



# The Sunday Supplement

Issue 4: 11th April 2020

## A Call to Worship

We are not eye-witnesses to an event, as were Mary and the disciples;  
we have not journeyed through a dangerous city to seek answers or consolation;  
we have not seen angels gathering at the rim of this day,  
or wept in the garden this morning because we could not find Him.

But we are here to attest to a story that has not lost its power  
during twenty centuries of change and conflict.

We are here because those before us carried this story as if it were precious gold;  
cherished it as if it were the key to a hidden wisdom.

Sisters and brothers in Christ, take your places here today in celebration and in awe.

What you are about to hear again has the capacity to change the world.  
Your very presence attests to the rising up of life from the tomb of despair,  
and to the uncontrollable power of God.

It is Easter morning again: and we will celebrate.

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## Reading



Matthew 28:1-10

# Prayers for our Church

## Family

*Don't worry about anything, but pray about everything. With thankful hearts offer up your prayers and requests to God.*

*Philippians 4:6*

COVID-19 is affecting everyone in Britain at this time. Those who are part of our church community are no exception. The challenges of daily life are different for each of us but no-one is unaffected. As Christians we have the privilege of coming to God with our prayers and concerns for each other.

As part of the Body of Christ in this world our members are involved in all aspects of community life. The suggestions below may help as you pray for our work and witness in the current situation.

## Healthcare

Pray for nurses and support staff working in hospitals and GP surgeries

Give thanks for the care and pastoral they provide in these difficult times

Remember those still travelling to work and others currently working from home

## Care homes

Pray for managers, care workers and residents in local care homes

Give thanks for the care and support that is provided often in difficult circumstances

Remember issues surrounding the provision of protective equipment to staff

## Public services

Pray for bus drivers, postal workers, police, council staff and maintenance contractors

Give thanks for the ongoing provision of public services

Remember those facing increased levels of risk to their personal safety and well being

## Business and commerce

Pray for those who are working from home and for those continuing to travel daily

Give thanks for those maintaining food supplies and financial systems

Remember those with financial worries due to the closure of many businesses

## Education

Pray for pupils, parents and staff during the Easter holiday period

Give thanks for the ongoing childcare provision for the children of keyworkers

Remember those suffering financial hardship due to the closure of local schools

## Self-Isolation

Pray for the shielded group, for the medically vulnerable, and for older members

Give thanks for everyone providing support to those isolated in their homes

Remember council staff with the responsibility for organising community support



# Thine, be the Glory

Thine be the glory, risen, conqu'ring Son,  
Endless is the vict'ry Thou o'er death hast  
won;  
Angels in bright raiment rolled the stone  
away,  
Kept the folded grave-clothes, where Thy  
body lay.

*Thine be the glory, risen, conqu'ring Son,  
Endless is the vict'ry 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, conqu'ring Son,  
Endless is the vict'ry 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, conqu'ring Son,  
Endless is the vict'ry Thou o'er death hast  
won.*



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## A Call to Respond

As Christ burst forth from the tomb,  
may new life burst forth from us  
and show itself in acts of love and healing to a hurting world.

And may the same Christ,  
who lives forever and is the source of our new life,  
keep your hearts rejoicing and grant you peace  
this day and always.



# Something ventured

## Rising up from griefs and tears

*Christ is risen! Alleluia!  
Risen our victorious head!  
Sing his praises! Alleluia!  
Christ is risen from the dead!  
Gratefully our hearts adore him  
as his light once more appears,  
bowing down in joy before him,  
rising up from griefs and tears.*

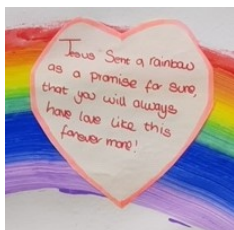


*J.S.B Monsell (1811-1875)*

Easter this year has a very different feel. There will be no church services to attend (or to prepare!). Christian worship in all traditions will however continue in other ways. Online services have been put together by many churches and can be freely accessed. Services of worship will be broadcast on television and on the radio. In our increasingly connected world there will be no shortage of ways to celebrate the resurrection. All who choose to connect will have the opportunity to hear the Easter story and to experience the hope it inspires.

As Easter Sunday dawns in 2020 our world of 'griefs and tears' is in much need of hope. As the light of Christ appears our hope is reawakened. He is not dead! He has risen, as he said! God has not abandoned the world he created but reaches out to make all things new. In our uncertain times the resurrection of Jesus shows us that death does not have the final word. There is light for our darkness, hope in the face of fear. The daily news makes our hearts heavy but the glorious news of the resurrection brings joy.

Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!



The message on Toby's card reads:

Jesus sent a rainbow as a promise for sure,  
that you will always have love like this forever more!