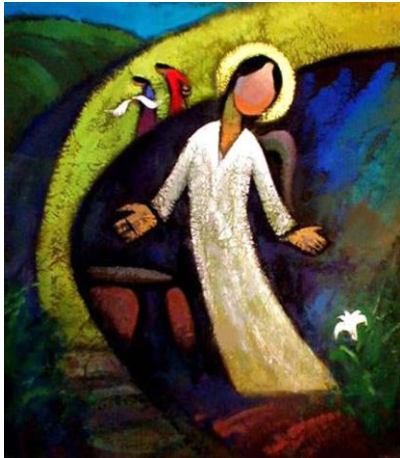


Worship at Home

14th April 2024 – Easter Season

Rev. Dan Haylett

In the season of Easter, we celebrate the reality and power of Christ's resurrection, made real for all who are prepared to open their hearts to our Lord.



STF 311: The day of resurrection

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=49hPB6NTVEE>

**The day of resurrection!
Earth tell it out abroad;
the passover of gladness,
the passover of God.
From death to life eternal,
from earth unto the sky,
our Christ has brought us over
with hymns of victory.**

**Our hearts be pure from evil,
that we may see aright
the Lord in rays eternal
of resurrection light;
and, listening to his accents,
may hear, so calm and plain,
his own 'All hail!' and, hearing,
may raise the victor strain.**

**Now let the heavens be joyful,
let earth her song begin,
the round world keep high triumph,
and all that is therein;
let all things seen and unseen
their notes of gladness blend,
for Christ the Lord is risen,
our joy that has no end.**

St John of Damascus, tr John Mason Neale

Let us Pray

Holy and gracious God,
as with all creation we lift our hearts to you this day,
so too we bring our thanks for this season of Easter.

We praise you for the promise of death to life eternal,
for the ongoing unfolding of your purposes and love in our lives,
made real and visible in Christ's living, dying and rising again.

We thank you for making us part of your story of redemption and love for your creation,
for including us in linking our lives to Jesus through your Spirit.

We give thanks for that love and grace empowering us today,
making our lives and situations, our homes, work places and communities the space where Easter comes.

Holy and gracious God,
forgive the times when we have failed to live with the light of your love and the reality of the promise of Easter in our hearts.
Forgive our lack of love and compassion and our readiness to compromise.

As you come in Christ to renew and forgive us, let your grace reign in our hearts and in your world.

We trust in that Easter hope of new life, for us and all creation.
As we receive that grace, renew our hope and our readiness to follow Jesus. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

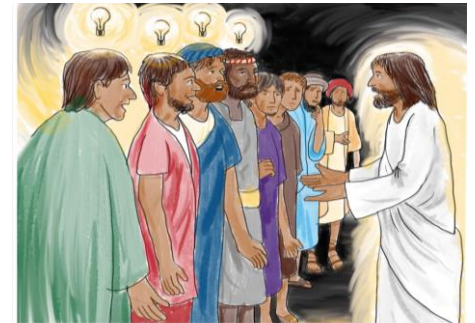
We read: [Luke 24:36-48](#)

Reflection

It's really him! The weeks after Easter are the time for the Church to recount the stories shared by the first disciples of Jesus that say so much about the transforming nature of God's resurrection power.

They capture in different ways something of the mixture of wonder, fear, awe and doubt that colour the disciple's world at that moment. In the reading today we learn of the fear of the disciples who need to have the offer to touch and reach out to the Risen Jesus.

Still not convinced, Jesus takes and eats a piece of fish. It all goes to show the disciples that it's really him, it really is Jesus returned from death.



Geoff Hays, www.geoffrey-hays.co.uk

It's only then, as the realisation begins to dawn upon them that Jesus is with them, that he begins to teach. Jesus explains how all that has happened – all of the suffering, grieving, and surprise and wonder of the last few days – has been part of the broader story of God's ongoing purpose. The Law and Prophets stand in in Luke's story as shorthand for the whole of salvation history, pointing to this moment. Easter will shape their lives and the life of the world, bringing new purpose and hope.

Jesus greets them in peace, a sure sign of God's presence. And as the disciples recognise the master

in their midst, he brings about a growing awareness of where God has always been active. As a result there's a new message to share, which is as old as God's love and grace. There's a new purpose to live for. Life takes on a new dimension.

Easter continues to offer that for us too. That focus of looking at our lives and the world around us and seeing that "it's really him!" alive and at work. Where we sense God's leading and prompting to inspire and guide, we are experiencing the reality of Easter. May that knowledge and joy lead us too to share what we have found in our Risen Lord.

STF 566: Take my life and let it be...

<https://youtu.be/Gf11rReeWIs>

**Take my life and let it be
consecrated Lord to Thee;
Take my moments and my days,
let them flow in ceaseless praise.**

**Take my hands and let them move
at the impulse of Thy love;
Take my feet and let them be
swift and beautiful for Thee.**

**Take my voice and let me sing
always, only for my King;
Take my lips and let them be
filled with messages from Thee.**

**Take my silver and my gold,
not a mite would I withhold;
Take my intellect and use
every power as You choose.**

**Take my will and make it Thine,
it shall be no longer mine;
Take my heart, it is Thine own,
it shall be Thy royal throne.**

**Take my love, my Lord I pour
at Your feet, it's treasure store;
Take myself and I will be
Ever, only, all for thee. (Amen!)**

Frances Ridley Havergal (1836-1879)

Prayers of Intercession

Risen Lord Jesus,

As we come to you today, you greet us with your peace. Your peace is beyond our understanding and has power to move us in ways of grace and love. We pray today for all who do not know that peace. For the people of Ukraine, South Sudan, Haiti and many other places of conflict and violence. We pray for those closer to home where peace is not known or shared.

Risen Lord Jesus,

As we come to you today, you show us the love and grace of God that is always at work. We pray for all who do not know that you are for them, and with them. We pray for all who live without love, for those who are lonely and for all who are seeking to make new starts.

Risen Lord Jesus,

As we come to you today, you empower us to serve and love you wherever you send us. We pray for our sisters and brothers that you have called us alongside, for our church family and for those around the world who follow you. We give thanks for all who have lived and died in Christian hope, especially those whose life and faith have shaped our own.

Risen Lord Jesus,

we offer you our prayers and thanks. **Amen.**

STF 672; Where can we find you...

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FOamiaW0b6E>

**Where can we find you, Lord Jesus our Master?
We want to serve you, to answer your call.
Where do you lead us and ask us to follow?
What should we take in our service to all?**

**'Go to the hungry, to those who have nothing;
go where the farmlands are empty and bare.
I broke the bread for the people around me;
out of my plenty, think what you can share.**

**'Go to the homeless, to those who have nowhere:
go where my people sleep out in the rain.
I had no comforts but what others gave me;
offer them shelter, give ease to their pain.**

**'Go to the outcast, to those who have no-one;
go where my sheep are rejected and lost.
I dined with sinners and reached out to lepers;
go and do likewise, and don't count the cost.'**

**Where will we find you, Lord Jesus our Master?
We are your servants who answer your call.
You go before us, and there we will follow,
taking our cross in the service of all.**

Allan Charles Dickinson
© 1993 Allan Dickinson (CCLI)

We go with God's blessing

God, who through the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ has given us the victory, give you joy and peace in your faith, and the blessing of God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit be with you always. **Amen.**

We go in the peace and love of Christ
Thanks be to God. Amen.



*Edited by Mrs. R Mitchell for the South Devon Circuit.
Reprinted with permission under One License #A-740627
All rights reserved. CCLI numbers 50389*