

## Morning Prayer at Easter

### Opening prayers

Jesus Christ, we greet you!  
Your hands still have holes in them,  
your feet are wet from the dew;  
and with the memory of our name  
undimmed by three days of death  
you meet us, risen from the grave.

We fail to understand how;  
we puzzle at the reason why.

But you have come:  
not to answer our questions,  
but to show us your face.

**You are alive  
and the world can rejoice again.  
Hallelujah! Amen**

Lord God, early in the morning,  
when the world was young,  
you made life in all its beauty and terror;  
you gave birth to all that we know.

Hallowed be your name,  
**Hallowed be your name.**

Early in the morning,  
when the world least expected it,  
a newborn child crying in a cradle  
announced that you had come among us,  
that you were one of us.

Hallowed be your name,  
**Hallowed be your name.**

Early in the morning,  
surrounded by respectable liars,  
religious leaders,  
anxious statesmen  
and silent friends,  
you accepted the penalty for doing good,  
for being God:  
you shouldered and suffered the cross.

Hallowed be your name,  
**Hallowed be your name.**

Early in the morning,  
a voice in a guarded graveyard  
and footsteps in the dew  
proved that you had risen,  
that you had come back to those and for those  
who had forgotten, denied and destroyed you.

Hallowed be your name,  
**Hallowed be your name.**

### Prayer of confession

This morning, in the multi-coloured company of  
your Church on earth and in heaven,  
we celebrate your creation, your life, your  
death and resurrection, your interest in us; so  
we pray,

**Lord, bring new life, where we are worn and  
tired;  
new love, where we have turned hard-  
hearted;  
forgiveness where we feel hurt and where  
we have wounded;  
and the joy and freedom of your Holy Spirit,  
where we are prisoners of ourselves.**

### Silence

To all and to each, on his community and on  
his friends, where regret is real, Jesus  
pronounces his pardon and grants us the right  
to begin again.

Thanks be to God!  
**Amen.**

### **Bible reading followed by reflection.**

#### Affirmation of Faith

**We believe in a bright and amazing God  
who has been to the depths of despair on  
our behalf;  
who has risen in splendour and majesty;  
who decorates the universe with sparkling  
water, clear white light,  
twinkling stars and sharp colours,  
over and over and over again.**

**We believe that Jesus is the light of the  
world;  
that God believes in us, and trusts us,  
even though we make the same mistakes  
over and over and over again.**

**We commit ourselves to Jesus,  
to one another as brothers and sisters,  
and to the Maker's business in the world.**

**God said: let there be light.  
Amen**

## Prayers

Eternal God, at this Easter season we remember and praise you for all who have gone before us, spreading the Good News of your mighty resurrection and we give thanks for all those who help us on our journey of faith and pray for those who minister in this parish. We pray for those who serve with mission agencies throughout the world.... May they always remember

**Christ has died,  
Christ is risen,  
Christ will come again.**

We hold before you our amazing yet fragile world with all its problems and pains, joys and sorrows, opportunities and need..... May all your world come to know

**Christ has died,  
Christ is risen,  
Christ will come again.**

We pray for those in special need, naming in our hearts those we especially want to remember at this time....may all those for whom we pray be strengthened by the knowledge that

**Christ has died,  
Christ is risen,  
Christ will come again.**

In silence, we surrender ourselves and all that we count important to your will and purpose. We cannot know the glory of Christ's resurrection if we do not have the fellowship of his sufferings. We cannot expect to gather the kingdom's harvest if we do not sow the kingdom's seed.

**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.  
Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours now and for ever.  
Amen.**

Glory be to you,  
**God, our strength and our Redeemer.**

The vacant cross and the empty tomb vindicate your claim that the love which suffers is the love which saves.

So fill your people with joy and your Church with celebration  
**that the world may know that your holy son Jesus is not a dead hero we commemorate, but the living Lord we worship, to whom with you and the Holy Spirit, be our praise for ever.  
Amen.**

## The Peace

This is the Good News – the grave is empty.  
Christ is risen.  
**Hallelujah!**

This is the Good News -- the light shines in the darkness  
And the darkness can never put it out.  
**Hallelujah!**

This is the good News – once we were no people,  
Now we are God's people.  
**Hallelujah!**

Christ is our peace, the indestructible peace we now share with each other.

Peace be with you  
**And also with you.**