



A welcoming, inclusive, Christian community

A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols for Easter

**24th April 2022
6.30pm**

Introit: *This joyful Eastertide (121) The choir sings*

This joyful Eastertide,
Away with sin and sorrow.
My Love, the Crucified,
Hath sprung to life this morrow:

Had Christ, who once was slain,
Not burst his three-day prison,
Our faith had been in vain:
But now hath Christ arisen.

My flesh in hope shall rest,
And for a season slumber:
Till trump from east to west
Shall wake the dead in number:
Had Christ, who once was slain...

Death's flood hath lost his chill,
Since Jesus crossed the river:
Lover of souls, from ill
My passing soul deliver:
Had Christ, who once was slain...

Words: G.R. Woodward (1848-1934) Music: arr. Charles Wood (1866-1926)

The Greeting *The president says*

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Alleluia. Christ is risen. **He is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

Sing for joy, O heavens, and exult, O earth;
break forth, O mountains, into singing!
For the Lord has comforted his people,
and will have compassion on his suffering ones.

Isaiah 49.13

Jesus said, 'This is indeed the will of my Father,
that all who see the Son and believe in him may have eternal life,
and I will raise them up on the last day.'

John 6.40

Let us pray.

Lord of all life and power, who through the mighty resurrection of your Son
overcame the old order of sin and death to make all things new in him:
grant that we, being dead to sin and alive to you in Jesus Christ, may reign
with him in glory; to whom with you and the Holy Spirit be praise and
honour, glory and might, now and in all eternity. **Amen.**

Praise to you, Lord Jesus:
Dying you destroyed our death, rising you restored our life:
Lord Jesus, come in glory.

Hymn (112)

Jesus lives! Thy terrors now
Can, O Death, no more appal us;
Jesus lives! by this we know
Thou, O grave, canst not enthral us. Alleluya!

2. Jesus lives! henceforth is death
But the gate of life immortal;
This shall calm our trembling breath,
When we pass its gloomy portal. Alleluya!

3. Jesus lives! for us he died;
Then, alone to Jesus living,
Pure in heart may we abide,
Glory to our Saviour giving. Alleluya!

4. Jesus lives! our hearts know well
Nought from us his love shall sever;
Life, nor death, nor powers of hell
Tear us from his keeping ever. Alleluya!

5. Jesus lives! to him the throne
Over all the world is given;
May we go where he is gone,
Rest and reign with him in heaven. Alleluya!

Words: Christian Gellert (1715-1769), tr. Frances Cox (1812-1897)
Music: H.J. Gaunlett (1805-1876)

The First Lesson

Jesus is the resurrection and the life.
Those who believe in him shall never die. Alleluia.

A reading from the Gospel according to Matthew (28.2-4)

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.

We praise you and we bless you, our risen Lord Jesus, King of glory, for in your resurrection the power of love breaks open the earth and frees life from death. As the angel rolled away the stone from the prison of the tomb, so release those imprisoned by life's misfortunes. To you, Lord Jesus, whose life brings surprises beyond our wildest expectations, be honour and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Praise to you, Lord Jesus:

**Dying you destroyed our death, rising you restored our life:
Lord Jesus, come in glory.**

Anthem: *Easter* (R Vaughan Williams) *The choir sings*

Rise heart; thy Lord is risen. Sing his praise
Without delays,
Who takes thee by the hand, that thou likewise
With him may'st rise;
That, as his death calcined thee to dust,
His life may make thee gold, and much more, Just.

Awake, my lute, and struggle for thy part
With all thy art.

The cross taught all wood to resound his name
Who bore the same.
His stretched sinews taught all strings, what key
Is best to celebrate this most high day.

Consort both heart and lute, and twist a song
Pleasant and long:

Or since all music is but three parts vied,
And multiplied;

O let thy blessed Spirit bear a part,

And make up our defects with his sweet art. George Herbert (1593 - 1633)

The Second Lesson

Jesus is the resurrection and the life.

Those who believe in him shall never die. Alleluia.

A reading from the Gospel according to John (20.1,2)

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, 'They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him.'

We praise you and we bless you, our risen Lord Jesus, King of glory, for the love which drew Mary Magdalene to your tomb to weep over your death. As you broke into her grief with your death-shattering life, so reach into our broken hearts with your promise of hope. To you, Lord Jesus, reaching into the deepest tombs of our despair, be honour and glory, now and for ever.

Amen.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus:

Dying you destroyed our death, rising you restored our life:

Lord Jesus, come in glory.

Hymn (123)

Walking in a garden
At the close of day,
Adam tried to hide him
When he heard God say;
'Why are you so frightened,
Why are you afraid?
You have brought the winter in,
Made the flowers fade.'

2 .Walking in a garden
Where the Lord had gone,
Three of the disciples,
Peter, James and John;
They were very weary,
Could not keep awake,
While the Lord was kneeling there,
Praying for their sake.

3. Walking in a garden

At the break of day,
Mary asked the gardener,
Where the body lay;
But he turned towards her,
Smiled at her and said:
'Mary, spring is here to stay,
Only death is dead.'

Words: Hilary Greenwood (1929-2003)

Music: Traditional Irish melody

The Third Lesson

Jesus is the resurrection and the life.

Those who believe in him shall never die. Alleluia.

A reading from the Gospel according to John (20.3-8)

Peter and the other disciple set out and went towards the tomb. The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, and the cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed.

We praise you and we bless you, our risen Lord Jesus, King of glory, for in you our God reveals the awesome power of love that is stronger even than death. As in your dying you destroyed death, so in your rising may we be raised above the trials and torments of this world's woe. To you, Lord Jesus, the fullness of your life revealed in an empty tomb, be honour and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Praise to you, Lord Jesus:

**Dying you destroyed our death, rising you restored our life:
Lord Jesus, come in glory.**

Anthem: *I got me flowers* (R Vaughan Williams) *The choir sings*

I got me flowers to strew thy way;
I got me boughs off many a tree:
But thou wast up by break of day,
And brought'st thy sweets along with thee.

The Sun arising in the East,
Though he give light, and the East perfume;
If they should offer to contest
With thy arising, they presume.

Can there be any day but this,
Though many suns to shine endeavour?
We count three hundred, but we miss:
There is but one, and that one ever. George Herbert (1593 - 1633)

The Fourth Lesson

Jesus is the resurrection and the life.
Those who believe in him shall never die. Alleluia.

A reading from the Gospel according to Matthew (28.5-8)

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.

We praise you and we bless you, our risen Lord Jesus, King of glory, for your resurrection overturns our expectations of life and even your closest friends could not see truth before them. As the angel helped them to grasp your triumph and overcome their fear, so help us to see your hand at work through the events that overtake us. To you, Lord Jesus, whose ways astonish beyond our imagining, be honour and glory, now and for ever.

Amen.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus:

Dying you destroyed our death, rising you restored our life:

Lord Jesus, come in glory.

Hymn: *Ye choirs of new Jerusalem* (124)

Ye choirs of new Jerusalem,
Your sweetest notes employ,
The Paschal victory to hymn
In strains of holy joy.

2. How Judah's Lion burst his chains,
And crushed the serpent's head;
And brought with him, from death's
domains,
The long-imprisoned dead.

3. From hell's devouring jaws the prey
Alone our Leader bore;
His ransomed hosts pursue their way
Where he hath gone before.

4. Triumphant in his glory now
His sceptre ruleth all,
Earth, heaven, and hell before him bow,
And at his footstool fall.

5. While joyful thus his praise we sing,
His mercy we implore,
Into his palace bright to bring
And keep us evermore.

6. All glory to the Father be,
All glory to the Son,
All glory, Holy Ghost, to thee,
While endless ages run. Alleluya! Amen.

Words: St Fulbert of Chartres (d. 1028), tr. Robert
Campbell (1814-1868)

Music: H.J. Gauntlett

The Fifth Lesson

Jesus is the resurrection and the life.

Those who believe in him shall never die. Alleluia.

A reading from the Gospel according to Matthew (28.9,10)

Suddenly Jesus met them and said, 'Greetings!' And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshipped him. Then Jesus said to them, 'Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me.'

We praise you and we bless you, our risen Lord Jesus, King of glory, for your simple word of greeting made the hearts of the women leap with joy. Speak your word of love to those whose hearts are broken, that they too may hear your loving, beckoning call. To you, Lord Jesus, whose call summons us to life in all its fullness, be honour and glory, now and for ever.
Amen.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus:

Dying you destroyed our death, rising you restored our life:

Lord Jesus, come in glory.

Anthem: *Love Bade me Welcome* (R Vaughan Williams) *The choir sings*

Love bade me welcome: yet my soul drew back,

Guilty of dust and sin.

But quick-ey'd Love, observing me grow slack

From my first entrance in,

Drew nearer to me, sweetly questioning,

If I lack'd anything.

A guest, I answer'd, worthy to be here:

Love said, You shall be he.

I the unkind, ungrateful? Ah, my dear,

I cannot look on thee.

Love took my hand, and smiling did reply,

Who made the eyes but I?

Truth, Lord, but I have marr'd them: let my shame

Go where it doth deserve.

And know you not, says Love, who bore the blame?

My dear, then I will serve.

You must sit down, says Love, and taste my meat:

So I did sit and eat.

George Herbert (1593 - 1633)

The Sixth Lesson

Jesus is the resurrection and the life.

Those who believe in him shall never die. Alleluia.

A reading from the Gospel according to Luke (24.28-35)

As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. But they urged him strongly, saying, 'Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over.' So he went in to stay with them. When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened, and

they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. They said to each other, 'Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?' That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. They were saying, 'The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!' Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

We praise you and we bless you, our risen Lord Jesus, King of glory, for you are with us, even when our eyes are closed to your companionship. Walk this day alongside the disconsolate and the despairing, open their eyes to your gentle illumination, and let their hearts burn within them at your invisible presence. To you, Lord Jesus, walking by our side, be honour and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Praise to you, Lord Jesus:

Dying you destroyed our death, rising you restored our life:

Lord Jesus, come in glory.

Hymn: *The Lord is risen indeed* (118)

**The Lord is risen indeed!
Now is his work performed;
Now is the mighty Captive freed,
And death's strong catle stormed.**

**The Lord is risen indeed!
Then hell has lost his prey;
With him is risen the ransomed seed
To reign in endless day.**

**The Lord is risen indeed!
He lives, to die no more;
He lives, the sinner's cause to plead,
Whose curse and shame he bore.**

Words: Thomas Kelly (1769-1844)
Music: W.H. Havergal (1793-1870)

The Seventh Lesson

Jesus is the resurrection and the life.

Those who believe in him shall never die. Alleluia.

A reading from the Gospel according to Luke (24.36-43)

While they were talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, 'Peace be with you.' They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. He said to them, 'Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.' And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, 'Have you anything here to eat?' They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took it and ate in their presence.

We praise you and we bless you, our risen Lord Jesus, King of glory, for in your birth you were proclaimed the Prince of Peace, and in your resurrection you breathe into your people peace beyond this world's understanding. Be present, Lord, this day with those whose lives are disfigured by conflict and those whose hearts know no peace. To you, Lord Jesus, true bringer of the peace of heaven, be honour and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Praise to you, Lord Jesus:

Dying you destroyed our death, rising you restored our life:

Lord Jesus, come in glory.

Anthem: *The Call* (R Vaughan Williams) *The choir sings*

Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life:

Such a Way, as gives us breath:

Such a Truth, as ends all strife:

Such a Life, as killeth death.

Come, My Light, my Feast, my Strength:

Such a Light, as shows a feast:

Such a Feast, as mends in length:

Such a Strength, as makes his guest.

Come, my Joy, my Love, my Heart:

Such a Joy, as none can move:

Such a Love, as none can part:

Such a Heart, as joys in love.

George Herbert (1593 - 1633)

The Eighth Lesson

Jesus is the resurrection and the life.

Those who believe in him shall never die. Alleluia.

A reading from the Gospel according to Luke (24.44-49)

Then he said to them, 'These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you – that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.' Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, 'Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised; so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high.'

We praise you and we bless you, our risen Lord Jesus, King of glory, for you promised that the same power that was at work when you were raised from the dead would also be alive in us. Show your power to those who are powerless; reveal your love to those who feel unlovely and through your Spirit enable all your people to be witnesses of your amazing grace. To you, Lord Jesus, daily renewing your people and your creation, be honour and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Praise to you, Lord Jesus:

Dying you destroyed our death, rising you restored our life:

Lord Jesus, come in glory.

Hymn: *Love's redeeming work is done* (113)

Love's redeeming work is done;
Fought the fight, the battle won:
Lo, our Sun's eclipse is o'er!
Lo, he sets in blood no more!

2. Vain the stone, the watch, the
seal,
Christ has burst the gates of hell;
Death in vain forbids his rise;
Christ has opened Paradise.

3. Lives again our glorious King;
Where, O Death, is now thy sting?
Dying once, he all doth save;
Where thy victory, O grave?

5. Hail the Lord of earth and heaven!
Praise to thee by both be given:
Thee we greet triumphant now;
Hail, the Resurrection thou!

4. Soar we now where Christ has led,
Following our exalted Head;
Made like him, like him we rise;
Ours the cross, the grave, the skies.

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788)
Music: *Choralbuch*, Herrnhut c.1740

The Ninth Lesson

Jesus is the resurrection and the life.
Those who believe in him shall never die. Alleluia.

A reading from the Gospel according to John (20.21-23)

Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.' When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.'

We praise you and we bless you, our risen Lord Jesus, King of glory, for as you were sent by the Father, so you send us. Equip your Church with the gifts to fulfil our calling that we may love as you loved, serve as you served, and willingly follow wherever you lead. To you, Lord Jesus, gifting your people, be honour and glory, now and for ever.

Amen.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus:
**Dying you destroyed our death, rising you restored our life:
Lord Jesus, come in glory.**

Anthem: *Antiphon* (R Vaughan Williams) *The choir sings*

Let all the world in every corner sing,
My God and King!

The heavens are not too high,
His praise may thither fly:
The earth is not too low,
His praises there may grow.

Let all the world in every corner sing,
My God and King!

The church with Psalms must shout.
No door can keep them out:
But above all, the heart
Must bear the longest part.

George Herbert (1593 - 1633)

The Intercessions

In joy and hope let us pray to the Father.

That our risen Saviour may fill us with the joy of his glorious and life-giving resurrection we pray to the Father. **Hear our prayer.**

That isolated and persecuted churches may find fresh strength in the good news of Easter we pray to the Father. **Hear our prayer.**

That God may grant us humility to be subject to one another in Christian love we pray to the Father. **Hear our prayer.**

That he may provide for those who lack food, work or shelter we pray to the Father. **Hear our prayer.**

That by his power war and famine may cease through all the world we pray to the Father. **Hear our prayer.**

That he may reveal the light of his presence to the sick, the weak and the dying, to comfort and strengthen them we pray to the Father.
Hear our prayer.

That, according to his promises, all who have died in the faith of the resurrection may be raised on the last day we pray to the Father.

Hear our prayer.

That he may send the fire of the Holy Spirit upon his people, so that we may bear faithful witness to his resurrection, we pray to the Father. **Hear our prayer.**

Heavenly Father, you have delivered us from the power of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of your Son; grant that, as his death has recalled us to life, so his continual presence in us may raise us to eternal joy; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us pray for the coming of God's kingdom as our Saviour taught us.

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name;

thy kingdom come; thy will be done; on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, for ever and ever.

Amen.

Hymn: *Thine be the glory* (120)

Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son,
Endless is the victory thou o'er death hast 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 hast won.*

2. 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:
Thine be the glory...

**3. No more we doubt thee, glorious Prince of Life;
Life is nought 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:
Thine be the glory...**

Words: Edmond Budry (1854-1932), tr. Richard Hoyle (1875-1939)

Music: George Frideric Handel (1685-1759)

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ is the resurrection and the life:
raise us, who trust in him, from the death of sin to the life of righteousness,
that we may seek those things that are above where he reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**
Alleluia. Christ is risen. **He is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

Praise the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

He has given us new life and hope.

He has raised Jesus from the dead.

God has claimed us as his own.

He has brought us out of darkness.

He has made us light to the world.

Alleluia. Christ is risen. **He is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

God the Father, by whose glory Christ was raised from the dead,
strengthen *you* to walk with him in his risen life; and the blessing of God
almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain
with you always. **Amen.**

Organ Voluntary: Prelude on 'Hyfrydol' (Vaughan Williams)

Please remain standing while the choir and clergy depart.

Acknowledgements

Common Worship: Services and Prayers for the Church of England, Pastoral Services and Times and Seasons, material from which is included in this service, are copyright © The Archbishops' Council 2000, 2005 and 2006. The Scripture quotations contained herein are from The New Revised Standard Version Bible, Anglicised Edition, copyright © 1989, 1995, National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA. Used by permission. All rights reserved. *Christian Copyright Licence 849167 and Music Reproduction Licence M267952, Lancaster Priory.*