

Please help us to comply with the COVID-SAFE Regulations by wiping the areas you have touched on the pews, after the service.
Thank you for your assistance.



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Pilgrim
Uniting Church

9.30am Community Worship

Sunday, 4th April 2021

Easter Day
COCU31B

The church is fitted with a hearing loop. Hearing aid wearers are advised to sit in the front half of the church and switch their aid to T-setting.

This Service is being live-streamed. The Service will also be available for viewing on YouTube at 'Pilgrim Uniting Church Adelaide' for two months.

'...there you will see him'



[Painting by Maha Rukab]

LIGHTING OUR COMMUNITY CANDLES

"The resurrection of Jesus is God's shout of "YES!" to the way Jesus lived his life and to what he taught about the in-breaking Reign of God ... Christian faith in the resurrection of Jesus was, and is born, nurtured and matured in the context of discipleship and mission. Those who believe that God is revealed in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus are called *to participate with the risen Jesus* in the continuation of his mission to bring God's grace, peace and justice to all people."

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OPENING SONG: Christ is alive

Christ is a - live, and the un - i - verse must cel - e - brate, and the
stars and the suns shout on this Eas - ter Day! Christ is a -
live, and his fam - i - ly must cel - le - brate in a
great al - le - lu - ia, a great al - le - lu - ia to
praise the power that made the stone roll a - way.

1. Christ is alive,
and the universe must celebrate,
and the stars and the suns shout
on this Easter Day!
Christ is alive, and his family must
celebrate
in a great alleluia, a great alleluia
to praise the power that made the
stone roll away.

2. Here is our hope
in the mystery of suffering
is the heartbeat of Love, Love that
will not let go.
Here is our hope, that in God we
are not separate,
and we sing alleluia, we sing alleluia
to praise the power that made the
stone roll away.

WELCOME

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

3. Christ Spirit, dance
through the dullness of humanity
to the music of God, God who set
us free!
You are the pulse of the new
creation's energy;
with a great alleluia, a great alleluia,
we praise the power that made the
stone roll away.

[words: Shirley Erena Murray,
music: Jillian Bray]

CLOSING SONG: Each Easter Day

1. Jerusalem was filled with praise
when Jesus rode that way;
a donkey was his humble steed
as palms were waved that day.
Each Easter time may peace arise
where fear and greed hold sway;
to work for peace 'til war shall
cease
brings hope each Easter Day.

2. Gethsemane, as Jesus prayed,
"O take this cup away!"
was washed by tears as Jesus
wept
and comrades sleeping lay.
Each Easter time may Love forgive
if we our faith betray,
for faithfulness when trials come
brings hope each Easter Day.

3. On Calvary, betwixt two thieves,
"Accomplished" Jesus cried;
the women, faithful to the end,
kept vigil as he died.
Each Easter time may faith arise
where death and sorrows lay;
our caring hands and empathy
bring hope each Easter Day.

4. A garden tomb was Joseph's gift,
where soldiers watched in vain;
though Jesus died we celebrate
that Love will rise again.
Each Easter time may Love arise
as songs of faith we pray;
our acts of love and costly grace
bring hope each Easter Day.

Words: Helen Wiltshire
Music: *Kingsfold* English Traditional

SENDING OUT:

Today we have celebrated the mystery of Christ's resurrection
**Let us go forward, rejoicing in the knowledge that the Spirit of Jesus
lives among us. Alleluia**
Today we look to the future – to the many new dawns of Eastertide.
**Let us go to live as people bathed in the light of resurrection.
Alleluia**

Christ is risen!
He is risen indeed!

You are invited to share the sign of peace with one another.

This service was prepared by Greg Elsdon, drawing on the resources of
previous Pilgrim 9.30am Easter Day services, and led by Greg and Sandy.

Thanks to today's readers Raelene Telfer and Ian Giles.

Music was led by Norm Inglis, with Jenny Ward (piano), Genevieve
Bassani (flute), Jeff Telfer (clarinet), Don Bell (guitar), Ruth Farrent
(djembe), Graham Brice (percussion) and singers Alison McDougall,
Colin Telfer, Peter Muller, Bronwen Blight & Michael Heathcote.

Thanks to Greg Bassani for managing the Live-Streaming,
and Allan Forbes for driving the AV desk.

Resurrection happened because Christ was first prepared to die.
Defying death, he refused to release his hold on life and love.
So now, as he encouraged us, we choose to remember
so that we too can truly live.

At supper on the night before he died
Jesus took bread and blessed it.
Then he broke it and gave it to his disciples saying:
**This is my body, broken so that you may know life.
Eat it and remember me.**

After the meal Jesus took wine and blessed it.
Then he gave it to his disciples saying:
**This is my blood, shed so that you may know life.
Drink it and remember me.**

So now, Source of Life, we share in this meal,
we celebrate together, and we remember you.
And we will continue to do this until resurrection
has flooded the whole creation.

May this bread and this wine become for us in this moment
your life-giving presence,
And may we who share this meal, be joined with you,
and with one another,
as one body united in resurrection life,
and sharing with all of creation in your unrestrained life.

**As we break this bread, we participate in Christ's life
In all our diversity, in all our individuality,
as we share this one loaf
— we are one.**

[John van de Laar – adapted]

Communion is shared

CLOSING PRAYER
God of mystery and wonder,
here at this table your promise of life is made tangible.
**We have rested in the depth of your love;
We have tasted your nourishing, nurturing presence;
We welcome you into our lives.
Together, at this table, you have offered us life.
Together, by your grace, we accept the life you offer.
And we give you thanks.**

[Joanna Harader – adapted]

GATHERING PRAYER
On this glorious Easter Day,
we have come to celebrate the greatness of Jesus Christ.
Let us rejoice! Alleluia!

On this most holy of days,
the one whom people had sought to destroy
has risen triumphant from the tomb!
Let us rejoice! Alleluia!

On this holy day, we celebrate our new life in the risen Christ,
through whom we have become daughters and sons of God.
Let us rejoice! Alleluia!

PRAYERS OF WHO WE ARE
Just like your disciples long ago,
we peer into the tombs of our hearts.

So many things fill our inner tombs—
broken relationships,
failed attempts at self-improvement,
shame, anger, missed opportunities,
debilitating grief.

We lift up to you all that is within us.

When those who came to your tomb looked within,
they found a young man in dazzling clothes,
but couldn't find you.

So often we too go through difficult times and can't find you.
Perhaps we, too, are looking in the wrong places.

You are always with us.

Open our minds, ears, eyes, and hearts
to all the ways that you dwell in our midst.

May we experience life in places that we thought were dead.

As we celebrate the empty tomb,
we rejoice that death does not have the final victory,
but rather that life, love, and goodness prevail.

**Lord, break open our lives to receive
all the love, forgiveness and freedom that you so freely give.**
[Adapted from Amy Aspey, Trinity United Methodist Church Columbus, Ohio]

A READING FROM THE HEBREW PROPHETS Isaiah 25: 6-9
⁶ On this mountain the Lord of hosts will make for all peoples
a feast of rich food, a feast of well-matured wines,
of rich food filled with marrow, of well-matured wines strained clear.

7 And he will destroy on this mountain the shroud that is cast over all peoples, the sheet that is spread over all nations;
 8 he will swallow up death for ever.
 Then the Lord God will wipe away the tears from all faces, and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the Lord has spoken.
 9 It will be said on that day, Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us. This is the Lord for whom we have waited; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

A READING FROM OUR GOSPEL TRADITION Mark 16: 1-8

1 When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him.
 2 And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. 3 They had been saying to one another, 'Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?' 4 When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. 5 As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed.
 6 But he said to them, 'Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. 7 But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you.' 8 So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

WITNESS

SONG: HaND 69 Easter Day

Words: Helen Wiltshire & Norman Inglis 2014
 Music: Easter Day (Norman Inglis 2014)

V1 Aut-umn sings with leaves of gold, danc-ing in the air so cold;
 see the bush and gar - den bloom; life has stirred from earth and tomb:
 life is break-ing through the clay, ris - ing up on Eas - ter Day!

HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION

This is for you, but it may change you from one who is anxiously concerned about their own redemption into one who knows that Christ's body is the earth and all who walk upon it, are one in him into knowing that we are not redeemed by our being good but by our being connected into knowing that daring to eat at the table of Jesus Christ has unimaginable consequences.

So come, come to be made whole, and to participate in the work of making us one with Christ, and with each other.

[written by Ann Siddall - adapted]

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

We thank you, O God, for your life, pulsing in creation revealed in Jesus renewed in resurrection and available to us now.

**Thank you for touching us again with your life through bread and wine;
 For joining our lives with yours through Jesus;
 And for renewing resurrection in our hearts through your Holy Spirit.**

Filled with life,
we now offer ourselves to be life-bringers in the world.
 Touched by resurrection
we pledge to resist death wherever we find it.
 Filled with hope
**we embrace the promise of eternity,
 and the call to make it known at every opportunity.**

**Through us may graves continue to be opened,
 And may the dead continue to be awakened to new life.
 In the name of Christ. Amen.**

RECALLING THE LIFE AND WORDS OF JESUS:

Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed!

Let's celebrate this irrepressible life; let's open our hearts to the joy and wonder of infinite possibility, of unquenched hope, of eternal resurrection.

We celebrate, we raise our voices and our hearts in worship and thanksgiving to the God who lives.

And into the light of Easter morning we bring ourselves,
our private struggles,
our hearts' yearnings, our hidden dreams, our unfulfilled potential.
A silence is kept as we silently reflect upon our own lives
May the light of Christ shine upon us.
May the light of Christ shine upon us.
Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER *[an interpretation by Margaret Rolfe]*

Loving God, within and around us, we revere you.
We seek to love life as you would want us to do:
With love and respect for all people
And all things in the universe.

May we find each day sufficient for our needs.
And find forgiveness when we do wrong,
Just as we forgive those who do wrong to us.

In times of trouble, may we centre our lives in you.

For your being is love, which comes with strength and with beauty,
Throughout eternity.

SONG: SPG4 58 Love has come again

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| 1.
Now the green blade rises from the
buried grain,
wheat in the dark earth many days
has lain.
Love lives again, that with the dead
has been:
love has come again like wheat that
springs up green. | 3.
Up he sprang at Easter, like the
risen grain,
he who for three days in the grave
had lain.
Up from the dead my risen Lord is
seen:
love has come again like wheat that
springs up green. |
| 2.
In the grave they laid him, Love
whom we had slain,
thinking that he would never wake
again.
Laid in the earth like grain that
sleeps unseen:
love has come again like wheat that
springs up green. | 4.
When our hearts are saddened,
grieving, or in pain,
your touch can call us back to life
again.
Fields of our heart that dead and
bare have been:
love has come again like wheat that
springs up green. |

Words: JMC Crum
Music: French traditional

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| 1.
Autumn sings with leaves of gold,
dancing free in air so cold;
see the bush and garden bloom;
life has stirred from earth and tomb:
life is breaking through the clay,
rising up on Easter day! | 3.
Silver clouds adorn the skies,
shining bright as darkness dies;
night gives way to golden dawn;
hope has come in hearts that
mourn:
hope is moving stones away,
rising up on Easter Day! |
| 2.
Bursting forth from silken case,
butterflies take flight with grace;
praise their beauty with each
breath;
faith is born from change and
death:
faith is calling us to pray,
rising up on Easter Day! | 4.
Sing we now with ecstasy,
freed to love so joyfully;
Christ alive in all we do;
love as gift of life anew:
love will ever with us stay,
rising up on Easter Day! |

Words: Helen Wilshire & Norman Inglis 2014
Music: Easter Day (Norman Inglis 2014)

OFFERING AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION

As an act of worship we bring our gifts for others:
– for those who hunger for hope in a time of uncertainty,
for those who long for community to replace their loneliness,
for those who seek faith instead of fears. **Amen.**

PRAYERS FOR OURSELVES AND OTHERS

God of light and life, with faces touched by the light of a new day,
and hearts warmed by our prayers and praises,
we come before you to pray for the needs of our world.
Into the light of Easter morning
we lift up those who are struggling with illness,
with despair over their lives, or with the breakdown of relationships.
A silence is kept as we name places, people and situations
May the light of Christ shine upon them.
May the light of Christ shine upon them.
Into the light of Easter morning, we bring those places in our world
where war, violence, poverty and need
are the experiences of everyday life.
A silence is kept as we name places, people and situations
May the light of Christ shine upon them.
May the light of Christ shine upon them.
Into the light of Easter morning,
we bring the headline news of this weekend
A silence is kept as we silently reflect on current affairs
we hold in our hearts the pain
of those suffering violence, bereavement or conflict.
May the light of Christ shine upon them.
May the light of Christ shine upon them.