



ALKING POINT

KNOWING JESUS CHRIST AND MAKING HIM KNOWN

SUNDAY 12th April 2020

Volume 26 Issue 11

**May the celebration of resurrected life bring new hope to your being.
May the victory over earthly death turn your eyes to the promises of heaven.
May the empty tomb help you to leave your sorrows at the foot of the cross.
So that God's hope, promises and forgiveness reign in your life forever.
Amen**



Dear brothers and sisters in Christ, we have reached the most holy season in the Christian year, Easter. The death and resurrection of Jesus Christ are the centre of our faith. So, I'm sure that you, like me, will sorely miss gathering to remember solemnly the events of Maundy Thursday and Good Friday, and exuberantly celebrate the resurrection on Easter Day. But, this year it must be a different Easter for the sake of all our community. We must all do our part to help stop the spread of COVID 19 by physically distancing.

We have supplied service materials for the Easter services so that you can worship at home, if you wish. Please also consider watching Songs of Praise on the ABC on Sunday morning, so that you can sing Easter Songs and Hymns for an uplift in spirit. And please reach out to each other on the phone or internet to support and encourage one another, especially if you feel down. And remember our brothers and sisters across the world as they, too, go through this hard time, and uphold them in prayer. And add a special prayer for our brothers in sisters in Vanuatu, many of whom have suffered with the devastation caused by Cyclone Harold this week. For we are part of a world wide family, and sons and daughters of a loving God. Remember that love this Easter, Blessings, Sandra

Contact details for Rev. Sandra Houghton are: sandrah@vic.australis.com.au ph 0428 649 243

Offerings Continuity

While we are unable to Worship together Church Council hopes you may wish to continue your freewill offering to support God's work in this place. Offerings will continue to be dedicated and blessed each week as a part of our new worship options. If you would normally make your offering in cash into the Open Plate or if you normally make your offering using an numbered Envelope you could arrange for this to be banked directly to –

Bendigo Bank

BSB : 633-000

Account : 556 138 6

Reference : Plate; or, Envelope XX (Envelope Number)

*Or, alternatively you may prefer to drop your cheque in to the Church Office or forward, addressed to ...
The Treasurer, UCA Traralgon District, PO Box 1136, Traralgon Vic 3844*

Council would encourage you however to consider participating in the Direct Giving Program. If you were to decide to follow this path then please let me know and I will get the appropriate Form to you to enable that to be set up.

Thank you, Tony Boulton, Treasurer, Church Council



Traralgon District Uniting Church

Incorporating: Traralgon, Glengarry & Rosedale.



**Traralgon, Glengarry, and Rosedale Uniting churches
Worship at Home**

EASTER DAY 2020

*Consider decorating and brightening your worship area with flowers, pot plants, butterflies (can be made of coloured paper) and Easter Eggs, and light a candle at the beginning of worship.
If you have CD's or other recordings of Easter Music you might like to add them into this service.*

SONG: Scripture in Song 40; [**THIS IS THE DAY**](#)

**This is the day, this is the day
That the Lord hath made,
We will rejoice, we will rejoice
And be glad in it, and be glad in it.**

OPENING PRAYER: Jesus Christ, we greet you!

Jesus Christ, 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 the reason why.

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!

Hallelujah! Christ is risen!
Christ is risen indeed! Hallelujah!

Let us worship God.

FIRST READING: Acts 10:34-43

PSALM: Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24

GOSPEL READING: John 20:1-18

SONG: [**CHRIST THE LORD IS RISEN TODAY**](#)



GIVING INDIGENOUS PEOPLE THE BIBLE IN THEIR OWN LANGUAGE

The Bible Society has sent us a request to donate to help provide Bibles to indigenous people, especially in their own community. This will enable printing of more Bibles. A donation will also help with translation of the Bible into indigenous languages. To date only one language group has a translation of the whole Bible. A number of others have the New Testament in their own language. So there is still much work to be done, to cover the more than 100 languages still spoken today.

You can make a donation by credit card or Pay Pal at [biblesociety.org.au/open](https://www.biblesociety.org.au/open). Or you can post a cheque to Bible Society Australia, Reply Paid 88900, Sydney NSW 2001.

If you are unsure whether your contact details and email address are correct, please contact the Church Office. We want to get the worship resources out to as many members of our congregations as possible.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION:

God our Father,
in your love you welcome us as your children, through your care you have shaped the universe,
with your mercy you hear our prayers.
Hear us, your children, as we come before you in worship.

Jesus, our risen Master,
in our weakness, you call us,
in our confusion, you teach us,
in our troubles, you offer us peace.
Meet us, your friends, as we come to hear your word.

Spirit, Living One, in the beginning, you breathed life,
in chaos and darkness, you brought hope, in many tongues, you spread good news.
Transform us, your people, as we open our minds and hearts to you.

God,
Loving Father, Son and Spirit, we come.
Yet we know we come with doubts and fears.
We know we come in ignorance.
We know we have failed you, your creation and your people, in many ways.
Trusting in your love, we turn again to you.

As we open our hearts to your mercy and forgiveness, grant us your peace.
Accept these prayers, accept our worship, accept us, through your love. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS:

God, our Creator, gives us new life;
Christ, our Redeemer, prepares a table for us;
The Holy Spirit, our Joy, calls us to service.
This is the good news:
The tomb is empty, sin is powerless, death is defeated forever.
On this first day, and every day, we walk as God's people – forgiven and made whole.
Thanks be to God. Amen.

AN EASTER WORD:

SONG: HE LIVES, HE LIVES



OFFICE HOURS

As of the 5th April, until further notice, the office will be open on
Wednesdays and Thursdays from 9:00 am - 1:00 pm only

PRAYERS FOR OTHERS AND OURSELVES:

On this glorious Easter morn,
We praise your name and thank you for your faithfulness.
We marvel once again at the wonder
of the resurrection of Jesus.

We ask that this resurrection
wipe away the tears from our eyes;
Bring hope to the hopeless,
Open the eyes of the blind,
Set the prisoners free and
Bring healing and wholeness to those who need it.

Lord we ask that this resurrection bring a revolution of justice.
May the hungry be fed,
The outcast be welcomed,
The downtrodden lifted up,
And those who are in poverty may be enriched.

Lord we ask that this resurrection bring renewal of our lives,
Restore our broken relationships,
Deepen our relationship with you,
Deepen our relationship with one another,
And empower us to bring the good news of your resurrection to others.

Lord, in this time of COVID 19 isolation we ask
That you will bless all those we miss seeing and meeting,
And help us cope with our isolation and fears.
That you will keep safe our loved ones,
And bless all medical and front-line workers.
Guide our leaders that they might make good decisions,
We pray this in the name of our Risen Lord Jesus
Who taught us to pray saying:

*Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.*

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and for ever. Amen.

BENEDICTION:

The power of the Creator who brings life out of death, be in this place.
The risen Christ be your constant companion.
The healing embrace of the Holy Spirit encircle you so that you see resurrection ever about you.
Amen.

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Introductory Prayer from Stages on the Way, p. 188

Prayer of Confession Jenny Adams, Church of Scotland, Mission and Discipleship Council website

Benediction by Chris Polhill in Fire and Bread, p. 78



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