

## **Sunday April 17<sup>th</sup> 2022: Easter Day**

*For use by the Central Norfolk Circuit at 10.30 am or other suitable time.*



### **Opening Sentences**

We are risen with Christ: **the Lord is risen!**  
Death has met its victor: **the Lord is risen!**  
The way to heaven is open: **the Lord is risen!**  
He is risen indeed: **Alleluia! Amen.**



### **Hymn StF 298 H&P 193**

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!*  
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!*  
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!*  
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)

### **Collect for Easter Sunday**

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 Jesus Christ, may reign with him in glory;  
to whom with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit be praise and honour, glory and might,  
now and in all eternity. Amen.

**Old Testament Reading set for today:** Isaiah 25 v 6 – 9

**Gospel Reading set for today:** Luke 24 v 1 – 12

### **To think about**

Like last week, read the Gospel passage again – slowly – and this time, imagine that it is a film  
and that you are watching it for the first time. What strikes you?

### **Hymn StF 303 H&P 196**

I know that my Redeemer lives – what joy the blest assurance gives!  
He lives, he lives, who once was dead / he lives, my everlasting Head!  
He lives to bless me with his love / he lives, to plead for me above;  
He lives, my hungry soul to feed / he lives, to help in time of need.  
He lives, and grants me daily breath / he lives, and I shall conquer death;  
He lives, my mansion to prepare / he lives, to lead me safely there.  
He lives, all glory to his name / he lives, my Saviour, still the same;  
What joy the blest assurance gives / I know that my Redeemer lives!

Samuel Medley (1738 – 1799)

### **Message from a Circuit friend**

I find it fascinating the ways in which the different gospel accounts differ from each other –  
particularly in their accounts of the resurrection. Perhaps because I am a 'thinker' rather than a  
'feeler', I like to analyse the differences and notice the particular angle that each gospel writer is

taking. But, of course, the resurrection accounts are bound to be different. It was such a startling, dramatic, traumatic event for those involved that their memories were bound to be a bit confused and different people were bound to remember different things from other people. However! To my analysis! Matthew has two women going to the tomb, one angel and the women meeting Jesus on the way to the male disciples. Mark has three women, one young man and everyone going away frightened. Luke has a different third woman, two men in bright clothes (angels?) and Peter going to the tomb after hearing the news from the women. John has Mary Magdalene – by herself – finding the tomb empty and then telling Peter and John who run to the tomb to see for themselves. Mary experiences an encounter with the risen Jesus. Many of these differences in account can be explained and a composite version put together but this is not the place for doing that. It is Luke's gospel that is the controlling gospel in this year's lectionary. I notice in Luke that the women begin to understand but that the men think it is all nonsense. But there is an air of wonderment in the account, a sense that this is just the beginning and all will soon be revealed. It is exciting! May we catch for ourselves something of that sense of wonder and expectation as we begin to celebrate another Easter Day – whether at home, in church, or with families or friends.

**Jacqui Horton (Superintendent of the Central Norfolk Methodist Circuit)**

### **Prayers of Intercession**

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

Remember, O Lord, in your love, the Church throughout the world...

Those recently baptised and confirmed... and those who minister to others.

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... and 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.**

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

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**Offer to God your offertory for the week, and say the Lord's Prayer...**

### **Hymn StF 313 H&P 212**

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:  
*Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son / endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won.*

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:

*Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son / endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won.*

Edmond Budry (1854 – 1932) translated by Richard Birch Hoyle (1875 – 1939)

**May the blessing of God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit be with us, and all those we love, this day and always, Amen.**