25 April 2021 Welcome to Rushen Parish

Easter 4

The minister taking the service today is Rev Liz Hull



1. Welcome and Greeting

Alleluia, Christ is risen. **He is risen indeed. Alleluia !**

2. Hymn (stand)

Now the green blade rises 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 springs up green.

In the grave they laid him, Love whom men had slain, thinking that he never would awake again, laid in the earth like grain that sleeps unseen: Love is come again, like wheat that springs up green. Forth he came at Easter, like the risen grain, he that for the three days in the grave had lain, back from the dead my risen Lord is seen: Love is come again, like wheat that springs up green.

When our hearts are wintry, grieving, or in pain, then your 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 springs up green.

> John Macleod Campbell Crum (1872-1958) © Oxford University Press

3. Call to Penitence (sit or kneel)

The gospel calls us to turn away from sin and be faithful to Christ. As we offer ourselves to him in penitence and faith, we renew our confidence and trust in his mercy

Silence

Lord Jesus, you have shown us the way to the Father: Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, your word is a light to our path: Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.** Lord Jesus, you are the good shepherd, leading us into everlasting life: Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

God who is both power and love, forgive you and free you from your sins, heal and strengthen you by his Spirit and raise to new life in Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

4. **Psalm 23**

- 1 The Lord is my shepherd; therefore can I lack nothing.
- 2 He makes me lie down in green pastures and leads me beside still waters.
- 3 He shall refresh my soul and guide me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.
- 4 Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.
- 5 You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me; you have anointed my head with oil and my cup shall be full.
- 6 Surely goodness and loving mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning is now and shall be for ever. Amen.

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Prayer:

Heavenly Father, our sovereign and shepherd, who brought again your Son Jesus Christ from the valley of death, comfort us with your protecting presence, goodness and love, that we also may come home and dwell with him in your house for ever. **Amen.**

5. Reading - see Rushen News - (sit)

6. Hymn (stand)

I heard the voice of Jesus say: 'Come unto me and rest; lay down, thou weary one, lay down thy head upon my breast.' I came to Jesus as I was, weary and worn and sad, I found in him a resting-place, and he has made me glad.

I heard the voice of Jesus say: 'Behold, I freely give the living water; thirsty one, stoop down and drink and live.' I came to Jesus, and I drank of that life-giving stream; my thirst was quenched, my soul revived, and now I live in him.

I heard the voice of Jesus say: 'I am this dark world's Light; look unto me, thy morn shall rise, and all thy day be bright.' I looked to Jesus, and I found in him my star, my sun; and in that light of life I'll walk, till travelling days are done.

Horatius Bonar (1808-1889)

8. Sermon

9. Affirmation of Faith (stand)

Let us affirm our faith in Jesus Christ the Son of God.

Though he was divine, he did not cling to equality with God, but made himself nothing. Taking the form of a slave, he was born in human likeness. He humbled himself and was obedient to death, even the death of the cross. Therefore God has raised him on high, and given him the name above every name: that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, and every voice proclaim that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Amen.

cf Philippians 2.6-11

10. Intercessions (sit or kneel)

the prayers may end with

Merciful Father, accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

11. The Lord's Prayer

Gathering our prayers and praises into one, as our Saviour taught us, so we pray

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. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and for ever. Amen.

12. Prayer for Today

A period of silent prayer, then the Collect is said and all respond Amen

13. Hymn (stand)

Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father There is no shadow of turning with Thee Thou changest not, Thy compassions, they fail not As Thou hast been Thou forever wilt be *Great is Thy faithfulness*,

great is Thy faithfulness, great is Thy faithfulness Morning by morning new mercies I see All I have needed Thy hand hath provided Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me

Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest Sun, moon and stars in their courses above Join with all nature in manifold witness To Thy great faithfulness, mercy and love *Great is Thy faithfulness*, Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside *Great is Thy faithfulness*,

> Thomas O Chisholm (1866-1960) Copyright © 1923, renewal 1951 Hope Publishing Company. Used by permission.

14. The Blessing

Christ the good shepherd, who laid down his life for the sheep, draw us and all who hear his voice, to be one flock within one fold; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit be with us for evermore. **Amen.**



15. The Sending Out

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. In the name of Christ. Amen.

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