

a Chapel Service for Easter Sunday, 2010:
CHRIST is risen!

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I. PSALM 118:22-24 – THIS IS THE DAY THE LORD HAS MADE!

22: The Stone which the builders refused is become The Head Stone of The Corner.

23: This is The LORD's doing; it is marvellous in our eyes.

24: This is The Day which The LORD hath made; we will rejoice and be glad in it....¹

II. ROMANS 6:3-5 - ALIVE FOREVER IN THE LORD JESUS!

3: Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into JESUS CHRIST were baptized into His death?

4: Therefore we are buried with him by Baptism into death: that like as CHRIST was raised up from the dead by The Glory of The Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.

5: For if we have been planted together in the likeness of His death, we shall be also in the likeness of His resurrection:²

III. LUKE 24:1-8 - CHRIST IS RISEN!

1: Now upon the first day of the week, very early in the morning, they came unto the sepulchre, bringing the spices which they had prepared, and certain others with them.

2: And they found the stone rolled away from the sepulchre.

3: ...they entered in, and found not The Body of The Lord JESUS.

4: And it came to pass, as they were much perplexed thereabout, behold, two men stood by them in shining garments:

5: And as they were afraid, and bowed down their faces to the earth, they said unto them, Why seek ye the living among the dead?

6: He is not here, but is risen: remember how He spake unto you when He was yet in Galilee,

7: Saying, The Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, and be crucified, and the third day rise again.³

¹ 1, KJV, PSALM 118:22-24.

² 1, KJV, ROMANS 6:3-5.

³ 1, KJV, LUKE 24:1-7.

IV. AN EASTER MESSAGE

How wondrous a miracle, that The Stone Whom the builders of GOD's Old House rejected, has become The very Foundation of Grace, forgiveness and eternal life for GOD's New House! On This Easter Sunday, The Day of Hope which The LORD has made for us, sin and death are defeated, and we His people come rejoicing away from the empty tomb of our Anointed Saviour, JESUS CHRIST! And through the ages of The faithful Church on earth and in Heaven, GOD's people confess, "CHRIST is risen!"

And in our own lives in this time and place, we too who are Baptized into CHRIST's death are also raised up by The Glory of The Father into newness of life before The blessed Cross! JESUS, The One Who Saves, was delivered into the hands of sinful men for our sakes. Fully GOD and fully Man, but without sin, our Redeemer suffered and was crucified unto death to pay the penalty of our sins under The Law of GOD which we could ourselves never pay! And in His victory over sin and death, by His resurrection and ascension, we soar with Him to new life in this world and in eternity!

As Pope John Paul II has said, "The Lord of Life has risen with power, bringing with Him love and justice, respect, forgiveness and reconciliation! Only The One Who, from nothingness has called the world into existence, could break the seals of the tomb..." And "only He could become The Source of New Life for us, who are subject to the universal law of death!"⁴

Allelujah, "Let us praise The LORD!" JESUS CHRIST is risen for us! He is with us to deliver, uplift and encourage. His hand makes our burdens lighter. His Promises bring us Faith, Hope and Love that no darkness can quench. His Resurrection and Glory bring us ever closer to His Kingdom in Heaven, as He walks with us daily on our journeys through his Kingdom on earth. AMEN!

So Patriarch Bartholomew of Constantinople says, "We as faithful Christians face... death, not by refusing to think about or deal with it, but rather through our Faith in The Resurrection of CHRIST, which entails also the expectation of our own resurrection. Having risen from the dead, CHRIST... is ready to bestow resurrection, the passage from death to life..., to every person who entrusts his life to Him. These are the gladsome tidings which we proclaim to the whole world, crying out, [Allelujah,] 'CHRIST is risen!'"⁵ This is indeed The Day Which The Lord has made. Let us rejoice and be glad!

⁴ 2, Pope John Paul II. Easter Message, 7 April 1996, paragraph 6.

⁵ 3, Patriarch Bartholomew of Constantinople, Easter 2000, CHRIST is Risen!, paragraph 4.

V. CLOSING PRAYERS

Let us pray:
In The Name of GOD The Father, The Son and The Holy Ghost:
[Sign of The Cross]
The LORD be with you!
And also with you!

Almighty Father,
we lift up our prayers to Thee This Easter Sunday,

For all those caring for the injured, sick and dying,
O CHRIST, renew their strength.
And let us say, AMEN!

For all those suffering physical, emotional or spiritual pain,
O CHRIST, give them peace.
And let us say, AMEN!

For all those who grieve the loss of loved ones,
O CHRIST, fill them with consolation.
And let us say, AMEN!

For all those who at times loose hope amidst trials,
O CHRIST, renew them in Faith, Hope and Love.
And let us say, AMEN!

For all the silent intentions in our hearts,
O CHRIST, grant us our prayers according to Thy will.
And let us say, AMEN!

Let us pray together in The Words our Saviour teaches us,
Our Father, Who art in Heaven...

Let us go forth
to love and serve The Lord and one another
And let us say, AMEN!

In The Name of GOD The Father, The Son and The Holy Ghost!
[Sign of The Cross]

VI. A HYMN - CHRIST THE LORD IS RISEN TODAY!

CHRIST, The Lord, is risen today, Alleluia!

Sons of men and angels say, Alleluia!

Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia!

Sing, ye heavens, and earth, reply, Alleluia!

Lives again our glorious King, Alleluia!

Where, O death, is now thy sting? Alleluia!

Once He died our souls to save, Alleluia!

Where thy victory, O grave? Alleluia!

Soar we now where CHRIST hath led, Alleluia!

Following our exalted Head, Alleluia!

Made like Him, like Him we rise, Alleluia!

Ours The Cross, the grave, the skies, Alleluia!

JESUS CHRIST is risen today, Alleluia!

Our triumphant Holy Day, Alleluia!

Who did once upon The Cross, Alleluia!

Suffer to redeem our loss. Alleluia!⁶

⁶ 4, "CHRIST The Lord is Risen Today!" Reverend Charles Wesley.

VIII. REFERENCES

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