,
for our loved ones, for ourselves:
God of Life and Love: **Raise us to new life with Christ.**

When faith lies dead in the tomb with Jesus
and suffering challenges belief and trust in you
for the bereaved, the fearful, the doubters,
for our loved ones, for ourselves:
God of Life and Love: **Raise us to new life with Christ.**

Eternal God,
give us the grace to die with Christ - to put behind us
the things that come between you and us,
and to offer ourselves wholeheartedly
in the service of your love.
God of Life and Love: **Raise us to new life with Christ.**

In the name of Christ the Victorious. **Amen.**

(Christine Odell)

The Lord's Prayer

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.**

A prayer of blessing

Gracious God, you have overwhelmed us with joy.
Nothing will ever be the same again.
May we live the change you have made in us.
May we live the love you have shown to us.
May we live the life you have won for us.

Now may the joy of the risen Lord, the mystery of
Resurrection power and the grace of the living God
go with us as we bear the good news to the world he
has transformed. **Alleluia!**

(Joyce Barrass)



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