



# KNOX CHURCH, DUNEDIN

*called to be a community of Jesus*

10am – Sunday 21 April 2019

Easter Day

Pre service music “*O filii et filiae*” (O sons and daughters let us sing)  
“*Christ est Erstanden*” (Christ is risen)  
“*Christ est Erstanden*”

Easter Hymn, 1494 / Flor Peeters  
Heinrich Bach (1615-92)  
J S Bach (1685-1750)

We welcome

Introit “*An Easter Hallelujah*”

Melchior Valupius arr Ed Hirshman  
Knox Choir with members of St Kilda Brass

Christ is risen: **Christ is risen: Alleluia! Alleluia!**

You are risen, O Christ. Let the gospel trumpets speak, and the news, as of holy fire, burning and flaming and inextinguishable, run to the ends of the earth. **Christ is risen! Alleluia!**

You are risen, O Christ. Let all creation greet the good news with jubilant shout, for its redemption has come, the long night is past, the ancient trap is sprung.

**Christ is risen! Alleluia!**

Death and life have engaged each other in a wondrous struggle: Death is swallowed up in victory. **Christ is risen! Alleluia!**

All you that sleep, awake, rise from the dead, the Light of Dawn will shine upon you.

**Christ is risen! Alleluia!**

We bless you, God of love and glory, utterly giving of your very self in Jesus.

**Christ is risen! Alleluia!**

In your great mercy we have been born anew to a living hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. **Christ is risen! Alleluia!**

We Sing

(Easter Hymn) CH4 410 - Lyra Davidica

1 Jesus Christ is risen today, Alleluia!  
Our most glorious holy day, Alleluia!  
Who did once in life and death, Alleluia!  
Fill the earth with Love's true breath: Alleluia!

2 Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluia!  
Unto Christ, our Servant-King, Alleluia!  
Who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia!  
Sprang to life from out the cave: Alleluia!

3 So the pains that he endured, Alleluia!  
Love's release have now secured, Alleluia!  
Death's dread sting itself now dies, Alleluia!  
Christ in glory fills the skies: Alleluia!

4 Celebrate this joyful feast, Alleluia!  
People all, the greatest least, Alleluia!  
Drop your masks of pomp and pride, Alleluia!  
Greet the Clown with wounded side, Alleluia!

# Prayer

## The Peace

The glory of the risen Christ shrivels up our pride! The power of the risen Christ sets us free from evil's grip! The touch of the risen Christ heals our deepest wounds and sorrow! The life of the risen Christ swallows up our fear of death! **We are indeed healed, forgiven, embraced in love, set free to live in the Spirit of the Risen Christ.**

The Peace of the Risen Christ spread among us. **Alleluia!**

Let us share with one another a greeting of Peace.

## An Early Word

### We sing

(Vruechten) GtG 249 - Shirley Murray

1 Because you live, O Christ,  
the garden of the world has come to flower,  
the darkness of the tomb  
is flooded with your resurrection power.

*The stone has rolled away and death cannot  
imprison!*

*O sing this Easter Day, for Jesus Christ has  
risen,  
has risen, has risen, has risen!*

2 Because you live, O Christ,  
the spirit bird of hope is freed for flying,  
our cages of despair  
no longer keep us closed and life-denying.  
[Refrain]

3 Because you live, O Christ,  
the rainbow of your peace will span  
creation,  
the colours of your love  
will draw all humankind to adoration.  
[Refrain]

# Prayer

Living Christ, bringing with this new day the joyful news that every tomb is always empty, raise us from disintegration and death to new life and unbounded joy. **Amen.**

## 1 Corinthians 15:19-26

*Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church* **Thanks be to God**

**Anthem** *"Set me as a seal- for love is strong as death"* text *Song of Solomon*, music Karen Knudson (2015)

## John 20:1-18

*This is the Gospel of Jesus Christ* **Praise to Christ the Word**

The One who walked among us, in the Spirit obedient to the One who called, in the sight of all created powers: **Risen Christ, we greet you: Alleluia!**

You have been proclaimed among the nations, believed in throughout the world, transfigured into glory. **Risen Christ, we greet you: Alleluia!**

We have set our hope on you, the human face of God, the Saviour of all the world.

**Risen Christ, we greet you: Alleluia!**

To the Ruler of all ages, unseen and eternal, the only true God, be honour and glory, now and for ever. **Risen Christ, we greet you: Alleluia!**

## Sermon

### We sing

1 Now the green blade riseth from the buried grain,  
wheat that in the dark earth many days has lain;  
love lives again, that with the dead has been:

*Love is come again,  
like wheat that springeth green.*

2 In the grave they laid him, Love whom men had slain,  
thinking that never he would wake again,  
laid in the earth, like grain that sleeps unseen: [*Refrain*]

(Noël Nouvelet) CH4 417 - John Macleod Campbell Crum

3 Forth he came at Easter, like the risen grain,  
he that for three days in the grave had lain,  
quick from the dead my risen Lord is seen:  
[*Refrain*]

4 When our hearts are wintry, grieving or in pain,  
thy touch can call us back to life again,  
fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been: [*Refrain*]

### Prayer

O Christ, radiant Light, shining in our darkness, most glorious of the children of earth, Holy One, setting captives free: Christ of the living God, **give freedom to the peoples of the world.**

O Christ, stooping low in great humility, obedient to death, walking the way of the cross, calling us to follow to death and to resurrection: Christ of the living God, **keep your people faithful to your way.**

O Christ, burning in us all that is not kindled by your presence, melting in us all that freezes and keeps us cold: Christ of the living God, **give us the gifts of friendship.**

O Christ, saving us in our poverty, reconciling us to the Source of all that is, making us holy people, a commonwealth, and priests to our God: Christ of the living God, **bring new life and hope in the midst of human pain.**

O Christ, granting us the fullness of your grace, saving us from the fear of death, giving us a share in your life: Christ of the living God, **cause us to walk with confidence the waters of our dying.**

O Christ, the new and living way, the dawn of the new creation, we bring into our presence and into yours those whom we would especially remember this Easter day.

Christ of the living God, **make us one with all those whom we love.**

**Abba, Amma, Beloved, your name be hallowed  
your reign spread among us, your will be well done,  
at all times, in all places, in heaven and on earth. Give us the bread we need for today.  
Forgive us our trespass as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
Let us not fail in time of our testing. Spare us from trials too sharp to endure.  
Free us from the grip of all evil powers.  
For yours is the reign, the power and the glory, the victory of love, for now and eternity,  
world without end, Amen and Amen.**

## **We share news and offer ourselves to God**

*"This Joyful Eastertide"*

*David's Psalmen*, Amsterdam 1685, arr. Spike Maiden Muller, text George Woodward 1894  
Knox Choir with members of St Kilda Brass

*We recognise and bless the gifts brought to the table,  
and those which wing their way electronically from our banks to the Church's account.*

## **We sing**

(8787D) CH4 430 – John L Bell & Graham Maule

1 Christ has risen while earth slumbers,  
Christ has risen where hope died,  
as he said and as he promised,  
as we doubted and denied.  
Let the moon embrace the blessing;  
let the sun sustain the cheer;  
let the world confirm the rumour.  
Christ is risen, God is here!

3 Christ has risen, and for ever  
lives to challenge, and to change  
all whose lives are messed or mangled,  
all who find religion strange.  
Christ is risen. Christ is present,  
making us what he has been –  
evidence of transformation  
in which God is known and seen.

2 Christ has risen for the people  
whom he loved and died to save;  
Christ has risen for the women  
bringing flowers to grace his grave.  
Christ has risen for disciples  
huddled in an upstairs room.  
He whose word inspired creation  
is not silenced by the tomb.

## **The Blessing**

The Blessing of God be with us, Father and Mother, Sustainer of our earth, Source of all that is and that shall be.

**The Blessing of God be with us, our Messiah, our Christ, our Risen and Glorious Loved One and our Friend.**

The Blessing of God be with us, Spirit spreading love and joy in our hearts, giving hope to the battered ones, inspiring justice and peace for the little ones.

**May this rich blessing be with us, with all humankind living and departed, and with all the creatures of land and sea and air.**