Easter Sunday, 4th April 2021 at 10:30

Welcome & announcements:

Come, people of the risen King

who delight to bring Him praise; come all, and tune your hearts to sing to the Morning Star of grace. From the shifting shadows of the earth we will lift our eyes to Him, where steady arms of mercy reach to gather children in Rejoice, rejoice, let every tongue rejoice!

One heart, one voice,
O church of Christ rejoice!

Come, those whose joy is morning sun, and those weeping through the night; come, those who tell of battles won and those struggling in the fight. For His perfect love will never change and His mercies never cease, but follow us through all our days with the certain hope of peace

Come, young and old from ev'ry land, men and women of the faith; come, those with full or empty hands, find the riches of His grace.

Over all the world His people sing, shore to shore we hear them call, the truth that cries through ev'ry age: our God is all in all!

Keith & Kristyn Getty, Stuart Townend © 2007 Thankyou music

Prayer:

Children's talk:

Come, you saints, look here and wonder,

see the place where Jesus lay: He has burst His bands asunder; He has borne our sins away. Joyful tidings! Yes, the Lord is risen today!

Jesus triumphs! O sing praises! By His death He overcame; thus the Lord His glory raises, thus He fills His foes with shame; O sing praises! praises to the Victor's Name. Jesus triumphs! Angel voices
celebrate their conquering King;
all His ransomed church rejoices
as we join His praise to sing.
Songs eternal
shall through heaven's high arches ring!

Thomas Kelly (1769-1855)

Bible readings:

Acts 2v22-41

- 22 Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a Man attested by God to you by miracles, wonders, and signs which God did through Him in your midst, as you yourselves also know—23 Him, being delivered by the determined purpose and foreknowledge of God, you have taken by lawless hands, have crucified, and put to death;
- 24 whom God raised up, having loosed the pains of death, because it was not possible that He should be held by it.
- 25 For David says concerning Him: 'I foresaw the LORD always before my face, for he is at my right hand, that I may not be shaken.
- 26 Therefore my heart rejoiced, and my tongue was glad: moreover my flesh also will rest in hope.
- 27 For you will not leave my soul in Hades, nor will you allow your holy one to see corruption.
- 28 You have made known to me the ways of life; you will make me full of joy in your presence.'
- 29 Men and brethren, let me speak freely to you of the patriarch David, that he is both dead and buried, and his tomb is with us to this day.
- 30 Therefore, being a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him that of the fruit of his body, according to the flesh, He would raise up the Christ to sit on his throne,
- 31 he, foreseeing this, spoke concerning the resurrection of the Christ, that His soul was not left in Hades, nor did His flesh see corruption.
- 32 This Jesus God has raised up, of which we are all witnesses.
- 33 Therefore being exalted to the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, He poured out this which you now see and hear.
- 34 For David did not ascend into the heavens, but he says himself: 'The LORD said to my Lord, "Sit at my right hand,
- 35 till I make your enemies your footstool." '
- 36 "Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly that God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ."
- 37 Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Men and brethren, what shall we do?"
- 38 Then Peter said to them, "Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

- 39 For the promise is to you and to your children, and to all who are afar off, as many as the Lord our God will call."
- 40 And with many other words he testified and exhorted them, saying, "Be saved from this perverse generation."
- 41 Then those who gladly received his word were baptized; and that day about 3000 souls were added to them.

1 Corinthians 15v1-10

- 1 Moreover, brethren, I declare to you the gospel which I preached to you, which also you received and in which you stand,
- 2 by which also you are saved, if you hold fast that word which I preached to you—unless you believed in vain.
- 3 For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures.
- 4 and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures,
- 5 and that He was seen by Cephas, then by the twelve.
- 6 After that He was seen by over five hundred brethren at once, of whom the greater part remain to the present, but some have fallen asleep.
- 7 After that He was seen by James, then by all the apostles.
- 8 Then last of all He was seen by me also, as by one born out of due time.
- 9 For I am the least of the apostles, who am not worthy to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God.
- 10 But by the grace of God I am what I am, and His grace toward me was not in vain; but I laboured more abundantly than they all, yet not I, but the grace of God which was with me.

Prayer:

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!

Keith Getty & Stuart Townend © 2003 Thankyou music

Sermon:

Raised – according to the Scriptures!

Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son, endless is the victory Thou o'er death has won; angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away, kept the folded grave-clothes where thy body lay. Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son; endless is the victory Thou o'er death has won!

Lo, Jesus meets us, risen from the tomb; lovingly he greets us, scatters fear and gloom; let the Church with gladness hymns of triumph sing, for her Lord now liveth, death hath lost its sting.

No more we doubt Thee, glorious Prince of life; life is naught without Thee: aid us in our strife; make us more than conquerors through thy deathless love;

bring us safe through Jordan to Thy home above: Edmond Budry (1854-1932), tr. Richard Hoyle (1875-1939) © World Student Christian Federation

Close:

Scripture quotations are taken from the

new King James Version (NKJV).

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