

## **Service sheet for Central Hall – 19.4.20.**

Call to Worship – Christ is risen, he is risen indeed. Alleluia.

Hymn – Singing the Faith 353 – Jesus is Lord

Prayer

Loving God, we praise you once more for the good news of Easter, the triumphant message of resurrection – new hope, new joy, new life.

Christ is risen, he is risen indeed

We praise you for what we see in the story of Easter. Your love that could not be kept down, your purpose that could not be defeated, your goodness that could not be destroyed.

Christ is risen, he is risen indeed

Teach us that what was true then is true now – that resurrection is not just about life after death, but about constant new beginnings, the way you are able to transform every part of our lives, the way you are always bringing renewal- and may that truth inspire us to keep on following you not only through the good but the bad.

Christ is risen, he is risen indeed

When life seems hard, when we feel overwhelmed by trials and temptations, when faith seems to fly in the face of reason, assure us once more that your love will not be overcome.

Christ is risen, he is risen indeed

When our work seems to bear no fruit, when our efforts go unrewarded, when our hopes remain unrealised, teach us that your purposes will ultimately be fulfilled.

Christ is risen, he is risen indeed

When the innocent suffer, when goodness is rejected, when evil appears victorious, teach us that right will finally emerge victorious.

Christ is risen, he is risen indeed

Loving God, grant us the deep inner assurance which only Easter can bring- that whatever life brings, whatever we face, however things may seem, your will shall be done and your kingdom come

Christ is risen, he is risen indeed. Thanks be to God. Amen

Hymn – Singing the Faith 295 – Alleluia, Alleluia

Introduction to bible reading – Reflect on how you felt if you have ever had to miss a special event. Thomas missed a very special event.

Bible Reading – John 20 verses 19 – 31

Questions for reflection

- When have you found it hardest to put your trust in Jesus and follow him?
- What are the biggest stumbling blocks / doubts that stop you from putting your trust in Jesus and following him?
- What helps you in strengthening and deepening your faith?

Prayer of confession

Risen Lord, we thank you that you are right there with us, alongside us in our everyday lives, in times of joy, but also in times of struggle. But Lord, we confess that so often we ignore you, so often we do not spend quality time with you, so often we do not follow your plans for us. We thank you that you are a forgiving God and we come before you now to ask for and to receive your forgiveness. Lord, as we receive your forgiveness help us to follow you and your plans for us each and every day. Amen.

Say The Lord's Prayer

Hymn – Songs of Fellowship 523 – Thank you Jesus

Intercessions

Pray for those struggling with doubts, fears, anxieties, at this time.

Pray for all who have lost loved ones as a result of the coronavirus, those who are ill, those who are struggling with being in self isolation, those struggling financially.

Give thanks for all NHS and care staff and continue to pray for them.  
Pray for any other people or situations on your hearts.

Hymn – Singing the Faith 313 – Thine be the glory

Blessing

May the love, peace and power of the risen Lord be with you and remain  
with you this day and for evermore. Amen.