**Easter Day**

**Sunday 4th April**

Introduction & welcome: *Rev Trish*

Gathered now on this Easter morning, we join our voices with the whole Church, across the world and across time, as we proclaim:

Christ is risen!

**He is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

*Hymn: The day of resurrection (mute!) https://youtu.be/49hPB6NTVEE*

Gathering:

Today, this day of celebration, we come together, scarcely believing the news – he is risen!

Today, where we are, **may we meet the risen Jesus.**

We come together, unprepared to meet you

– the one who is risen.

Today, where we are, **may we meet the risen Jesus.**

We come with all our burdens to give to the one who is risen, looking for acceptance.

Today, where we are, **may we meet the risen Jesus.**

Today, as we come to worship Jesus who is risen,

may we all meet him and know the joy of life with him. **Amen.**

A prayer of confession*:*

Lord, you are risen, yet we doubt you.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Christ, you appear to us, but we fail to notice.

**Christ, have mercy.**

Most glorious Lord of life, have mercy on us.

**Have mercy on us. Amen.**

*Silence*

Hear the words of grace ‘Your sins are forgiven.’

**Thanks be to God. Amen.**

Collect:

God of glory, by the raising of your Son you have broken the chains of death and hell: fill your Church with faith and hope; for a new day has dawned and the way to life stands open in our Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen**

New Testament reading:

*Acts 4:32-35*

Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. They laid it at the apostles’ feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

This is the word of the Lord: **Thanks be to God**

A prayer for all ages:

Lord Jesus Christ, thank you for your promise to be with us always, even until the end of time.

Help us to remember your promise when we are fearful or unsure about whether we are brave enough to be your disciples. Help us always to remember that you rose from the tomb, and that the first people to know were ordinary people like us, who didn’t feel very brave.

Give us courage to speak and act faithfully, lovingly and fairly, in the places where we live and learn and work, this Easter week and always. **Amen.**

Gospel:

*Mark 16.1–8*.

When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. They had been saying to one another, ‘Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?’ When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. But he said to them, ‘Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you.’ So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

This is the word of the Lord: **Thanks be to God**

Address:

Prayer of intercession for all ages**:**

Lord Jesus, we thank you that you are our friend who is alive and who we can talk to.

We pray for everybody today in all the churches around the world, as they celebrate that you are alive.

Please be with them, **as you are with us.**

We pray for all people who are scared, or who are sick or weak, especially those who don’t have any friends or family to help them.

Please be with them, **as you are with us.**

We pray for all people who feel that they are no good, especially those who don’t know that you love them and that you want to be their friend.

Please be with them, **as you are with us. Amen**

*Silence*

We pray together as Jesus taught us,

**Our Father…**

The Peace:

The risen Christ came and stood among his disciples and said, ‘Peace be with you.’ They were glad when they saw the Lord. Alleluia.

The peace of the Lord be always with you;

**And also with you**

Tangnefedd yr Arglwydd a fo gyda chwi bob amser

**A hefyd gyda thi**

The Blessing:

May Christ, who out of defeat brings new hope and a new future, fill you with his new life; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit be with you and those whom you love, today and always. **Amen.**

*Hymn: Jesus Christ is risen today (mute!)* *https://youtu.be/WwagSuw\_WaA*

Let us go out with joy, and with courage,

to love and serve the risen Lord.

The Lord is risen. **He is risen indeed. Alleluia!**