



Heacham Parish Church

## Easter Day 2020

Alleluia, Christ is risen.

**He is risen indeed, Alleluia.**

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This is the day when Jesus Christ passed through death to life. Throughout the world Christians celebrate the awesome power of God. As we hear his word and proclaim all that God has done, we can be confident that we shall share his victory over death and love with him for ever

*A candle is lit*

May the light of Christ, rising in glory, banish all darkness from our hearts and minds.

The light of Christ **Thanks be to God**

Hymn: Jesus Christ is risen today

## The Collect for Easter Day

Lord of all life and power, who through the mighty resurrection of your Son overcame the old order of sin and death to make all things new in him: grant that we, being dead to sin and alive to you in Christ Jesus, may reign with him in glory; to whom with you and the holy Spirit be praise and honour and glory and might, now and in all eternity. **Amen**

## Bible reading Matthew 28: 1-10

### Reflections from Veronica

In a very short space of time, our life has been turned upside down - Work, school, family life, daily routines, leisure activities, Church, everything – has changed for all of us, almost overnight. It is not surprising that many of us, both locally and round the world feel overwhelmed and fearful.

I wonder if that's how Mary Magdalene, and the other Mary felt as they went to look at Jesus' tomb early that morning. Their lives had been turned upside down, Jesus, who they loved, believed in, gave up everything for and followed was dead. Then as they got to the tomb there was a violent earthquake and an angel appeared and rolled back the stone, and sat on it, and then said to them 'Do not be afraid...He is not here, he has risen... go quickly and tell'

The women then hurried away afraid yet full of joy, and this is when they met Jesus, who said to them 'do not be afraid...go and tell'

Those are the same words Jesus says to us today, he alone can transform our fear to peace, our sadness to joy and our despair to hope, our darkness to light.

Let us this Easter, claim these promises for ourselves and then do as he asks us to do 'go and tell of him and his promises' to those we know and encounter.

Jesus' peace, joy, hope and light are needed in our homes, our village and our world, more than ever before, we can be part of sharing that good news, even from our homes.

### Profession of Faith

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,**

**suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting.  
Amen.**

Prayers of intercession from Sue Bird

Our Loving Heavenly Father, whose goodness and grace overflowed when you raised Jesus from the dead. Let your goodness and grace continue to flow upon your people now. At this time of crisis in our land and across the world, give us hope that the light of Jesus Christ may shine into the darkness of Covid 19, where Husband is divided from Wife, parents from children, neighbour from neighbour.

Stimulate us to give active support to those in the firing line, by prayer, by word, by letter. Thank you Lord for our key workers and please keep them safe as they continue with the work only they can do.

Roll away the stone for those still stuck at Good Friday, those whose strength is failing through ill health, whose spirits are flagging through depression, whose determination is being sapped through addiction. Roll away the stone Lord that they might see the path stretching out before them, a path unused except for your footprints.

Bless our queen and her government, that in this time of crisis they may lead our country with wisdom, righteousness and justice.

On this Easter morning we pray for all our church leaders as they find other ways to communicate the Christian message. Thank you that you have given Veronica the tools to communicate with us here in Heacham.

Father, the resurrection of your Son has given us new life and renewed Hope. Help us to live as new people in pursuit of the Christian ideal. Grant us the wisdom to know what we must do, the will to want to do it, the courage to undertake it and the strength to complete it.

Lord accept these prayers for the sake of your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen

### Lord Prayer

### 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

Hymn: Thine be the glory

### The Blessing

The God of peace,  
who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus,  
that great shepherd of the sheep,  
give you his peace, his joy, his hope and his light  
and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the  
Holy Spirit be with you and those you love now and forever.  
Amen