

EASTER SUNDAY 17/4/22 Selkirk 10.15

Welcome

Choir: 'Easter Hymn'

Leader: Christ is risen!

People: He is risen indeed!

Leader: He is risen!

People: Jesus is alive!

Hymn 410

Jesus Christ is risen today, *Alleluia!*

Jesus Christ is risen today *Alleluia*

Our triumphant holy day *Alleluia*

Who did once upon the cross

Alleluia

Suffer to redeem our loss *Alleluia*

Hymns of praise then let us sing *Alleluia*

Unto Christ our heavenly King *Alleluia*

Who endured the cross and grave *Alleluia*

Sinners to redeem and save *Alleluia*

But the anguish He endured *Alleluia*

Our salvation now procured *Alleluia*

Now above the sky He's king *Alleluia*

Where the angels ever sing *Alleluia*

Sing we to our God above *Alleluia*

Praise eternal as His love *Alleluia*

Praise Him all ye heavenly host *Alleluia*

Father Son and Holy Ghost *Alleluia*

Lyra Davidica, 1708

Prayer & Lord's Prayer

Lord God, on this Easter Sunday, we bring You our praise.

We rejoice with Mary and the disciples that Jesus is risen from the dead, that Jesus is alive!

We rejoice that He has conquered death and has made it possible for each one of us to receive forgiveness and have eternal life.

Lord Jesus, we can never thank You enough for all that You accomplished for us on the cross and by Your resurrection from the dead.

You became one of us. You identified with us and took all our sins upon Yourself. You endured suffering, shame and death for us.

And yet death could not hold You - You rose from the dead, so that we might rise to life - new life - eternal life.

Father God, You are so rich in mercy, You love us so much, that even though we were dead because of our sins, You gave us life when You raised Your Son Jesus from the dead.

For it is only by Your grace, by Your undeserved favour, that we are saved.

Lord, just as Jesus died for us, may we live for Him.

May we forgive others as we have been forgiven.

May we love others as You love us.

May we consider the needs of those around us and those far away, before our own needs.

Lord, receive now our praise and thanksgiving on this glorious Easter morn.

Receive our gifts as we present them to You as tokens of our dedication and devotion.

And hear us as we pray together, just as Jesus has taught us:

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.

Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.

For the Kingdom, the power
and the glory are Yours
now and for ever.

Amen.

Bible Reading: John 20 v 11-21 (Nora Hunter)

Jesus Appears to Mary Magdalene

¹¹ Mary stood crying outside the tomb. While she was still crying, she bent over and looked in the tomb ¹² and saw two angels there dressed in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been, one at the head and the other at the feet. ¹³ “Woman, why are you crying?” they asked her.

She answered, “They have taken my Lord away, and I do not know where they have put him!”

¹⁴ Then she turned around and saw Jesus standing there; but she did not know that it was Jesus. ¹⁵ “Woman, why are you crying?” Jesus asked her. “Who is it that you are looking for?”

She thought he was the gardener, so she said to him, “If you took him away, sir, tell me where you have put him, and I will go and get him.”

¹⁶ Jesus said to her, “Mary!”

She turned toward him and said in Hebrew, “Rabboni!” (This means “Teacher.”)

¹⁷ “Do not hold on to me,” Jesus told her, “because I have not yet gone back up to the Father. But go to my brothers and tell them that I am returning to him who is my Father and their Father, my God and their God.”

¹⁸ So Mary Magdalene went and told the disciples that she had seen the Lord and related to them what he had told her.

Jesus Appears to His Disciples

¹⁹ It was late that Sunday evening, and the disciples were gathered together behind locked doors, because they were afraid of the Jewish authorities. Then Jesus came and stood among them. “Peace be with you,” he said. ²⁰ After saying this, he showed them his hands and his side. The disciples

were filled with joy at seeing the Lord. ²¹ Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father sent me, so I send you."

Hymn

See, what a morning!

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!

This voice that spans the years
Speaking life, stirring hope, bringing peace to us
Will sound 'til 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
Honor 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!

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For He lives, Christ is risen from the dead!

Children's Story

SLIDE 1 - This is a true story! 2,000 years ago a man called Jesus brought a message of hope and love to the whole world. Many people wanted to meet Jesus and to listen to what He said.

SLIDE 2 - Jesus visited the big city of Jerusalem. People waved palm branches to welcome Him and they shouted out: "Hosanna! Hosanna to the King of kings!"

But some people didn't like Jesus and wanted to get rid of Him.

SLIDE 3 - On the Thursday night, before they had their meal, Jesus began to wash the dusty feet of His friends. He did this to show them that they should help and serve others.

SLIDE 4 - Jesus then had a last supper with His friends. Jesus gave thanks to God for the food. Then He shared a cup of wine and a loaf of bread with them.

Jesus told His friends to do this again, so that they would remember Him after He had gone.

SLIDE 5 - Later that same night, a man called Judas brought some Roman soldiers to the garden where Jesus was praying. The soldiers arrested Jesus and took Him away, even though He had done nothing wrong.

SLIDE 6 - On the Friday, a man called Pilate put Jesus on trial, but although he found out that He had done nothing wrong, the soldiers took Jesus away to be killed. They put a purple robe on Jesus and a crown of sharp thorns on His head.

SLIDE 7 - The Roman soldiers put Jesus on a big wooden cross and Jesus died there.

There was a big earthquake and darkness fell over the whole land.

Mary, Jesus mother, was very, sad and she cried.

SLIDE 8 - Jesus' dead body was taken down from the cross and they wrapped Him in a white sheet. They placed His body in a big cave and rolled a huge stone over the entrance to keep the body safe.

SLIDE 9 - On the Sunday, Jesus' friends came back to the cave. The huge stone had been rolled away! Jesus was not dead anymore - He had come alive again!

All His friends were really, really happy - it was the happiest day of their lives!

JESUS WAS ALIVE! And they saw Him for themselves!

All of this happened a long, long time ago, but today, all these years later, many, many people, across the whole world are still friends with Jesus.

They believe that by dying and coming alive again,
Jesus has helped them and has given them NEW LIVES!

Our Easter eggs remind us of that very first Easter Sunday.

Eggs are a sign of HOPE and of NEW LIFE!

They remind us of that huge stone that was rolled away from the cave -
WHEN JESUS CAME ALIVE AGAIN!

And we're going to sing about that right now, in this new song.

It's called 'ROLL THE STONE!'

'Roll the stone' (unaccompanied)

Roll the Stone, roll the stone,
roll the stone away.
Jesus died, but He's alive,
and this is Easter day.

1. We all like to paint eggs,
sometimes blue and sometimes red.
First we roll them till they crunch,
then we eat them munch, munch, munch!
Roll the stone, roll the stone ...

2. We have chocolate eggs to eat,
and inside there's lots of sweets.
First they open with a crunch,
then we eat them munch, munch, munch.

Roll the Stone, roll the stone,
roll the stone away.
Jesus died, but He's alive,
and this is Easter day.

Prayer (Linda McCraw)

Living God, we praise you for the great truth of Easter, the message that your love was not, and will never, be defeated. You have given us the certain hope that one day your kingdom of justice, love and joy shall be seen fully, and so we offer to you our prayers for others.

In the light of the empty tomb, we bring to you our world, broken and abused. We pray for all those who live in lands ravaged by conflict, war, ethnic violence, and persecution, for all who suffer crushing poverty and hunger, and for children everywhere who find themselves caught up in dark and dangerous situations. We are horrified by the events in Ukraine, but also in so many other places that no longer make headlines, where people are suffering dreadfully from the conscious and unconscious actions of others. Strengthen and guide all those who give sacrificially of their time, their talents, their very selves, to bring relief to those in need of it. We pray especially for world leaders, for all in authority whose decisions and negotiations influence the stability not only of their own countries, but of the entire world. May they be moved to justice, and may they act in love.

Let the light of the risen Christ shine in our world.

We pray for all around us who are in real need, and all who suffer. We remember the lonely, the frightened, the abandoned, the sorrowful. You call them by name, may they find peace and joy in your presence. Yet there are many who have no joy, who are in great pain physically, mentally and spiritually. Come Lord, come to them, bringing them relief and new hope.

Let the light of the risen Christ illumine every heart and life.

Your church Lord God in every part of the world needs your risen power so we pray for your Holy Spirit's power to be evident within us. Bind us together in the truth and love of your good news, so that Jesus' prayer will be answered, and the world come to believe the message we bear. Encourage all who are faithfully building for Christ's kingdom. Let us witness a new day of our risen, exalted Lord's gracious power.

Let the light of the risen Christ shine in the church.

Risen Lord Jesus, accompany us all as we move into the week ahead. May we follow closely your footsteps and rejoice in your presence. Make us strong to share your love, as we live as your resurrection people. May we be channels of your grace and peace to everyone we meet. Fill our hearts with the new life of Easter, until that day when, with all your people, we enter your kingdom and rejoice in the wonder of your love for all eternity.

In your name we pray, Amen

Hymn 439

Look, ye saints, the sight is glorious!

Look, ye saints, the sight is glorious!

See the Man of Sorrows now,
from the fight returned victorious —
every knee to him shall bow.

Crown him! crown him!
crown him! crown him!
crowns become the Victor's brow.

Crown the Saviour, angels, crown him!

Rich the trophies Jesus brings;
in the seat of power enthrone him,
while the vault of heaven rings.

Crown him! crown him!
crown him! crown him!
crown the Saviour King of kings!

Sinners in derision crowned him,
mocked the dying Saviour's claim;
saints and angels crowd around him,
own his title, praise his name.

Crown him! crown him!
crown him! crown him!
spread abroad the Victor's fame.

Hark, those bursts of acclamation!
hark, those loud triumphant chords!

Jesus takes the highest station —
Oh, what joy the sight affords!

Crown him! crown him!
crown him! crown him!
King of kings, and Lord of lords!

Thomas Kelly (1769–1855)

Easter Talk: 'The Greatest Day Ever'

What was the greatest day ever? Some might say it was the day their first child was born, or the day they met the love of their life.

Others might say the day the war was over, or when their team won the cup. For some it might be the day they graduated, or won a gold medal. Or the day they received the all-clear from the hospital.

But the greatest day ever is TODAY!,
EASTER DAY! RESURRECTION DAY!
The day Jesus rose from the dead!

Jesus' dead body had been laid in the tomb and a huge stone rolled over the entrance to seal it.
It was then guarded by Roman soldiers.

And yet, when a woman called Mary came to the tomb on that first Easter morning - she found that the stone had been rolled away and that the guards were nowhere to be seen!

Mary ran to tell Peter and John, two of Jesus' disciples. They ran to the tomb and Peter went in.

What he saw astonished him! The grave clothes in which Jesus' body had been wrapped, were just lying there, neatly folded up.

John went in and saw the same. There was no sign of Jesus' body.
And so they ran back to tell the others what they had seen.

Meanwhile, Mary stood outside the tomb, weeping and greatly disturbed and perplexed.

What had happened? Very slowly she put her head into the entrance and saw two angels just sitting there.

"Why are you crying?" they asked her. "Because they've taken away Jesus' body and I don't know where they have put him." Then, out of the corner of her eye, she saw someone approaching.

Could this be the man in charge of the graveyard, she thought.

"Why are you crying?" the man asked. "Who is it that you are looking for?"

"If you have taken him away" said Mary, Please tell me where he is so I can go and see him.

Then the man softly spoke her name: "Mary!" And she realised that it was Jesus, alive and well - risen from the dead!

"Teacher!" she replied.

How could this be? she had seen Him die on the cross. She had witnessed His dead body being wrapped up and laid in the cold, dark tomb. She had been right there when they rolled that huge stone over the entrance and stationed the guards.

How could Jesus possibly be alive?

How could He be right here standing in front of her, calling her by name? "Go and tell My disciples that I am alive" says Jesus. And that's exactly what Mary did.

And that same evening, Jesus visits His disciples to prove to them that He really is alive - and they, when they see and hear Him in person, are amazed that He has risen from the dead!

'How wonderful was their joy when they saw Him!'

It was the greatest day ever for those disciples of Jesus!

It was the best day of their lives!

Jesus was no longer dead - He was alive!

Their lives were changed - forever!

And for the last 2,000 years,

Christians have been celebrating this great day -

Easter Day - the greatest day ever!

And THEIR lives have been changed forever!

The day when Jesus came back from the dead - Resurrection Day!

And for each one of us, on THIS Easter Day, if WE believe that Jesus died for us and rose again, OUR lives will be changed forever.

The greatest day ever, The day that Jesus conquered death,

so that each one of us, who believe in Him, can look forward to a NEW LIFE an ETERNAL LIFE, that lasts forever.

The message of Easter is that

THERE IS HOPE - REAL HOPE -
A SURE AND CERTAIN HOPE!

You may think, with all that's been going on lately, that there is NO hope,
that that things are just getting worse
and you fear for the future.

But because Jesus died and came back to life, on the greatest day ever.
Because that REALLY happened -

It means that THERE IS HOPE!
There is CERTAINTY!
Death is not the end for us!

Jesus said: "I am the One who raises the dead and gives them life again.
Anyone who believes in Me, even though they die, like everyone else -
SHALL LIVE AGAIN!

They are given ETERNAL LIFE!
Do you believe this?"

That's what Jesus said 2,000 years ago -
and that's what He's saying to you and me today.

"Do you believe in Me?"
He asks us.

"Do you believe that I died on the cross - FOR YOU?
"Do you believe that I rose from the dead - FOR YOU?"

"IF you do - then YOU WILL LIVE - FOREVER!

To sum it all up, here are some words which are often sung about Jesus on Easter Day - THE GREATEST
DAY EVER!

'Because HE lives,
I can face tomorrow.

Because HE lives,
all fear is gone.

Because I know, I know
HE holds the future.

And life is worth the living,
just because HE LIVES!

Prayer

Choir: 'Hear the bells ringing'

Hymn 419

Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son

Thine be the glory risen conquering Son
Endless is the victory Thou o'er death has 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 Richard Birch Hoyle (1875-1939)

Benediction: And now may,

The Grace of the risen Lord Jesus Christ,

The Love of God the Father,

And the Fellowship of the Holy Spirit,

Be with you all

This glorious Easter Day,

And forever more.

3-fold Amen