



Where ever we are today we can all say HE IS RISEN – HE IS RISEN INDEED and celebrate the resurrection of Jesus.

The Gospels recall what happened. I love the way that great sadness and apparent doom and gloom of what happened on the cross was transformed to great joy, hope and eternal life for all that believe.

In these current circumstances which have such a massive impact, there is a tendency for fear and despair to make us despondent but knowing that Jesus who has conquered death is with us gives us hope that we will get through this and the best is yet to come.

The angel said to the women, “Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. He is not here; he has risen! And we can say: HE IS RISEN INDEED.

Read Psalm 16



**True Home, how could I choose another?
Fullness to my emptiness,
water to my thirst,
ocean to my raindrop,
still centre point
that draws me in
and knows my name.**

**Wide Plain, where else would I want to roam?
Astonishing vistas,
expanding horizons,
infinite grace,
room to breathe
and the risk of love
in the gift of self.**

**Trustworthy Way, who else could I follow?
Path well-worn and patient,
bounding freedom,
growing wisdom,
fulfilling joy.**

**Even stumbling
is not stumbling to you.
You lift me tenderly
and invite me on.**

**Therefore my heart is glad,
and my soul rejoices;
my body also rests secure.**

Song

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.
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!

Keith Getty | Stuart Townend
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Song

The greatest day in history
Death is beaten, you have rescued me
Sing it out Jesus is alive
The empty cross, The empty grave
Life eternal You have won the day
Shout it out, Jesus is alive
He's alive

Oh happy day, happy day
You washed my sin away
Oh happy day, happy day
I'll never be the same
Forever I am changed

When I stand, in that place
Free at last, meeting face to face
I am Yours Jesus You are mine
Endless joy, perfect peace
Earthly pain finally will cease
Celebrate, Jesus is alive
He's alive

Oh happy day, happy day
You washed my sin away
Oh happy day, happy day
I'll never be the same
Forever I am changed

Oh what a glorious day
What a glorious way
That You have saved me
Oh what a glorious day
What a glorious name

Oh happy day, happy day
You washed my sin away
Oh happy day, happy day
I'll never be the same
Forever I am changed

Oh what a glorious day
I'll never be the same

Ben Cantelon | Tim Hughes
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Prayer

Lord, on this Easter day, thank you for loving us more than life itself.
Lord, life can be hard and uncertain. So much pain, hurt, and heartache seems to surround us. And yet, knowing this, You still willingly gave up your life and became Immanuel, God with us, and God who rescues us.

Thank you, because of your sacrifice, we can spend eternity with you. There is no pain you cannot conquer, no hurt you cannot heal, and no life you cannot transform. Your death and resurrection which we celebrate today proved that nothing is impossible for you, and that we are more than conquerors because of you.

Today and every day, help us to fix our hearts and our minds on you. And as we do, please give us more of your joy, hope and peace. We love you and we want to worship you.

We pray now for our city, our nation our world in this pandemic.
For everyone who is struggling with their mental health during this time.
For parents trying to balance work, childcare and home schooling,
For families who have lost loved ones and are grieving.
We pray for those who have lost their livelihoods.
We pray for those in hospital beds and on ventilators fighting for their lives
We pray for the medical staff caring for them day and night and for our leaders at this time
Oh Lord We ask for mercy, for healing, for strength and for the battle against this virus to be won.
Amen.

Teaching

Read John 15:9-17

- ❶ Overwhelming evidence
- ❷ Indescribable love
- ❸ Uncompromising obedience

To consider:

1. In what way(s) does the knowledge of the resurrection and, in particular, that Jesus has defeated death once for all, impact the way I approach my life and even my death?
2. What does denying myself and taking up my cross daily actually look like for me?
3. Can I describe my obedience to Jesus as uncompromising? If so, in what ways. If not, why not? What can/should I do about it?
4. In what practical ways, today, given the constraints in which I find myself can I/will I seek to be obedient to Jesus' command to love others?
5. How do I hold in tension Jesus' expressed desire for his Father to 'remove this cup' (Mark 14:36) with his obvious obedience to do what his heavenly Father told him to do?
6. Is my faith reasonable? With regards to the resurrection what parts of the resurrection narratives contribute to my understanding that this event is supported by overwhelming evidence?
7. In what ways does what Jesus did on the cross demonstrate the indescribable love he showed us?
8. How does Paul's statement in Galatians 3:13 'Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us, for it is written: 'Cursed is everyone who is hung on a pole (tree)', add to our understanding of what Jesus did on the cross.
9. Should Jesus' statement, 'Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends' (John 15:13) ever be used to endorse the giving of lives in conflict?

Song

Do you feel the world is broken? (We do)
Do you feel the shadows deepen? (We do)
But do you know that all the dark won't stop
the light from getting through? (We do)
Do you wish that you could see it all made
new? (We do)

Is all creation groaning? (It is)
Is a new creation coming? (It is)
Is the glory of the Lord to be the light within
our midst? (It is)
Is it good that we remind ourselves of this? (It
is)

Is anyone worthy? Is anyone whole?
Is anyone able to break the seal and open the
scroll?
The Lion of Judah who conquered the grave
He is David's root and the Lamb who died to
ransom the slave

Is He worthy? Is He worthy
Of all blessing and honor and glory?
Is He worthy of this?
He is

Does the Father truly love us? (He does)
Does the Spirit move among us? (He does)
And does Jesus, our Messiah, hold forever
those He loves? (He does)
Does our God intend to dwell again with us?
(He does)

Is anyone worthy? Is anyone whole?
Is anyone able to break the seal and open the
scroll?
The Lion of Judah who conquered the grave
He is David's root and the Lamb who died to
ransom the slave

From every people and tribe (People and tribe)
Every nation and tongue (Every nation and
tongue)
He has made us a kingdom and priests to God
To reign with the Son

Is He worthy? Is He worthy
Of all blessing and honor and glory?
Is He worthy? Is He worthy?
Is He worthy of this?

Andrew Peterson | Ben Shive

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Communion

We invite you share communion,
remembering that the sacrifice of Jesus brings
us new life.

While you may be doing this alone, there are
many others, both in our church and across
the country celebrating at this very moment.

The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you; the Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace.