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Weekly Letter - 9 April 2023



IT'S EASTER DAY!

Matthew 28.1-10

Why will you on this day say enthusiastically and with a little more gusto, "Alleluia, Christ us risen. He is risen indeed. Alleluia". (Even though I'm writing this quite a few weeks ahead of Easter, I sang the entire words out loud!).

Well, as you know there are lots and lots of reasons!

The resurrection of Jesus of Nazareth, conclusively demonstrates he is the Christ; that he was not tied to the law of death, which also proves beyond doubt the power of God over humanity and matter. Science may wish to overcome the physical death through clinical practice and technology, but God and only God has the power that to modify so fundamentally the structure of matter and so prove beyond doubt that He alone can bring about the death of death.

The resurrection of Jesus Christ also reveals that God's existence is real, that He loves his creation deeply, and that death is an absolute and total contradiction to the God of Life. Alleluia.

Stephen

Sunday Morning Worship in Christ Well, and on Zoom, at 10.30 am will be led by Rev Simon Walkling
We will celebrate Communion.

Bible Readings: John 20.1-18: Philemon 8-16

Cycle of Prayer in the Swansea Region – we will pray for Hall Street, Llanelli

Tea and Chat – Tuesday, 11th – 2-4 pm. "Easter Peace" and nail art.



Fifty Years worth celebrating
The 50th Anniversary Service (postponed from October 2022) will take place on
15th April at Methodist Central Hall, London.

A Prayer of Praise and Adoration

(Lectionary readings: Acts 10.34-43: Psalm 118.1-2, 14-24: Colossians 3.1-4: John 20.1-18 or Matthew 28.1-10)

Risen today!

No longer bound, no longer held, we sing today our songs of praise with all creation:

Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God,

you have stepped from death to life and we proclaim your glory!

With the Church across the ages and the faithful of all places we worship and adore you.

Yours is the victory, yours the life made new.

In you the life God longs to share becomes far more than possibility;

the sin that stifles us is undone, the death that haunts no longer rules.

All our brokenness, all that crushes life amongst us, finds its answer in you;

all that undoes creation, all that snatches hope and joy away, meet the power of God this day.

That power is the work of love and mercy tumbling from the tomb that could not hold you.

That power is the way of the cross become salvation's dawn.

All is made new, begun again, restored.

Nothing, now, can separate us from the love you have revealed.

Eagerly, we greet you.

Joyfully we praise you.

Humbly, we give to you ourselves.

All glory, praise, and honour to you we bring.

Neil Thorogood. (URCPrayer Handbook 2023)