

Easter Sunday Dawn Service Gosford Forest Park Sunday 31st March 2024, 6.30pm

Christ is risen! **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Introduction and welcome

Hymn 1. See what a morning gloriously bright

“See, what a morning, gloriously bright,
With the dawning of hope in Jerusalem;
Folded the grave-clothes, tomb filled with light,
As the angels announce, “Christ is risen!” See God’s salvation plan,
Wrought in love, borne in pain, paid in sacrifice, Fulfilled in Christ, the Man,
For He lives: Christ is risen from the dead!

See Mary weeping, “Where is He laid?”
As in sorrow she turns from the empty tomb; Hears a voice speaking, calling her name;
It’s the Master, the Lord raised to life again!
The voice that spans the years,
Speaking life, stirring hope, bringing peace to us, Will sound till He appears,
For He lives: Christ is risen from the dead!

One with the Father, Ancient of Days,
Through the Spirit who clothes faith with certainty. Honor and blessing, glory and praise
To the King crowned with pow’r and authority!
And we are raised with Him,
Death is dead, love has won, Christ has conquered; And we shall reign with Him,
For He lives: Christ is risen from the dead!

Bible Reading: Mark 16: 1-7

Easter Morning Prayers and The Lord's Prayer

Bible Reading: Luke 24: 1-9

Hymn 2. God sent his Son (Because He Lives)

God sent His son, they called Him, Jesus; He came to love, heal and forgive;
He lived and died to buy my pardon,
An empty grave is there to prove my Savior lives!

(Chorus)

Because He lives, I can face tomorrow, Because He lives, all fear is gone; Because I know He holds
the future, And life is worth the living,
Just because He lives!

How sweet to hold a newborn baby, And feel the pride and joy he gives; But greater still the calm
assurance:

This child can face uncertain days because He Lives! (Chorus)

And then one day, I'll cross the river, I'll fight life's final war with pain;
And then, as death gives way to victory,
I'll see the lights of glory and I'll know He lives! (Chorus)

Easter Sunday morning reflection (Rev William McCracken)

Affirmation of faith

Let us declare our faith in the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**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.**
cf 1 Corinthians 15:3-7

Hymn 3. Thine Be the Glory

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.

(Chorus) Thine be the glory, risen conquering Son, Endless is the vict'ry, thou o'er death hast won.

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.

(Chorus)
No more we doubt thee, glorious Prince of life; life is naught 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.
(Chorus)

Closing Prayers:

All our problems

We send to the cross of Christ.

All our difficulties

We send to the cross of Christ.

All the devil's works

We send to the cross of Christ.

All our hopes

We set on the risen Christ

And the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit be with you, and remain with you this Easter Day and always.

Amen.

Go in the peace of the risen Christ. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!