



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

### Christ our Life

If you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth, for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

*Colossians 3:1-4*

### The Resurrection of Jesus

After the sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. And suddenly there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples, 'He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him.' This is my message for you." So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. Suddenly Jesus met them and said, "Greetings!" And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshiped him. Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to

to go to Galilee; there they will see me."

*Matthew 28:1-10*

### A Reflection for Easter Day

My reflection on the Gospel today suggests that the message it contains is just what we need at this distressing time in the life of our world.

Imagine: the disciples have come to Jerusalem in high expectation that Jesus will establish his kingdom- the kingdom the Jews have long awaited; they ended the week watching him die a slow, bloody and painful death- disgraced in the eyes of the people – an apparently ignominious end. The grief they are experiencing can hardly be imagined... but along with that goes fear: fear of what might happen to them, too, now he is gone.

And so, trying perhaps to take it all in, Matthew tells us that Mary Magdalene goes to the burial place 'to see the tomb'. And her fear increases as the earth quakes and a heavenly being appears, 'his clothing white as snow'. He speaks: 'Do not be afraid'- he knows what she is feeling. And he has an amazing message: one of joy and hope: 'He is not here, for he has been raised'. Fear combines with amazement, confusion and then joy. As Mary runs to tell the others, Jesus himself appears to her and says the same words: 'Do not be afraid – go and tell my brothers...' And the message of his Resurrection begins to change the world for ever...

Jesus still says: 'Do not be afraid'. He calls us to trust in him, the One who has overcome the final hurdle,

who is near us in all our troubles, if only we will let him in.

So may the Risen Christ chase away your fear this Easter-tide and bring you his joy.

*Sue Watson*

### **Easter Day is a traditional Day to think about and renew our Baptismal Vows**

Do you renew and affirm the promises made when you were baptized?

**I do.**

Do you turn in faith to Christ?

**I do.**

Do you then renounce all evil?

**I do, by God's help.**

Will you obey and serve Christ?

**I will, by God's help.**

Do you believe and trust in God the Father, creator of heaven and earth?

**I believe and trust in him.**

Do you believe and trust in his Son Jesus Christ, who redeemed the world?

**I believe and trust in him.**

Do you believe and trust in the Holy Spirit who gives life to the people of God?

**I believe and trust in him.**

This is the faith of the Church.

**This is our faith.**

**We believe and trust in one God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.**

**Amen**

**Please remember those who have asked for our prayers** Sarah Stephenson, David Kingston, Lisa, Julia McCormick, Morgan, Michael Concannon, Carl Baker, Ann Aldridge, Heather Gent, Laura Jones, Jean, Joan, and Margaret Hatton

**Those who have died recently and their families:**  
baby Felix Jones, Hazel Dooley, Barbara Richardson

### **Prayer during the Week**

#### **Easter Day**

In these dark times, praise God that Jesus rose while it was still dark. (John 20: 1)

#### **Monday:**

Thank God and pray for all who have volunteered to help in the crisis.

#### **Tuesday:**

Pray for those businesses (and their employ-

ees) diversifying to produce vital medical equipment.

#### **Wednesday:**

Pray for those whose medical condition means they don't understand why they need to stay indoors.

#### **Thursday:**

Pray for children and for all who care for them at this time.

#### **Friday:**

Remember those who are ill, and pray for healing.

#### **Saturday:**

Pray for those who mourn, unable to share a comforting embrace at a funeral.



### **Safeguarding**

We are very fortunate that in Wombourne our Parish Council have been so proactive in promoting social cohesion during the Pandemic and that so many people have volunteered to help. Much as we would like to, the National Church has told us that local churches are unable to formally organise shopping only if our volunteers are DBS cleared and that we must follow Safer Recruiting guidelines. Please keep in touch with your church friends informally and contact the Parish Council if you are able to help in other ways

### **Keeping in Touch by Telephone**

Our Pastoral Group are trying to keep in touch with members of our church family who live alone.

If you have not been contacted it please let Paul know 01902 892234 it may be that we don't have your telephone number.

### **BBC One at Easter**

A special edition of Sunday Morning Worship, will come from Bangor Cathedral in Wales. It will be led by the Dean of Bangor, the Very Reverend Kathy Jones.

### **From our Bishop**

At Day break on Easter Day (5.15am)

Please celebrate the Resurrection by lighting a candle and joining in the Easter prayer

*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. Amen.*