



Easter Day

World-Wide Worship@Home

**Sunday 12
April, 2020**



Getting Ready

Set up your worship space with the things you gathered that remind you of life: an egg, a flower, a photo, a seed, ...

Light your Candle

**Christ our Light,
Brings to our World.
Jesus is Risen
He is Risen indeed! Alleluia!**

Call to Worship: Call to Praise

The congregation at Toora call out
Jesus is Risen

The people of God at Foster reply
He is Risen indeed! Alleluia!

The disciples of Fish Creek cry out,
"Why are you weeping?"

And the faithful at Tarwin Lower reply
"I have seen the Lord!"

The believers at Wonthaggi call to the people of The Way at Inverloch,
Jesus is Risen

The congregation at Phillip Island reply:
He is Risen indeed! Alleluia!

Opening Hymn of Praise

370 Christ the Lord is Risen Today

Christ the Lord is risen today: Hallelujah!
Let the whole creation say: Hallelujah!
Raise your joys and triumphs high: Hallelujah!
Sing now heaven and earth reply: Hallelujah!

Love's redeeming work is done; Hallelujah!
fought the fight the battle won; Hallelujah!
vain the stone the watch the seal: Hallelujah!
Christ has burst the gates of hell. Hallelujah!

Lives again our glorious king; Hallelujah!
where O death is now your sting? Hallelujah!
Once he died our souls to save; Hallelujah!
where your victory O grave? Hallelujah!

Soar we now where Christ has led; Hallelujah!
following our exalted Head; Hallelujah!
made like him like him we rise: Hallelujah!
ours the cross the grave the skies. Hallelujah!
1. John Wesley

Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24

**O give thanks to the LORD, for he is
good; his steadfast love endures forever!
Let Israel say, "His steadfast love
endures forever."**

*Shout it with thankful hearts, everyone!
God's goodness and love cannot be
contained or curtailed.
It flows to us unyielding, lavish and eternal.*

**The LORD is my strength and my might;
he has become my salvation.
There are glad songs of victory in the
tents of the righteous:
"The right hand of the LORD does
valiantly;**

*The right hand of the LORD is exalted;
the right hand of the LORD does valiantly."
I'm plugged in and drawing power from your
splendour God and you keep me charged up.*





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Melodies of delight and blessing surround you from all corners of the earth.

Hear us singing: "Our God fills us with outrageous life in abundance, turning our puddling chorus of gratitude into bursting billabongs of joyful celebration."

**I shall not die, but I shall live,
and recount the deeds of the LORD.
The LORD has punished me severely, but
he did not give me over to death.**

It's not over, this time of seclusion and separation, but I'm going to tell anyone I can; It's been a tough time, and still is, but I'm going to make it because you embrace me, you hold me in the light of life.

**Open to me the gates of righteousness,
that I may enter through them and give
thanks to the LORD.**

**This is the gate of the LORD;
the righteous shall enter through it.**

*The arms of life are flung wide open –
come on, we're invited to enter and abide!*

**I thank you that you have answered me
and have become my salvation.
The stone that the builders rejected has
become the chief cornerstone.**

*A big bunch of fragrant 'thank-you-s' to you
God, because your ear picked up my cries
and you brought me here,
into the household of your presence,
built from love, which holds no worldly
currency, and is the greatest treasure.*

**This is the Lord's doing;
it is marvellous in our eyes.
This is the day that the LORD has made;
let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

*You've smashed it God! (You've done more
than we could ever have imagined.)*

*Today, this day, every day,
is your gift of life for us.*

*So we'll sing, pray, laugh and dance with all
our being. Let it be so.*



The Gospel

Matthew 28: 1-10

**These are Words of Hope and Joy
Thanks be to God**

Easter Day Reflection

**Today's reflection is from Rev Deacon
Wendy Elson. The reflection is attached
to the end of this document.**

Prayers

God of Life,

We know that our lives are often full of our own agendas. We often do just what we want and don't consider you and don't consider others. We get sucked in to negativity and despair. Help us to be mindful always of your transformative love which we celebrate especially at Easter. Transform us and help us to live out the resurrection good news every day.

We think of those who need to know this love this day. Those who are sad, those who are sick, those who face death or grieve death today. For those without food or shelter





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we pray. We seek peace and we pray in compassion for all those experiencing the effects of conflict or downsizing and closings of whatever sort. We pray for those who have broken relationships and torn emotions. Help us to be witnesses to your love, bringing peace and life to every place we go. Help us to show up, to bring hope and grace and love and life.

For in so doing we declare the great mystery "Christ is Risen indeed".

Amen

The Lord's Prayer

and we pray together what Jesus taught:

**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.**

Offering:

- Place your offering in a safe place and give thanks to God.

Notices

Make a note of who you will share some Good News with this week.

Hymn TiS392

At the Dawning of Salvation

At the dawning of salvation;
in the morning of the world
Christ is raised a living banner
by the love of God unfurled
Through the daylight
through the darkness
Christ leads on his great array:
all the saints and all the sinners
he has gathered on his way.

He is risen in the morning
he is risen from the dead;
he is laughter after sadness
he is light when night has fled.
He has suffered
he has triumphed
life is his alone to give:
as he gave it once he gives it
evermore
that we may live.

For the glory of salvation
in the dawn of Easter day
we will praise you
loving Father;
we rejoice to sing and pray
with the Son and with the Spirit.
Lead us on
your great array
saints and sinners celebrating
your triumphant love today.

2.Jock Curle





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Blessing

The disciples in Toora, Foster, Fish Creek, Tarwin Lower, Wonthaggi, Inverloch, and Phillip Island, have heard Mary Magdalene's message:

"I have seen the Lord!"

The disciples at *(insert the names of the suburbs or towns who gather for worship in your church)* have heard Mary Magdalene's message:

"I have seen the Lord!"

May we, the people of God in this region, hold this joy and hope in the coming weeks!

"Suddenly Jesus met them and said, 'Greetings!' And they came to him...and worshiped." (Matt 28:9)

Let us live our lives as our worship, sharing this New Life today, and everyday.

So Let It Be!

*** extinguish your candle: take time to watch the smoke spiral upward**

**Now, let's celebrate the resurrection!
Grab a refreshment, and ring a friend.
Share the Joy of New Life!**

The liturgy is from Rev. Ian Turnidge
Rev. Jennie Gordon prepared the Psalm prayer. The reflection from Rev. Deacon Wendy Elson.

*Shared with love from the Uniting Church
Toora, Foster, Fish Creek, Tarwin Lower,
Wonthaggi, Inverloch, Phillip Island, to the
wider church and beyond!*

Greet The Day

Lead me to the ones I need
And to the one who's needing me.
I won't assume the worst is true,
And do the best that I can do.
A word of kindness, I believe,
Is heard throughout Eternity
Hey, hey, This is how I greet the day,
I greet the day
Lead me to the ones I need
And to the one who's needing me.
And everything that gets me through
Gladly, I receive from You.
All the mercy, all the love,
Pouring down to fill us up
Hey, hey, This is how I greet the day,
I greet the day

Hello sunshine
Hello rain
Glad to see you,
Either way
Lead me to the ones I need
And to the one who's needing me
Hey, hey, This is how I greet the day,

I greet the day
Come on, greet the day
Let's greet the day

Hello sunshine
Hello rain
Hello every single day
Lead me to the ones I need
And to the one who's needing me.
I won't assume the worst is true,
And do the best that I can do.

*From the Album How Mercy Looks from Here, Amy Grant,
Sparrow/Capitol, 2013. Words and Music: Amy Grant and
Cindy Morgan*

1. John Wesley 1707-88 Used with permission 241 7392.
2. Jock Curle 1919-Used with permission 241 739 Blessing

Worship for You @ Home: Palm Sunday. Uniting Church in Australia, VicTas, Presbytery of Gippsland



Uniting Church in Australia
SYNOD OF VICTORIA AND TASMANIA

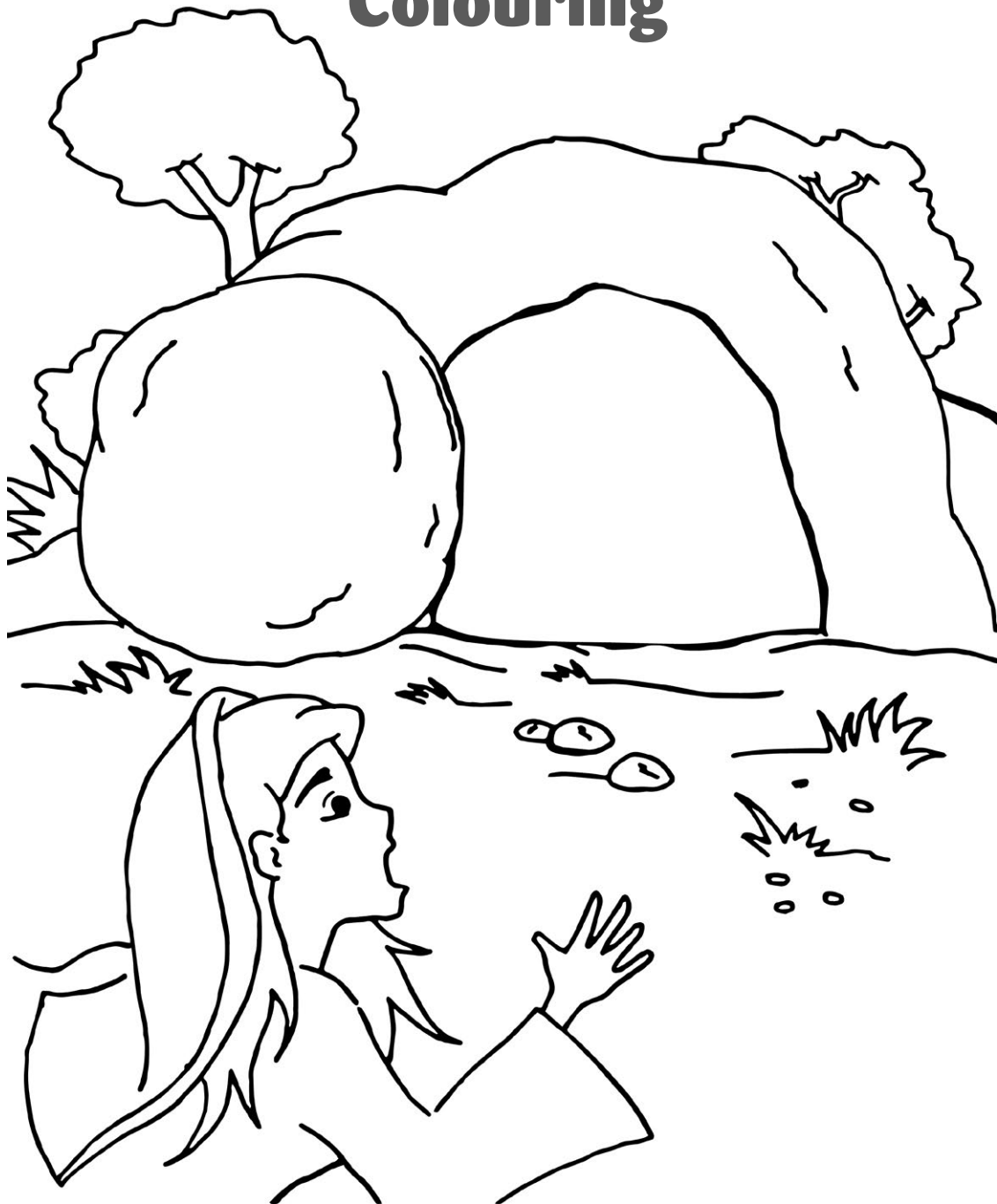


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Easter Day **Colouring**



Worship for You @ Home: Palm Sunday. Uniting Church in Australia, VicTas, Presbytery of Gippsland



Uniting Church in Australia
SYNOD OF VICTORIA AND TASMANIA



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Reflection

OK so ...let's sit with this question.

What does Easter Day look like in this state of shut down?

What does it mean in 2020?

What does it mean right now that Mary saw and believed, that she ran to others and told them excitedly of the empty tomb?

Firstly it always means a lot to me that the first person to declare the Resurrection is a woman. Jesus calls this beloved woman by name. He states his own vulnerability first and trusts her to 'socially distance' herself and then trusts her even more by entrusting the Resurrection story into her care. The very nature of the Divine and the pattern of all creation has been revealed to her. The Christ is here and present to her. God is revealed to us through Jesus all the time. How do we pay attention to this? We encounter this risen Jesus who is the very cornerstone despite being rejected. The question is asked (as it is many times over in the Bible) who do you understand God to be? In one of those lovely, familiar reversals we see that what we held true is actually the opposite.

But hear the joy in the Jeremiah passage ... it speaks to me! See its NRSV title? Feeling like dispersed persons at this time I really hear this and am so excited to think about what it will be like to go about our daily lives, changed for sure, but back in connected routines of some sort. It sounds like a post COVID-19 passage to me!

The Joyful Return of the Exiles (Jeremiah 31.1-6)

At that time, says the LORD, I will be the God of all the families of Israel, and they shall be my people.

*Thus says the LORD:
The people who survived the sword
found grace in the wilderness;
when Israel sought for rest,
the LORD appeared to him from far away.*

*I have loved you with an everlasting love;
therefore I have continued my faithfulness
to you.
Again I will build you, and you shall be built,
O virgin Israel!
Again you shall take your tambourines,
and go forth in the dance of the merry-makers.
Again you shall plant vineyards
on the mountains of Samaria;
the planters shall plant,
and shall enjoy the fruit.*

*For there shall be a day when
sentinels will call
in the hill country of Ephraim:
"Come, let us go up to Zion,
to the LORD our God."*





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The strong theme for me this year is that despair is not the winner. There is Resurrection!

And then what is our response? Hear it in the Colossians passage from The Message

Colossians 3:1-4 The Message

He Is Your Life

So if you're serious about living this new resurrection life with Christ, act like it. Pursue the things over which Christ presides. Don't shuffle along, eyes to the ground, absorbed with the things right in front of you. Look up, and be alert to what is going on around Christ—that's where the action is. See things from his perspective.

Your old life is dead. Your new life, which is your real life—even though invisible to spectators—is with Christ in God. He is your life. When Christ (your real life, remember) shows up again on this earth, you'll show up, too—the real you, the glorious you. Meanwhile, be content with obscurity, like Christ.

What does Easter mean this year?

We encounter the Risen Jesus and life is new. Despair and suffering (and there is plenty around) don't have the last word. Don't look down! Look up and listen...Jesus is calling your beloved name, calling you to be life and hope. All you have to do is SHOW UP!

