

EASTER DAWN SERVICE

4 April 2010, A'Chleit

Outside on the beach: an Easter fire, the cross covered with daffodils

Responses

The Lord is risen!
HE IS RISEN INDEED!

¹In life, in death,
in life beyond death,
JESUS CHRIST IS LORD.

Over powers and principalities,
over all who determine, control,
govern or finance the affairs of humankind,
JESUS CHRIST IS LORD.

Of the poor, of the broken,
of the sinned against and the sinner,
JESUS CHRIST IS LORD.

Above the Church,
beyond our most excellent theologies
and in the quietest corners of our hearts,
JESUS CHRIST IS LORD.

Thanks be to God!
AMEN!

Prayer

²Living Lord, we greet you!
Your hands still have holes in them,
your feet are wet from the dew;
and with the memory of our names
undimmed by three days of death,
you meet us,
risen from the grave.

We fail to understand how;
we puzzle at the reason why.

¹ *Stages On The Way*. Worship Resources and Readings for Lent, Holy Week and Easter (Glasgow: Wild Goose Publications, 1998) p202.

² *Stages On The Way*. Worship Resources and Readings for Lent, Holy week and Easter (Glasgow: Wild Goose Publications, 1998) p188.

But you have come:
not to answer our questions,
but to show us your face.

You are alive
and the world can rejoice again.
Hallelujah!
Amen.

Song : 'Iona Gloria'

The Story of Easter

Listen now for the Gospel of Easter.

[leader:]

¹ But on the first day of the week,
at early dawn,
they came to the tomb,
taking the spices that they had prepared...

[Luke 24:1]

[three women reading:]

A ³We went there...

B first thing...

C the three of us.

A It was very damp...

B there was a heavy dew...

C you could see the sun rising.

A We took some flowers...

B I picked them on Friday...

C and we took some perfume.

A We wanted to prepare the body...

B to keep things as they were, you know...

C I was scared.

A It was just us...

B the men wouldn't come...

C they were scared like me.

A We ran up the road...

B we were out of breath...

C but we walked through the graveyard.

³ Easter script 'The three women'; *Stages On The Way*. Worship Resources and Readings for Lent, Holy week and Easter (Glasgow: Wild Goose Publications, 1998) p192-194, adapted.

A We wondered about the stone...
B who would roll it away?
C we should have brought the men.

A And then we looked...
B+C THE STONE WAS AWAY!

A I went in first...
B I was terrified...
C I never wanted to go.

A There was nothing there...
B there were just bandages...
C right where we had left him.

A But no body...
B and then we heard a voice...
C but it wasn't his voice.

A It said he was risen...
B it said he wasn't there...
C it said we had to tell the others.

A So we've to go back...
B but who will believe us?
C they'll think we're mad.

A We've to tell the others...
B but they'll never believe us...
C they'll say that we're just stupid women.

A But the stone was rolled away...
B and the body wasn't there...
C and we did hear a voice...

A+B+C AND HE IS RISEN!!

[leader:]

¹⁰ Now it was Mary Magdalene,
Joanna,
Mary the mother of James,
and the other women with them
who told this to the apostles.

¹¹ But these words seemed to them an idle tale,
and they did not believe them.

¹² But Peter got up and ran to the tomb;
stooping and looking in,
he saw the linen cloths by themselves;
then he went home,
amazed at what had happened.

[Luke 24:10-12]

Affirmation

⁴This is the Good News –
the grave is empty,
Christ is risen.
HALLELUJAH!

This is the Good News –
the light shines in the darkness
and the darkness can never put it out.
HALLELUJAH!

This is the Good News –
once we were no people,
now we are God's people.
HALLELUJAH!

Sharing of the Peace

Song : 'Iona Gloria'

Prayer of intercession

We come to you, O God,
because you have come to us,
in Jesus of Nazareth, our risen Lord.
On this special morning,
while the day is still fresh and young,
we do not come with our burdens.
We rejoice in the new life you give.
But we do know the burdens are there:
illness, unemployment, age, grief,
loneliness, broken relationships,
pollution, war, disasters.
On this bright morning
we only ask you
to shine the Light of Easter
on all our burdens.
Then they may look less,
then we can deal with them.

⁴ *Stages On The Way*. Worship Resources and Readings for Lent, Holy week and Easter (Glasgow: Wild Goose Publications, 1998) p183.

Through Jesus Christ,
who lives among us.
Amen.

Blessing

With the cross we process to the church, and then to breakfast in the Hall