

But you raised him to new life.
Witnesses tell of his restored presence:
two women rush to tell the story
of life that conquers death,
of hope that rises out of despair,
of joy that comes in the morning.

Therefore, with our hearts open wide,
we sing praises for life, hope and joy.

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

Pour out your Holy Spirit upon us that this meal may be a communion in the on-going and everlasting life and love of Christ. **Amen.**

Communion is shared.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Thank you, Loving God, for restoring us to new life at this table. We arise from here to be your love for the world. **Amen**

HYMN **Easter Day** (*insert*) words: Helen Wiltshire & Norm Inglis, music: Norm Inglis

WORDS OF MISSION AND BLESSING

You carry a great
and wonderful secret,
one that shapes your life
and the essence of who you are.
You are a people who
know that deathliness
is not an end.
There is yet more life.

May God surround you with everlasting love.
May Christ Jesus raise new life in you.
And may the Holy Spirit anoint you with power to do good.

The peace of Christ be always with you.
And also with you.

The sign of the peace is exchanged.

*Everyone is welcome to stay for a light continental breakfast
in the Lounge following this service.*



Pilgrim Uniting Church
12 Flinders Street, Adelaide



8.00am MORNING WORSHIP

EASTER

20 APRIL 2014

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

Christ has risen.

Waiting for us to take notice.

Christ has risen.

Waiting for us to respond.

Christ has risen.

Christ has risen indeed!

HYMN TIS 370

Christ the Lord is risen today

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Loving God, your presence is all around us:
the air in which we move
and our every breath.
Nothing separates us from you.
Nothing we do or do not do;
say or do not say
believe or disbelieve.
Nothing in the wide world
separates us from you:
not even deathliness.
Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Amen

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Today we hear
that deathliness is defeated
and a new world has begun.
We do not know how to respond.
We do not know how to trust
that new life is ours.
Therefore we confess that we have not risen
into this new day sure that we are renewed;
sure that each day is a new world
opened to us through love.

We have not lived the great joy
of our forgiven and renewed
hearts and minds.
We have not danced
for joy in the morning
nor sat speechless
with gratitude in the evenings.
We have missed the earth-shaking,
earth-sustaining, earth-renewing
burst of love that comes to us
in the story of resurrection.
Lord have mercy. **Lord have mercy.**

WORD OF ASSURANCE

Hear this: Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed!

Loves conquers fear.

Day banishes night.

Laughter defies despair.

And all the earth sings for joy.

Christ is risen and we are free!

Thanks be to God.

BIBLE READINGS: Acts 10: 34-43
Psalm 118: 1-2, 14-24
Colossians 3: 1-4
Matthew 28: 1-10

REFLECTION

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

For all who know only death and despair this day, Loving God, we pray.

For a renewed and resurrected world, we pray.

For those in parts of Africa where war has followed famine and famine followed war: that children will sustain the dream of a future free from suffering and a world filled with all they need.

For a renewed and resurrected world, we pray.

For those in the Middle East where our faith story began: that the history there of pain and bloodshed might be replaced with a joyful, shared future.

For a renewed and resurrected world, we pray.

For those in South America who have had Christianity for so long but Christian justice and mercy so infrequently: that the Christ of the poor will inspire and empower those who work for the reign of God on earth.

For a renewed and resurrected world, we pray.

For all in Western and Eastern Europe who have seen a hundred years of horror we pray: that peace which passes all understanding will mark this century.

For a renewed and resurrected world, we pray.

For all in North America who have both carried hope and dashed hopes in equal measure: that Christ, full of grace and truth, will grace them to live the truths of compassion and justice for all.

For a renewed and resurrected world, we pray.

For all of us in Australasia who have such long histories, even here in a young country: that our region will learn to lead into the future with grace not greed and to share our abundances with equity and fairness.

For a renewed and resurrected world, we pray. Amen

THE LORD'S PRAYER

HYMN TIS 382 **Now the green blade rises**

The offering is received.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Loving God, in the offering of our gifts and of our lives,
we remember the love and hope that is ours to share.

May these gifts be as new life to any in need. **Amen**

HOLY COMMUNION

THE INVITATION

Through light and the word,
through bread and wine,
we recall Christ's death and resurrection,
we share Christ's triumph over sin and death,
and with invincible hope
we renew our faith in Christ's presence
at this table and in our lives.
Come, for all are welcome.

THE NARRATIVE OF THE LAST SUPPER

THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Let us open our hearts. **We open them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

We give you all thanks and praise, O God,
for your love is forever.

You made your grace known to Israel in the wilderness,
and through your prophets you pledged
your everlasting love and constant faithfulness.

You anointed your child, Jesus,
with the Holy Spirit and power,
and he went about offering fullness of life
to broken ones along the path.

But he was put to death, hung on a tree.