

## **WOUNDS, WONDER, WORSHIP**

### **Welcome**

We are risen with Christ -

**the Lord is risen!**

Eternal life is ours -

**the Lord is risen!**

Death has met its master -

**the Lord is risen!**

The way to heaven is open -

**the Lord is risen!**

He is risen indeed -

**Alleluia! Amen**

### **Hymn –**

*Alleluia, alleluia, give thanks to the risen Lord,*

*Alleluia, alleluia, give praise to his name.*

Jesus is Lord of all the earth:

He is the king of creation.

*Alleluia, alleluia, give thanks to the risen Lord,*

*Alleluia, alleluia, give praise to his name.*

Spread the good news o'er all the earth:

Jesus has died and is risen.

*Alleluia, alleluia, give thanks to the risen Lord,*

*Alleluia, alleluia, give praise to his name.*

We have been crucified with Christ,

Now we shall live for ever.

*Alleluia, alleluia, give thanks to the risen Lord,*

*Alleluia, alleluia, give praise to his name.*

God has proclaimed the just reward:

'Life for us all, alleluia!'

*Alleluia, alleluia, give thanks to the risen Lord,*

*Alleluia, alleluia, give praise to his name.*

Come, let us praise the living God,  
joyfully sing to our Saviour.

*Alleluia, alleluia, give thanks to the risen Lord,  
Alleluia, alleluia, give praise to his name.*

**The Call to turn from wrong ways:** (1 Corinthians 5:7,8)

‘Christ our Passover lamb has been sacrificed for us. Let us therefore rejoice by putting away all malice and evil and confessing our sins with a sincere and true heart.’

Like Mary at the empty tomb,  
we fail to grasp the wonder of your presence.  
Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Like the disciples behind locked doors,  
we are afraid to be seen as your followers.  
Christ, have mercy.

**Christ, have mercy.**

Like Thomas in the upper room,  
we are slow to believe.  
Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

You give us your Spirit, and yet we live by our own strength,  
and not by the power of your resurrection.  
Christ, have mercy.

**Christ, have mercy.**

**You died on a cross and rose again for us,  
forgive us and free us from our sins,  
breath your Holy Spirit upon us,  
that we may serve you wholeheartedly in worship, love and praise.  
Amen**

May the God of love and power  
forgive us and free us from our sins,  
heal and strengthen us by his Spirit,  
and raise us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen**

**Collect** for the Sunday after Easter:

Almighty Father,  
you have given your only Son to die for our sins  
and to rise again for our justification:  
grant us...  
so to put away the leaven (yeast) of malice and wickedness  
that we may always serve you in pureness of living and truth;  
through the merits of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.  
**AMEN**

**At the lighting of the Easter candle:**

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 for 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!**

**READINGS** (by Teresa):

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Acts 2 verses 14a, 22-24 & v.32 (NIV)**

Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd:

“Men of Israel, listen to this: Jesus of Nazareth was a man accredited by God to you by miracles, wonders and signs, which God did among you through him, as you yourselves know. This man was handed over to you by God’s set purpose and foreknowledge; and you, with the help of wicked men, put him to death by nailing him to the cross. But God raised him from the dead, freeing him from the agony of death, because it was impossible to death to keep its hold on him....

...God has raised this Jesus to life, and we are all witnesses of the fact.

## **2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: John 20 verses 19 to 31** *(Using The Passion Translation)*

### **Jesus Appears to His Disciples**

That evening, the disciples gathered together, and because they were afraid of reprisals from the Jewish leaders, they had locked the doors. But suddenly Jesus appeared among them and said, “Peace to you!” Then he showed them the wounds of his hands and his side – they were overjoyed to see the Lord with their own eyes.

Jesus repeated his greeting, “Peace to you!” and he told them, “Just as the Father has sent me, I’m now sending you.” Then, taking a deep breath, he breathed on them and said, “Receive the Holy Spirit. I send you to preach the forgiveness of sins – and people’s sins will be forgiven. But if you don’t proclaim the forgiveness of their sins, they will remain guilty.”

### **Jesus Appears to Thomas**

One of the twelve wasn’t present when Jesus appeared to them – it was Thomas, whose nickname was “the Twin”. So the disciples informed him, “We have seen the Lord with our own eyes!”

Still unconvinced, Thomas replied, “There’s no way I’m going to believe this unless I personally see the wounds of the nails in his hands, touch them with my finger, and put my hand into the wound of his side where he was pierced!”

Then, eight days later, Thomas and all the others were in the house together, and even though all the doors were locked, Jesus suddenly stood before them! “Peace to you,” he said.

Then, looking into Thomas’ eyes, he said, “Put your finger here in the wounds of my hands. Here – put your hand into my wounded side and see for yourself. Thomas, don’t give in to your doubts any longer, just believe!”

Then the words spilled out of his heart – “You are my Lord, and you are my God!”

Jesus responded, “Thomas, now that you’ve seen me, you believe. But there are those who have never seen me with their eyes but have believed in me with their hearts, and they will be blessed even more!”

Jesus went on to do many more miraculous signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not even included in this book. But all that is recorded here is so that you will fully believe that Jesus is the Anointed One, the Son of God, and that through your faith in him you will experience eternal life by the power of his name!

This is the Word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God**

## **TALK: Wounds, Wonder and Worship**

Let us declare with Thomas, "My Lord and my God" and worship Jesus:

**Songs of worship** (some or all of the following):

**He is Lord**, He is Lord,  
He is risen from the dead and he is Lord.  
Every knee shall bow, every tongue confess  
that Jesus Christ is Lord.

**You laid aside your majesty**, gave up everything for me,  
suffered at the hand of those you had created.  
You took all my guilt and shame when you died and rose again;  
now today you reign, in heaven and earth exalted....

I really want to worship you, my Lord,  
you have won my heart and I am yours  
for ever and ever; I will love you.  
You are the only one who died for me,  
gave your life to set me free,  
so I lift my voice to you in adoration.

**This is the day**, this is the day  
when he rose again, when he rose again.  
We will rejoice, we will rejoice  
and be glad in it, and be glad in it.  
This is the day when he rose again;  
we will rejoice and be glad in it.  
This is the day, this is the day  
when he rose again.

**All heaven declares** the glory of the risen Lord  
Who can compare with the beauty of the Lord?  
Forever he will be the Lamb upon the throne.  
I gladly bow the knee and worship him alone.

I will proclaim the glory of the risen Lord,  
who once was slain to reconcile us to God.  
Forever you will be the Lamb upon the throne.  
I gladly bow the knee and worship you alone.

**Let us declare our faith** in the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ  
(using Paul's affirmation in 1 Corinthians 15: 3 – 7):

**Christ died for our sins  
in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he was buried;  
he was raised to life on the third day  
in accordance with the Scriptures;  
afterwards he appeared to his followers,  
and to all the apostles:  
this we have received and this we believe.  
Amen**

**Prayers of Intercession** (led by Sue)

**Lord's prayer**

**Closing Hymn** – Thine be the glory, risen conquering Son

**Closing prayer** from Hebrews 13 verses 20 – 21 (adapted):