

## Service for Caversham Park URC on Sunday 14 April 2024

Easter 3, year B

### Preparing to hear God's Word

Welcome

Lighting of Candles

Call to Worship

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.

**This is the Lord's doing; it is marvellous in our eyes.**

This is the day that the Lord has made.

**We will rejoice and be glad in it.**

Hymn / Song

This is the day

Prayers of Approach, Adoration and Confession

We praise you, O God,

**we acclaim you as the Lord;**

**all creation worships you,**

**the Father everlasting.**

To you all angels, all the powers of heaven,

**the cherubim and seraphim, sing in endless praise:**

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,**

**God of power and might,**

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

The glorious company of apostles

**praise you.**

The noble fellowship of prophets

**praise you.**

The white-robed army of martyrs

**praise you.**

Throughout the world

**the holy Church acclaims you:**

Father, of majesty unbounded,

**your true and only Son, worthy of all praise,  
the Holy Spirit, advocate and guide.**

You, Christ, are the King of glory,  
**the eternal Son of the Father.**  
**When you took our flesh to set us free  
you humbly chose the Virgin's womb.**

You overcame the sting of death  
**and opened the kingdom of heaven  
to all believers.**

You are seated at God's right hand in glory.  
**We believe that you will come  
and be our judge.**

Come then, Lord, and help your people,  
**bought with the price of your own blood,  
and bring us with your saints  
to glory everlasting.**

#### Assurance of Pardon

Hear the good news!  
Who is to condemn?  
It is Christ Jesus,  
who died,  
yes,  
who was raised,  
who is at the right hand of God,  
who indeed intercedes for us.  
So if anyone is in Christ,  
there is a new creation:  
everything old has passed away;  
see, everything has become new!  
**Amen.**

*Romans 8:34*

*2 Corinthians 5:17*

Receive God's gift of forgiveness  
and be at peace.

## Hearing God's Word

### Theme Introduction

We continue today to celebrate Easter, and we look at how the Resurrection was experienced in the first days by Jesus' disciples.

*Prayer for Grace or Collect for the Day*

Almighty Father,  
who in your great mercy gladdened the disciples  
with the sight of the risen Lord:  
give us such knowledge of his presence with us,  
that we may be strengthened and sustained by his risen life  
and serve you continually in righteousness and truth;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.  
**Amen.**

Reading from Scripture	Acts 3.12-19
Psalm	8
Hymn	He is Lord
Reading(s) from Scripture	Luke 24:36b-48
Hymn or Song	O for a thousand tongues to sing
Sermon or other Exposition of the Word	

## Responding to God's Word

Hymn or Song	Alleluia, alleluia, give thanks to the risen Lord
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### An Affirmation of Faith

Here are words you may trust.  
Remember Jesus Christ, risen from the dead:  
**he is our salvation, our eternal glory.**  
If we die with him, we shall live with him;  
**if we endure, we shall reign with him.**  
If we deny him, he will deny us;  
**if we are faithless, he keeps faith.**  
For he has broken the power of death  
**and brought life and immortality to light**  
**through the gospel.**

*cf 2 Timothy 2.11-13*

### Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession

Jesus, our exalted Lord, has been given all authority.  
Let us seek his intercession that our prayers may be perfected

by his prayer.

Jesus Christ, great high priest,  
living for ever to intercede for us,  
pray for the Church, your broken body in the world ...

*Silence is kept.*

Lord, hear us.

**Lord, graciously hear us.**

Jesus Christ, King of righteousness,  
enthroned at the right hand of the majesty on high,  
pray for the world, and make it subject to your gentle rule ...

*Silence is kept.*

Lord, hear us.

**Lord, graciously hear us.**

Jesus Christ, Son of Man,  
drawing humanity into the life of God,  
pray for your sisters and brothers in need, distress, or sorrow ...

*Silence is kept.*

Lord, hear us.

**Lord, graciously hear us.**

Jesus, pioneer of our salvation,  
bringing us to glory through your death and resurrection,  
surround with your saints and angels  
those who have died trusting your promises ...

*Silence is kept.*

Lord, hear us.

**Lord, graciously hear us.**

Jesus Christ, Lord over all things,  
ascended far above the heavens and filling the universe,  
pray for us who receive the gifts you give us for work in your service ...

*Silence is kept.*

Lord, hear us.

**Lord, graciously hear us.**

Jesus Christ,  
keep the Church in the unity of the Spirit

and in the bond of peace,  
and bring the whole created order to worship at your feet;  
for you are alive and reign with the Father  
and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

**Amen.**

### The Offering

Hymn or Song                      Thine be the glory

### The Blessing

The God of peace,  
who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus,  
that great shepherd of the sheep,  
make us perfect in every good work to do his will;  
and the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ...