**Easter Sunday 2020 Holy Communion Service words**

**Welcome**

*After words of welcome and instructions:*

Let’s begin with the wonderful acclamation of what happened on that first Easter Day:

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

**All: He is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!  *1 Cor 5*

Let us pray:

Christ yesterday and today,  
the beginning and the end,  
Alpha and Omega,  
all time belongs to him,  
and all ages;  
to him be glory and power,  
through every age and for ever.

**All: Amen.**

**HYMN 1:**  **Jesus Christ is risen today**

Jesus Christ is risen today, Hallelujah!

Our triumphant holy day; Hallelujah!

Who did once upon the cross; Hallelujah!

Suffer to redeem our loss; Hallelujah!

Hymns of praise then let us sing; Hallelujah!

Unto Christ our heavenly King; Hallelujah!

Who endured the cross and grave; Hallelujah!

Sinners to redeem and save: Hallelujah!

But the pains which He endured; Hallelujah!

Our salvation have procured; Hallelujah!

Now in heaven above He’s King; Hallelujah!

Where the angels ever sing: Hallelujah!

**Opening Words**

We are here to rejoice. We are here to give thanks. We are here to worship God, the giver of life. For today we remember that day which transformed the course of history and which across the years has transformed countless human lives. Easter day - the day on which evil, sorrow and suffering, even death itself, were finally defeated; a day that makes every day and every moment a new beginning.

Let us pray:

Lord Jesus Christ,

You appeared to different people

at different places, at different times.

Each has their own unique meeting with you

it was only when you met with them, face-to-face,

that the truth dawned;

only then that they dared to believe

you were alive.

Lord Jesus Christ,

We cannot see you quite as they did,

But we too can meet with you

And experience the reality of your living presence.

Meet with us now, as we worship you,

as we gather in your name.

**Amen**

**Confession and Absolution**

Jesus’ work was finished at the Cross, innocent himself of all sin, taking the sins of the whole world – that’s you and me – on his shoulders, so that we might be forgiven and receive new life in him. Let us come to Jesus now, confess our sins penitently and with faith, and ask for God’s forgiveness and grace:

We have lived by our own strength,

and not by the power of your resurrection.

In your mercy, forgive us.

Lord, hear us and help us.

We have lived by the light of our own eyes,

as faithless and not believing.

In your mercy, forgive us.

Lord, hear us and help us.

We have lived for this world alone,

and doubted our home in heaven.

In your mercy, forgive us.

Lord, hear us and help us.

Amen

May the God of love and power

forgive you and free you from your sins,

heal and strengthen you by his Spirit,

and raise you to new life in Christ our Lord.

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

**1st READING: Isaiah 43.1-5** *read by Obi*

**GOSPEL READING: JOHN 20.1-18 (Video)**

**Sermon: Doug**

**Credal Statement**

Join me now in affirming our faith in words written to Timothy by Paul:

**Christ was believed in throughout the world**

**and taken up in glory.**

**Christ Jesus was revealed in the flesh**

**and vindicated in the spirit.**

**He was seen by angels**

**and proclaimed among the nations.**

**Believed in throughout the world,**

**he was taken up in glory.**

**This will be made manifest at the proper time**

**by the blessed and only Sovereign,**

**Who alone has immortality,**

**and dwells in unapproachable light.**

**To the King of kings and Lord of lords**

**be honour and eternal dominion. Amen.**

*1 Timothy 3.16; 6.15,16*

**Intercessions**

Let us pray for the world and for those we serve using prayers prepared by John and Elizabeth Weaver, read by Hilary

**HYMN 2: See what a morning.**

**See, what a morning, gloriously bright,**

With the dawning of hope in Jerusalem;

Folded the grave-clothes, tomb filled with light,

As the angels announce Christ is risen!

See God's salvation plan,

Wrought in love, borne in pain, paid in sacrifice

Fulfilled in Christ the Man,

For He lives: Christ is risen from the dead!

See Mary weeping, 'Where is He laid?'

As in sorrow she turns from the empty tomb;

Hears a voice speaking, calling her name;

It's the Master, the Lord raised to life again!

The voice that spans the years,

Speaking life, stirring hope, bringing peace to us,

Will sound till He appears,

For He lives, Christ is risen from the dead!

One with the Father, Ancient of Days,

Through the Spirit who clothes faith with certainty,

Honour and blessing, glory and praise

To the King crowned with power and authority!

And we are raised with Him,

Death is dead, love has won, Christ has conquered;

And we shall reign with Him,

For He lives, Christ is risen from the dead!

## Stuart Townend & Keith Getty

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**Prayer at the Table**

Let us pray:

Creator of all,

you wash away our sins,

you give us new birth by the Spirit,

and redeem us in the blood of Christ.

As we celebrate the resurrection,

renew your gift of life within us.

We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the risen Lord.

**Amen.**

**Eucharistic Prayer (including breaking of the bread)**

Lift up your hearts.

*All*  **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*All*  **It is right to give thanks and praise.**

It is always right to give you thanks,

God our Creator,

loving and faithful,

holy and strong.

You made us

and the whole universe,

and filled your world with life.

You sent your Son to live among us,

Jesus our Saviour, Mary’s child.

He suffered on the cross;

he died to save us from our sins;

he rose in glory from the dead.

And now we give you thanks

because in his victory over the grave a new age has dawned,

the long reign of sin is ended,

a broken world is being renewed

and humanity is once again made whole.

You send your Spirit

to bring new life to the world,

and clothe us with power from on high.

And so we join the angels

to celebrate and sing:

*All*  **Holy, holy, holy Lord,**

**God of power and might,**

**heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

Father, on the night before he died,

Jesus shared a meal with his friends.

He took the bread, and thanked you.

He broke it, and gave it to them, saying:

Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this to remember me.

After the meal, Jesus took the cup of wine.

He thanked you, and gave it to them, saying:

Drink this, all of you.

This is my blood,

the new promise of God’s unfailing love.

Do this to remember me.

Jesus Christ has died.

*All*  **Jesus Christ has died.**

Jesus Christ is risen.

*All*  **Jesus Christ is risen.**

Jesus Christ will come again.

*All*  **Jesus Christ will come again.**

Father, as we bring this bread and wine,

and remember his death and resurrection,

send your Holy Spirit,

that we who share these gifts

may be fed by Christ’s body and his blood.

Pour your Spirit on us

that we may love one another,

work for the healing of the earth,

and share the good news of Jesus,

as we wait for his coming in glory.

For honour and praise belong to you, Father,

with Jesus your Son, and the Holy Spirit:

one God, for ever and ever.

**Amen.**

**The Lord’s Prayer**

As we rejoice in God’s new Creation,

I invite you to join me in saying the Lord’s Prayer in your preferred format or language:

All   **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.**

**Invitation to share the Communion**

Come, not because you are strong

Take this bread, share this wine.  
In these Christ comes to us  
with love from God.  
The gifts of God  
for the people of God.

*Iona*

*I invite you now to share the bread and the wine with each other. There’s a short pause with some music as you share with each other.*

**Post-Communion Prayer**

Eternal Father,  
thank you for refreshing us  
with these heavenly gifts:  
may our communion  
strengthen us in faith,  
build us up in hope,  
and make us grow in love;  
for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

**FINAL HYMN: Thine Be the Glory**

**Closing Prayer and 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 all whom you love

this Easter time and for ever.

**Amen.**

**Happy Easter!**