



WESLEY WELLINGTON

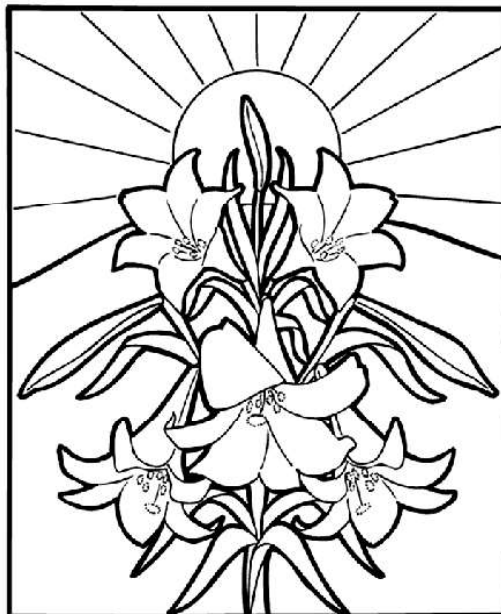
75 Taranaki Street

WWW.WESLEYCHURCH.ORG.NZ

Combined Easter Service Order of Service

SUNDAY 20 APRIL 2025

*In the words of St Augustine of Hippo,
“WE are Easter People and Alleluia (Praise the Lord) is our Song”*



Worship Leader: Rev. Joeli Ducivaki

**We are a multi-racial Christian community:
Methodist in affiliation – Ecumenical in intention
Diverse in theology – Inclusive in outreach.**

**Kia ora koutou katoa — Talofa Lava
Malo e lelei — Bula Vinaka Greetings to you all!**

Welcome & Safety Briefing

Fijian

Introit

Tongan

Leader: Christ is risen,
All: Christ is risen indeed!

Lighting the Easter Candle

We light the candle,
aware that the power of resurrection
has forever changed who we are,
and given us the courage
to boldly proclaim a living faith.
Christ is risen

Song 'Majesty, Worship his majesty'

Majesty, worship his majesty,
unto Jesus be all glory, honour and praise.
majesty, kingdom, authority,
flows from his throne, unto his own,
his anthem raise.

So exalt, lift on high
the name of JESUS.
Magnify, come glorify
Christ Jesus the King.

Majesty, worship his majesty,
Jesus who died,
now glorified,
Kings of all Kings.

Jack W. Hayford (Complete Mission Praise)

Call to Worship

Leader: Christ is risen! Alleluia!
All: He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Leader: Let us celebrate with Easter Joy!
not out of habit, not thinking only about chocolate and fun,
but with a brand-new awareness of Christ's presence

with us as our Loving and risen Christ!
Lord of the Church, Friend of all, Hope of the world:
Christ is risen! Alleluia!

All: He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Hymn 'Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son'

History - *An Easter hymn composed in Germany by Edmond Louis Budry (1884) when his wife Marie De Vayenborg died. It was translated into English in 1825.*

1. Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son,
endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won.
angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away,
kept the folded graveclothes, where thy body lay.

*Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son,
endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won.*

2 . Sa mai tavaki keda ko Jisu,
raica na Matana! Sa loloma tu!
Oti noda rere; me da sa doka
Noda i Vakabula, keda kecega!

3. No more we doubt thee, glorious Prince of life.
life is nought without thee: aid us in our strife.
make us more than conquerors, through thy deathless love:
bring us safe through Jordan to thy home above.

*Edmond Louis Budry (1854-1932)
Reproduced from WOV 303*

Easter Prayer

Leader: God of resurrection,
who brought Jesus to triumph over death,
challenge us also with resurrection power.
May we choose life
and we live freely, fully and lovingly,
this day and all the days of our lives.
We ask this in the name of Jesus,
who even the grave could not hold

All: Amen

The Lord's Prayer (In your own language)

1 Corinthians 15:1–11

The Resurrection of Christ

15 Now, brothers and sisters, I want to remind you of the gospel I preached to you, which you received and on which you have taken your stand. 2 By this gospel you are saved, if you hold firmly to the word I preached to you. Otherwise, you have believed in vain.

3 For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance[a]: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, 4 that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures, 5 and that he appeared to Cephas, and then to the Twelve. 6 After that, he appeared to more than five hundred of the brothers and sisters at the same time, most of whom are still living, though some have fallen asleep. 7 Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles, 8 and last of all he appeared to me also, as to one abnormally born.

9 For I am the least of the apostles and do not even deserve to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. 10 But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace to me was not without effect. No, I worked harder than all of them—yet not I, but the grace of God that was with me. 11 Whether, then, it is I or they, this is what we preach, and this is what you believed.

Family Time – Symbols of the Resurrection

The Fragrant Oil: (*Samoan Women*)

This fragrance reminds us that very early on Easter Day some women came to the tomb to prepare Jesus' body for proper burial.

O fafine sa muamua ona faalogo ile toetu mai o Iesu.

Aleluia! Ua toe tu Keriso

Ua toe tu mai Keriso, e moni lava!

The Stone: (*Fijian Youth*)

This stone reminds us that on the resurrection morning, the stone which sealed the tomb was rolled away.

Sa yali ko Jisu

Haleluya Jisu sa tucake

Jisu sa tucake tale

The Bread: (10AM)

This bread reminds us that on the first Easter evening,
Jesus walked and talked with two of his followers on the road to Emmaus.
It was not until he broke bread with them that they recognized who he was.

Alleluia! Christ is risen

Christ is risen indeed!

The Cup: (Tongan Brass Band)

This cup, representing that out of this ordeal,
the overflow of new life for us to share.

Let us blow our horns and trumpets

Alleluia! Christ is risen

Christ is risen indeed!

The Cross: (10AM)

The cross you see is an empty cross.

Jesus is not dead.

He is risen.

Alleluia! Christ is risen

Christ is risen indeed!

The Candle: (Tonga Youth)

We light this candle to reminds us that

Jesus Christ is the light of the world.

And that Light is presence amongst us here and now.

Haleluiaa! Kuo toetu'u 'ae 'Eiki

Kuo toetu'u mo'oni.

Story and prayer for the Children

Fijian

Song 'This little light of mine'

(Offering to be light forward)

1. This little light of mine,
I'm gonna let it shine x3
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

2
Hide it under a bushel, NO!
I'm gonna let it shine x3
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

3. Won't let Satan blow it out,
I'm gonna let it shine x3
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Offertory Prayer

All: Death has been overcome. We rejoice, as our Saviour, rose from the dead to unlock that tomb, so we can witness your Glory, love and Grace. We present our tithes, gifts and your works, we asked for blessing and help us to discover your transformative power of living Jesus in our lives. This we ask in the mighty of Jesus Christ Amen.

10AM Singing Group

Reading

John 20:1-18

Tongan

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene went to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the entrance. 2 So she came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved, and said, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we don't know where they have put him!"

3 So Peter and the other disciple started for the tomb. 4 Both were running, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. 5 He bent over and looked in at the strips of linen lying there but did not go in. 6 Then Simon Peter came along behind him and went straight into the tomb. He saw the strips of linen lying there, 7 as well as the cloth that had been wrapped around Jesus' head. The cloth was still lying in its place, separate from the linen. 8 Finally the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went inside. He saw and believed. 9 (They still did not understand from Scripture that Jesus had to rise from the dead.) 10 Then the disciples went back to where they were staying. 11 Now Mary stood outside the tomb crying. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb 12 and saw two angels in white, seated where Jesus' body had been, one at the head and the other at the foot.

13 They asked her, "Woman, why are you crying?"

"They have taken my Lord away," she said, "and I don't know where they have put him." 14 At this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not realize that it was Jesus.

15 He asked her, "Woman, why are you crying? Who is it you are looking for?" Thinking he was the gardener, she said, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have put him, and I will get him."

16 Jesus said to her, "Mary."

She turned toward him and cried out in Aramaic, "Rabboni!" (which means "Teacher").

17 Jesus said, "Do not hold on to me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father. Go instead to my brothers and tell them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'"

18 Mary Magdalene went to the disciples with the news: "I have seen the Lord!" And she told them that he had said these things to her.

Reflection

Rev. Joeli Ducivaki

“Go and tell, Christ has risen – Yes, he is risen indeed, Halleluiah – Don’t be
Weary – Believe – Believe that He is Risen”

Prayer for others and ourselves

Fijian

Leader: Jesus wounded and risen
we bring to you our prayers for the broken world
We pray for your people in places of war and unrest
In places of ecological disaster
in places of famine and disease
Wounded creator
we have seen your crucified and risen love

All: Work your resurrection in the lives of your people

Leader: We bring our prayers for fractured community
We pray for those pierced by nails of prejudice and hatred
of neglect and abuse
of indifference and rejected
wounded redeemer
We have seen your crucified and risen love

All: Work your resurrection in the lives of your people

Leader: Give us your daily peace and grace so we can live freely and to your
will. in Jesus’ name we pray.

All: Amen

Sacrament of Holy Communion

Leader: On the night before he was betrayed,
Jesus took bread and after giving thanks,
broke it and gave it to his disciples saying:
“Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you.
Do this in remembrance of me.”

In the same way he took the cup after supper and said,
“This Cup is the new covenant in my blood.
Whenever you drink it, do this in remembrance of me.”

**All: Glory to you, Jesus Christ:
Your death we proclaim.
Your resurrection we celebrate.
Your coming we await. Amen**

Leader: Come Holy Spirit,
 that these gifts of bread and wine may be to us the bread of life
 and the cup of New Covenant.
 Bind us into One Body,
 that we may grow into the fullness of Christ
 who is the head.

All: Amen

**All: We come to your table, Lord,
conscious of our own shortcomings,
but trusting in your love and mercy.
Humbly we take this bread and wine,
recognising in you that life we seek for
ourselves, but which is not yet fully our own.
So gracious Lord, we eat this bread and drink
this wine, believing that you will grow in us
and we in you.
Amen**

The Breaking of the Bread

Leader: The bread which we break,
 is a sharing in the Body of Christ.

All: Christ is the bread of life.

Leader: The wine which we pour,
 is a sharing in the life of Christ.

All: Life in all its fullness

Silence

Leader: Behold the Lamb of God
 who takes away the sin of the world.

The Communion

Leader: Draw near in faith and take this Holy Sacrament
 in remembrance that Christ died for us, and
 feed on him in your hearts with thanksgiving.

*The table of the Lord is now ready.
All are welcome, come as you are.
(The Samoan Choir will be served first and will sing during communion)*

SERVE TOGETHER

Prayer After the Communion

**All: Gracious God, we give you our thanks
that you have fed us on the bread of life.
We celebrate Christ,
the healer of our woundedness,
the physician of our souls.
We have offered our brokenness
and your Spirit is making us whole.
We rejoice at the way your grace
is at work within us setting us free.
In Jesus' name we pray. Amen**

HYMN

'We are many, we are one'

- 1 . We are many, we are one,
and the work of Christ is done
when we learn to live in true community
as the stars that fill the night,
as a flock of birds in flight,
as the cluster of the grapes upon the vine;
as the branches of a tree,
as the waves upon the sea,
as the cluster of the grapes upon the vine.
2. All division is made whole
when we honour every soul,
find the life of God in every you and me
as the fingers of a hand,
as the grains that form the sand,
as the cluster of the grapes upon the vine;
as the threads upon the loom,
as a field of flowers in bloom,
as the cluster of the grapes upon the vine.
3. We will join creation's song,
make a world where all belong,
build as one in peace and loving harmony,
as the voices of a choir,
as the flames within a fire,
as the cluster of the grapes upon the vine;

as the snowflakes in the snow,
as the colours of a bow,
as the cluster of the grapes upon the vine.

*Words © Colin Gibson
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Dismissal and Blessing

Leader: Go forth then with renewed life.
Live out the JOY of the Resurrection.
Create the community of love where and when you can.
Deepen your sense of unity with all people.
For this is our calling.

All: We go to serve Christ with hearts full of thanks.

**All: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all. Amen**

Organ Postlude

At the conclusion of the service, you are welcome to remain seated while the postlude is played, or to leave the church quietly, whichever you prefer.

We invite you all to the New Hall for Refreshments ☺

Thank you for your contribution today



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