

## **Sunday @ Seven April 2020**

### **Yes, He lives!**

See, what a morning, gloriously bright,  
with the dawning of hope in Jerusalem;  
folded the grave-clothes, tomb filled with light,  
as the angels announce Christ is risen!  
See God's salvation plan,  
wrought in love, borne in pain, paid in sacrifice,  
fulfilled in Christ, the man,  
for he lives: Christ is risen from the dead!

See, Mary weeping, 'Where is he laid?'  
As in sorrow she turns from the empty tomb;  
hears a voice speaking, calling her name;  
it's the Master, the Lord raised to life again!  
The voice that spans the years,  
speaking life, stirring hope, bringing peace to us,  
will sound till he appears,  
for he lives, Christ is risen from the dead!

One with the Father, Ancient of days,  
through the Spirit who clothes faith with certainty;  
honour and blessing, glory and praise  
to the King crowned with pow'r and authority!  
And we are raised with him,  
death is dead, love has won, Christ has conquered;  
and we shall reign with him,  
for he lives, Christ is risen from the dead!

Let all creation give thanks to the Risen Lord.

### **Give thanks to the Risen Lord!**

Filled with His praises, give thanks to the Risen Lord.

### **Give thanks to the Risen Lord!**

He is our Shepherd, and we are His sheep.  
Give thanks to the Risen Lord.

### **Give thanks to the Risen Lord!**

Stepping out boldly, we claim resurrection.  
Give thanks to the Risen Lord.

### **Give thanks to the Risen Lord!**

In the tomb so cold they laid him,  
death its victim claimed.  
Pow'rs of hell, they could not hold him;  
back to life he came!

*Christ is risen! Christ is risen!  
Death has been conquered! Death has been  
conquered!  
Christ is risen! Christ is risen! He shall reign  
for ever.*

Hell had spent its fury on him,  
left him crucified.  
Yet, by blood, he boldly conquered,  
sin and death defied.

*Christ is risen.....*

Now the fear of death is broken,  
love has won the crown.  
Prisoners of the darkness listen,  
walls are tumbling down.

*Christ is risen.....*

Raised from death to heaven ascending,  
love's exalted King.  
Let his song of joy unending  
through the nations ring.

*Christ is risen.....*

Reading from 1 Peter v 3-9

*Alleluia, alleluia give thanks to the risen Lord,  
alleluia, alleluia, give praise to His name.*

Jesus is Lord of all the earth,  
he is the King of creation.

*Alleluia...*

Spread the good news o'er all the earth,  
Jesus has died and has risen.

*Alleluia...*

We have been crucified with Christ,  
now we shall live for ever.

*Alleluia...*

God has proclaimed the just reward,  
life for all men, alleluia!

*Alleluia...*

Come let us praise the Living God,  
joyfully sing to our Saviour.

*Alleluia...*

***Jesus we celebrate your victory.***

*Jesus we revel in your love.*

*Jesus we rejoice you've set us free.*

*Jesus your death has brought us life.*

It was for freedom that Christ has set us free;  
no longer to be subject to a yoke of slavery.  
So we're rejoicing in God's victory,  
our hearts responding to his love.

His spirit in us releases us from fear,  
and the way to him is open, with boldness we  
draw near.

And in his presence our problems disappear,  
our hearts responding to his love.

Reading from Luke 24 v 36-43

Meditation (taken from A New Light Shining  
by Nick Fawcett)

He was back!

Back in the land of the living, just when we'd  
given up hope!

Three days it had been, three days of dark  
despair as slowly the truth sank home –  
our Lord, laid in a tomb,  
dead and buried,  
never to walk this earth again.

We couldn't believe it at first, none of us,  
even though we'd seen it for ourselves.

We expected to wake up any moment to find  
it was all a dream,  
a dreadful mistake that had somehow taken  
us in.

But as the numbness passed so the reality hit  
us, and the pain began in earnest.

It was an end to everything – our plans, our  
hopes, our dreams.

There was nothing left to live for, that's how  
we felt – we'd pinned our hopes on him, and  
he was gone.

Only he wasn't!

He was there, meeting Mary in the garden as  
she broke her heart beside the tomb.

He was there, on the Emmaus Road, as two  
followers trudged slowly home, their world in  
tatters.

He was there, speaking to Thomas, breaking

through his disbelief!

He was there, standing among us in the  
upper room!

He was back in the land of the living,  
and suddenly so were we –

faith rekindled,

hope renewed,

joy reborn,

life beginning again!

Prayer

Lord Jesus Christ,

just when it looked all over,

when the world had written you off

and even your disciples given you up,

you came back – defeat revealed as victory.

Teach me what that means for me today –

to recognise that it brings not only the

promise of eternal life,

but good news for life here and now.

Help me to understand that

whatever tragedies I may suffer,

whatever obstacles I may face,

whatever disappointments I may experience,

I can bounce back from them with your help,

for you are a God able to transform even the

darkest moments and lead me through them

into the light of your love.

Gladly, then, I put my hand in yours, knowing

that in life or death you will never fail or

forsake me.

To you be praise and glory, now and always.

Amen.

In Christ alone my hope is found,

He is my light, my strength, my song;

this corner stone, this solid ground,

firm through the fiercest drought and storm.

What heights of love, what depths of peace,

when fears are stilled, when strivings cease!

My comforter, my all in all,

here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone who took on flesh,  
fullness of God in helpless babe!  
This gift of love and righteousness,  
scorned by the ones he came to save  
till on that cross as Jesus died,  
the wrath of God was satisfied  
- for every sin on him was laid;  
here in the death of Christ I live.

There in the ground his body lay,  
light of the world by darkness slain  
then bursting forth in glorious day  
up from the grave he rose again!  
And as he stands in victory  
sin's curse has lost its grip on me,  
for I am his and he is mine  
- bought with the precious blood of Christ.

No guilt in life, no fear in death,  
this is the power of Christ in me;  
from life's first cry to final breath,  
Jesus commands my destiny.  
No power of hell, no scheme of man,  
can ever pluck me from his hand;  
till he returns or calls me home,  
here in the power of Christ I'll stand!

**Space for our prayers for others in these troubled times –**

**The sick, those in hospitals, those being taken from this life; those who care for us, the NHS, the carers, the essential workers; those who have been bereaved. Any we know who need our prayers just now.**

**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 forever. Amen**

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 hast 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 nought 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.*

**Lord, we pray that every day may be a day of resurrection but especially at this time of Easter. Give us to taste again the frantic eagerness of finding an empty tomb and a Risen Lord. Let us smell the freshness of a life richly blessed and then in your grace give us the naïve simplicity and loud energy to tell the world of the greatness of the victory of your love. Amen.**