

Christ the Lord is risen today

1. Christ the Lord is risen today:

Hallelujah!

Let the whole creation say:

Hallelujah!

Raise your voice and triumphs high:

Hallelujah!

Sing, yea heavens, and earth reply:

Hallelujah!

2. Lives again our glorious King;

Hallelujah!

where, O death, is now thy sting?

Hallelujah!

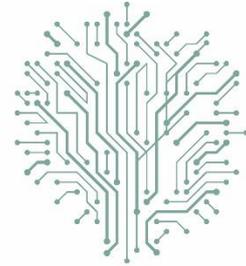
Once he died our souls to save;

Hallelujah!

where thy victory, O grave;

Hallelujah!

Charles Wesley 1707 - 88



SALTBUSH

UNITING THE SCATTERED COMMUNITY

Simple worship for the scattered Christian community

Matthew 28:1-10
The Resurrection of Our Lord

Welcome

An opportunity to welcome people to the gathering

Responses & Gathering Prayer

Eternal life giving God, we praise you for your love shown to us though Jesus Christ, we give you thanks that in you we can know the possibilities of a new way of being and understanding, that our lives can be transformed and out of death comes new life.

Loving God help us to leave what is death in our lives in the tomb, may we have the confidence to be renewed and healed and transformed.

In the name of the Resurrection One:

Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Music for Reflection

Suggested song: [Christ the Lord is Risen Today](http://nathandrake.bandcamp.com/track/christ-the-lord-is-risen-today-2)
<http://nathandrake.bandcamp.com/track/christ-the-lord-is-risen-today-2>

Passing the Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you.

And also with you.

You are invited to turn to those around you and offer them a word of greeting and peace.

The Word around the Bush

Matthew 28:1-10

28After the sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. ²And 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. ³His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. ⁴For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. ⁵But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. ⁶He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. ⁷Then 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." ⁸So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. ⁹Suddenly Jesus met them and said, "Greetings!" And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshiped him. ¹⁰Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me."

The Message

From your Scattered Community Minister or another leader within your gathering.

Questions for conversation

- I wonder what you have heard and thought from the Word today?
- I wonder what you heard in the Word for our church?
- What one action can you or your church take in response to the Word today?

Silence in Two Ways

Spend some time in silence sitting still (suggested 5 minutes). Close your eyes lightly. Sit relaxed but alert.

- You may like to say the prayer phrase "Mar-an-ath-a" (which means come Lord). Say this as four syllables. Do not try to think or imagine anything. If thoughts or distractions come simply return to saying the word.

- Or you may like "sitting with God" — a silent time in which we focus all our mind, heart and soul on the presence of God without trying to create it. Simply be still and open to God.

Prayers for Others

Go ahead of us, O God into the Galilees of our day, into the places where we try to make a difference, or the places where life has become commonplace and where new possibilities are forgotten.

Hear our prayer

Colour the fabric of our life with your beauty.

Go ahead of us, gracious Jesus, into the places where we fear to tread because we can see few signs of change, or violences and oppressions which seem beyond your power, or our power, to change.

(Liturgies for High Days - 2006, page 104, Dorothy McRae-McMahon)

- O Christ we open ourselves in prayer for: [\[Silence for personal prayer or invite others to open prayer in between each\]](#)

Your creation ...

Silence

For others we have heard about throughout our world ...

Silence

For other people we know and are close to ...

Silence

For our church and our wider community ...

Silence

For ourselves ...

Silence

Closing Responses & Blessing

Receive the Good news: **Christ is risen from the dead.**

Tell the good news: **the power of death shall no more oppress us.**

Live the good news: **we are free to love as he has loved us.**

May God who raised Jesus from the dead bless you and by the power of the Holy Spirit raise you with him in glory.

Closing Hymn: [Thine be the Glory](#)