



Sunday 4th April 2021
Easter Day

Dear friends,

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.

Don't forget also that Judith Ley is broadcasting "At Your Service" on Manx Radio FM at 0930 every Sunday which includes prayers, readings, hymns, and teaching.

Our prayers are with you all,
 Isle of Man Methodist Staff Team

Alleluia! Christ is Risen!
He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Hymn: StF 298 Christ the Lord...

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)

Reproduced from *Singing the Faith* Electronic Words Edition, number 298

Let us pray together

Glory to you, O God:
 you raised Jesus from the grave,
 bringing us victory over death
 and giving us eternal life.

Glory to you, O Christ:
 for us and for our salvation
 you overcame death
 and opened the gate to everlasting life>

Glory to you, O Holy Spirit:
 you lead us into the truth
 and breathe new life into us.

Glory to you, Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
 now and for ever. **Amen**

If we have fallen into despair,
Lord, forgive us.

If we have failed to hope in you,
Lord, forgive us.

If we have fearful of death,
Lord, forgive us.

If we have forgotten the victory of Christ,
Lord, forgive us.

Silence.....

May the living God
 raise us from despair,
 give us victory over sin
 and set us free in Christ. **Amen.**

We praise and thank you for Jesus, for his life, death and resurrection by which we are set free. Thank you that whatever the circumstances of our lives today we can know that we are surrounded by the love of the risen Christ. **Amen.**

Today's Reading:

John 20:1-18.

Find a Bible and read the above passage. If you do not have a Bible at home, ask your local minister who will gladly source one for you.

A time of reflection

This is the second year that we have not been able to meet together on Easter Day. It is, perhaps, these high points in the year that hit us particularly hard when we are in lockdown and unable to be with others.

If you are reading this on your own we particularly want to pray for you today.

The message of resurrection is about new beginnings and life springing up out of death. Every day is a day for celebrating the truth that, because of Jesus, we can experience a fresh start.

Today's gospel reading focuses on Mary Magdalene. In her grief she did not immediately recognise Jesus when he came to her. We can be so caught up in the negative that we fail to see the positive which is staring us in the face. It is when Jesus speaks Mary's name that everything is transformed for her and she wants to tell everyone. "I have seen the Lord" is her exclamation to the disciples. I wonder how in their grief they responded to Mary's joy.

Prayers of Intercession

In the power of the resurrection we offer our prayers to God. Let us pray.

Remember, O Lord, in your love
The church throughout the world.
May your whole church know your power and be a sign
that Christ is risen.

Lord of Life,
Hear us in your love.

Remember in your love the world you have made...
Those who seek a fair and proper use of the world's
resources...
Those who strive for justice and peace among the
nations...

May the whole earth be transformed by mercy and rejoice
in hope.

Lord of Life,
Hear us in your love.

Remember in your love those who suffer...
The victims of violence and injustice...
Those who mourn...
May all in need find comfort, strength and freedom in the
living Christ.

Lord of Life,
Hear us in your love.

Remember in your love all those who died:
Those who confessed the faith
And those whose faith is known to you alone.
May all your children receive grace and light according to
their needs and come at last to share with all the saints in
life eternal.

Lord of Life,
Hear us in your love.

Gracious God, we ask these prayers through Jesus Christ,
our risen Lord and Saviour. **Amen.**

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.

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)

Reproduced from *Singing the Faith* Electronic Words Edition, number 313

A prayer of blessing

May the peace of God which passes all understanding,
keep our hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of
God and of his son our Lord Jesus Christ and the blessing of
God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
Be with us all, this day and forever more. **Amen**

Some material taken from The
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