

## St Matthew's Anglican Church, Cheltenham



### Weekly Services



Sunday – 8am Holy Communion

Sunday – 10am Sung Eucharist

Wednesday – 10am Mass



The clergy and staff of St Matthew's  
wish you and your families  
a very happy, safe and holy Easter.



**Parish Office:** 161 Park Road, Cheltenham, 3192

**Phone:** 9583 2205

**Hours:** Wednesday to Friday: 9am to 4pm

**Parish Secretary:** Claire Johnston

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**Website:** [www.stmatthewscheltenham.org.au](http://www.stmatthewscheltenham.org.au)

## St Matthew's Anglican Church Cheltenham



Corner Nepean Highway and Park Road

Cheltenham, Victoria, 3192

[www.stmatthewscheltenham.org.au](http://www.stmatthewscheltenham.org.au)



## EASTER DAY



### Lighting of the New Fire & Eucharist

**Locum Vicar:** Fr Geoff Cheong

152 Years of Witness & Service in Cheltenham



## THE ORDER OF SERVICE FOR EASTER DAY

The service is in four parts:

**The Service of Light  
The lighting of the New Fire and the Paschal Candle**

**The Liturgy of the Word  
in which is recounted the saving acts of God**

**The Renewal of Baptismal Vows**

**The First Eucharist of Easter**

*The priest says*

Beloved in Christ, on this most holy morning, when the Lord Jesus Christ passed from death to life, the Church invites her members throughout the world to come together in vigil and prayer. This is the Passover of the Lord. We recall his death and resurrection, by hearing his word, celebrating his mysteries, and accepting his promise of life; and we are confident that we shall share his victory over death in his eternal kingdom.

### THE SERVICE OF LIGHT

*The congregation gathers around the fire*

*The New Fire is blessed*

Lord of all creation, we thank you for the gift of fire in which you revealed your Name to Moses, answered the prayer of Elijah, and came upon your church at Pentecost: Bless this new fire to be for us a sign of your Presence, that, set aflame with the fire of your love, we may come to the feast of everlasting light; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**



All you who stand near this marvellous and holy flame, pray with me to God the Almighty for the grace to sing the worthy praise of this great light; through Jesus Christ his son our Lord, who lives and reigns with him in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever. **Amen.**

*Taking the paschal candle, the priest traces a cross on it and marks the Greek letters Alpha and Omega and the four numbers of the current year, saying*

Christ yesterday and today, the Beginning and the End, Alpha and Omega: all time belongs to him and all the ages. To him be glory and power through every age and for ever. **Amen.**

*Five nails are placed in the extremities and centre of the cross*

By his holy and glorious wounds may Christ our Lord guard us and keep us. **Amen.**

*The priest lights the candle from the New Fire, saying*

May the light of Christ, rising in glory, dispel the darkness of our hearts and minds.

*The congregation enters the Church. When all are in their places, the lighted candle is carried through the church, the bearer pausing three times: at the door, in the middle of the nave, and finally within the sanctuary*

*At each pause is said*

The light of Christ!

*The people respond*

**Thanks be to God.**

*The candles of all are now lit*

*Proclamation or Exultet, a song of triumph and joy, in which the Church sets out the meaning of the Easter victory*

Rejoice heavenly powers!  
Sing choirs of angels!  
Exult all creation, around God's throne!  
Jesus Christ our King is risen!  
Sound the trumpet of salvation!  
Rejoice O earth in shining splendour,  
radiant in the brightness of your King!  
Christ has conquered!  
Glory fills you!  
Darkness vanishes for ever!

Rejoice, O Mother Church!  
Exult in glory!  
The risen Saviour shines upon you!  
Let this place resound with joy,  
Echoing the mighty song of all God's people!

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is truly right and good at all times and in all places, with our whole heart and mind and voice, to praise you, the invisible, almighty and eternal God, and your only begotten Son, Jesus Christ our Lord: for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who at the Feast of Passover paid for us the debt of sin, and by his blood delivered your faithful people.

This is the day when you brought our ancestors, the children of Israel, out of bondage in Egypt, and led them through the Red Sea on dry land.

This is the day when all who believe in Christ are delivered from the gloom of sin, and are restored to grace and holiness of life.

This is the day when Christ broke the bonds of death and hell, and rose victorious from the grave.

How wonderful and beyond our knowing, O God, is your mercy and loving-kindness to us, that to redeem a slave, you gave a Son. How holy is this day, when wickedness is put to flight, and sin is washed away. It restores innocence to the fallen, and joy to those who mourn.

It casts out pride and hatred, and brings peace and concord. How blessed is this day, when earth and heaven are joined, and we are reconciled to God!

Holy Father, in the joy of this day accept our celebration, and the offering of this candle in your honour. May it shine continually to drive away all darkness. May Christ, the Morning Star who knows no setting, find it ever burning – he who gives his light to all creation, and who lives and reigns for ever and ever. **Amen.**

*Please be seated*

## THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Dear friends in Christ, in this solemn vigil, let us listen to God's word, recalling how God saved his people throughout history, and in the fullness of time sent his own Son to be our redeemer.

*First Reading: Genesis 22 (selected)*

After these things God tested Abraham. He said to him, 'Abraham!' And he said, 'Here I am.' He said, 'Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt-offering on one of the mountains that I shall show you.'

Isaac said to his father Abraham, 'Father!' And he said, 'Here I am, my son.' He said, 'The fire and the wood are here, but where is the lamb for a burnt-offering?' Abraham said, 'God himself will provide the lamb for a burnt-offering, my son.' So the two of them walked on together.

When they came to the place that God had shown him, Abraham built an altar there and laid the wood in order. He bound his son Isaac, and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to kill his son. But the angel of the Lord called to him from heaven, and said, 'Abraham, Abraham!' And he said, 'Here I am.' He said, 'Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him; for now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me.' And Abraham looked up and saw a ram, caught in a thicket by its horns. Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt-offering instead of his son.

The angel of the Lord called to Abraham a second time from heaven, and said, 'By myself I have sworn, says the Lord: Because you have done this, and have not withheld your son, your only son, I will indeed bless you, and I will make your offspring as numerous as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. And your offspring shall possess the gate of their enemies, and by your offspring shall all the nations of the earth gain blessing for themselves, because you have obeyed my voice.'

*Psalm 16.8-11*

**R Keep me safe, O God; you are my hope. R**

8. I have set the Lord always before me:  
he is at my right hand, and I shall not fall.
9. Therefore my heart is glad and my spirit rejoices:  
my flesh also shall rest secure. **R**

10. For you will not give me over to the power of death:  
nor suffer your faithful one to see the Pit.
11. You will show me the path of life:  
in your presence is the fullness of joy, and from your right hand flow  
delights for evermore. **R Keep me safe, O God; you are my hope.**

*Silence*

God of our ancestors, whose chosen servant Abraham faithfully obeyed your call and rejoiced in your promise that, in him, all the families of the earth should be blessed, give us a faith like his, that, in us, your promises may be fulfilled; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*Second Reading: Exodus 14 (selected)*

When the king of Egypt was told that the people had fled, the minds of Pharaoh and his officials were changed towards the people, and they said, 'What have we done, letting Israel leave our service?' The Egyptians pursued them, all Pharaoh's horses and chariots, his chariot drivers and his army; they overtook them camped by the sea, by Pi-hahiroth, in front of Baal-zephon.

As Pharaoh drew near, the Israelites looked back, and there were the Egyptians advancing on them. In great fear the Israelites cried out to the Lord.

But Moses said to the people, 'Do not be afraid, stand firm, and see the deliverance that the Lord will accomplish for you today; for the Egyptians whom you see today you shall never see again.

The angel of God who was going before the Israelite army moved and went behind them; and the pillar of cloud moved from in front of them and took its place behind them. It came between the army of Egypt and the army of Israel. And so the cloud was there with the darkness, and it lit up the night; one did not come near the other all night.

Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The Lord drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night, and turned the sea into dry land; and the waters were divided. The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. The Egyptians pursued, and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and chariot drivers. At the morning watch the Lord in the pillar of fire and cloud looked down upon the Egyptian army, and threw the Egyptian army into panic. He clogged their chariot wheels so that they turned with difficulty. The Egyptians said, 'Let us flee from the Israelites, for the Lord is fighting for them against Egypt.'

Then the Lord said to Moses, 'Stretch out your hand over the sea, so that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and chariot drivers.' So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea returned to its normal depth. As the Egyptians fled before it, the Lord tossed the Egyptians into the sea. The waters returned and covered the chariots and the chariot drivers, the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea; not one of them remained. But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. Thus the Lord saved Israel that day from the Egyptians.

*The Song of Miriam*

**R Let us sing to the Lord; he has covered himself with glory. R**

1. Let us sing to the Lord, for he has won a glorious victory:  
the horse and its rider he has hurled into the sea.
2. The Lord is my strength and my song;  
he has become my salvation. **R**
3. He is my God, and I will praise him,  
my father's God and I will exalt him.
4. The Lord fights for his people:  
the Lord is his name. **R**
5. Your right hand, Lord, is glorious in power,  
Your right hand Lord shatters the enemy.
6. Who is like you Lord majestic in holiness:  
who is like you Lord awesome in glory working wonders? **R**
7. In your unfailing love  
you will lead the people you have redeemed.
8. And by your invincible strength  
you will guide them to your holy dwelling. **R**

*Silence*

Lord God our Redeemer, who heard the cry of your people and sent your servant Moses to lead them out of slavery: free us from the tyranny of sin and death; and, by the leading of your Spirit, bring us to our promised land; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*The candles held by the congregation are extinguished*

*After a pause, all stand, the building is fully illuminated, the organ sounds, and all join in the Gloria in Excelsis during the singing of which the priest proceeds to the Baptistry*

**Glory to God in the highest,  
and peace to God's people on earth.**

**Lord God, heavenly King,  
almighty God and Father,**

**we worship you, we give you thanks,  
we praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,**

**Lord God, Lamb of God,**

**you take away the sin of the world:**

**have mercy on us;**

**you are seated at the right hand of the Father:**

**receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the Holy One,**

**you alone are the Lord,**

**you alone are the Most High**

**Jesus Christ,**

**with the Holy Spirit,**

**in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

## THE RENEWAL OF BAPTISMAL VOWS

*The priest says to the congregation*

Dear friends, in baptism, through the mystery of Christ's death and resurrection, we have died and been buried with Christ, so that we may rise with him to new life. Now that we have completed the observance of Lent, let us renew the promises made in our baptism, when we rejected the devil and all his works, and promised to serve God faithfully as members of his holy catholic Church.

*Water is poured into the font and the priest says*

We thank you heavenly Father, for the gift of water. Your Holy Spirit moved over the waters in the beginning of creation. Through water you led the children of Israel out of slavery in Egypt into the land of promise. In water your Son Jesus received the baptism of John and was anointed by the Holy Spirit as the Messiah.

We thank you, heavenly Father, for the water of baptism, in which we are buried with Christ in his death that we may share in his resurrection, and through which we are renewed by the Holy Spirit. Therefore, in joyful obedience to your Son, we make disciples of all nations and baptise them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

**Springs of water, bless the Lord. Give glory and praise to our God, who lives and reigns for ever!**

Do you believe in God the Father, who made the world?

**I believe and trust in him.**

Do you believe and trust in his Son, Jesus Christ, who redeemed our human race?

**I believe and trust in him.**

Do you believe and trust in his Holy Spirit, who gives life to the people of God?

**I believe and trust in him.**

This is the faith of the Church.

**This is our faith. We believe and trust in one God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.**

Do you reaffirm your renunciation of evil and renew your commitment to Jesus Christ?

**I do.**

Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

**I will, with God's help.**

Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fail, repent and return to the Lord?

**I will, with God's help.**

Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

**I will, with God's help.**

Will you seek to serve Christ by loving your neighbour as yourself?

**I will, with God's help.**

Will you work and pray for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

**I will, with God's help.**

May Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given us new birth by water and the Holy Spirit, and bestowed upon us the † forgiveness of sins, keep us in eternal life by his grace, in Christ Jesus Our Lord. **Amen.**

*Hymn: 386 TIS (During which the priest returns to the Sanctuary)*

*Refrain:*

*By your kingly power, O risen Lord,  
All that Adam lost is now restored:  
In your resurrection be adored.*

1. Sing the joyful Easter cry,  
Sound it to the souls in prison,  
Shout our triumph to the sky:  
Sing Christ risen, sing Christ risen.

*Refrain*

2. Sing the joyful Easter cry,  
Let all times and peoples listen:  
Death has no more victory,  
Sing Christ risen, sing Christ risen.

*Refrain*

3. Death has lost and life has won;  
Every newborn soul we christen  
Has the Father's child become:  
Sing Christ risen, sing Christ risen.

*Refrain*

*The Collect: Let us pray that we may live Christ's risen life*

Eternal Giver of life and light,  
this holy day shines with the radiance of the risen Christ:  
renew your Church with the Spirit given to us in baptism,  
that we may worship you in sincerity and truth,  
and shine as a light in the world;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

*A Reading from Paul's Letter to the Romans*

Do you not know that all of us who have been baptised into Christ Jesus were baptised into his death? Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life.

For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, and we might no longer be enslaved to sin. For whoever has died is freed from sin. But if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. The death he died, he died to sin, once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

Romans 6.3-11

Hear the Word of the Lord,

**Thanks be to God.**

*The Easter Anthem*

Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us,  
**so let us celebrate the feast,**  
not with the old leaven of corruption and wickedness  
**but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.**  
**Alleluia, Alleluia.**

Christ once raised from the dead dies no more:  
**death has no more dominion over him.**

In dying he died to sin once for all:  
**in living he lives to God.**

**Alleluia, Alleluia.**

See yourselves therefore as dead to sin,  
**and alive to God in Jesus Christ our Lord.**

Christ has been raised from the dead,  
**the first fruits of those who sleep.**

**Alleluia, Alleluia.**

For as by one man came death,  
**by another has come also resurrection of the dead;**  
for as in Adam all die:  
**even so in Christ shall all be made alive.**

**Alleluia, Alleluia.**

Words: James Phillip McAuley 1917-76 alt.  
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Together In Song

### *The Gospel*

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia! The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Saint John, chapter twenty, beginning at the first verse.

**Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!**

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, 'They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him.' Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went towards the tomb. The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, and the cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. Then the disciples returned to their homes. But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. They said to her, 'Woman, why are you weeping?' She said to them, 'They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him.' When she had said this, she turned round and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, 'Woman, why are you weeping? For whom are you looking?' Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, 'Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away.' Jesus said to her, 'Mary!' She turned and said to him in Hebrew, 'Rabbouni!' (which means Teacher). Jesus said to her, 'Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, "I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God." ' Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, 'I have seen the Lord'; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

For the Gospel of the Lord,

**Alleluia, Alleluia!**

*The party returns to the Sanctuary for the Greeting of Peace*

## THE GREETING OF PEACE

Christ is risen! Alleluia, Alleluia!

**He is risen indeed, Alleluia, Alleluia!**

The peace of the Lord, crucified and risen, be always with you.

**And also with you.**

*The peace is shared*

*The congregation is invited to greet each other with the words:*

**"Christ is risen!" the response to which is, "He is risen indeed!"**

*Offertory Hymn: 112 NEH*

1. Jesus lives! thy terrors now  
Can, O Death, no more appal us;  
Jesus lives! by this we know  
Thou, O grave, canst not enthral us.  
Alleluia!
2. Jesus lives! henceforth is death  
But the gate of life immortal;  
This shall calm our trembling breath,  
When we pass its gloomy portal.  
Alleluia!
3. Jesus lives! for us he died;  
Then, alone to Jesus living,  
Pure in heart may we abide,  
Glory to our Saviour giving.  
Alleluia!
4. Jesus lives! our hearts know well  
Nought from us his love shall sever:  
Life, nor death, nor powers of hell  
Tear us from his keeping never.  
Alleluia!
5. Jesus lives! to him the throne  
Over all the world is given;  
May we go where he is gone,  
Rest and reign with him in heaven.  
Alleluia!

*The gifts of the people having been brought to the Altar*

Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation.  
Through your goodness we have these gifts to share.  
Accept and use our offerings for your glory  
and for the service of your kingdom.

**Blessed be God for ever.**

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

All glory and honour, be yours now and always,  
mighty Creator, everliving God.

We give you thanks and praise for your Son,  
our Saviour Jesus Christ,  
who by the power of your Spirit was born of Mary  
and lived as one of us.

By his death on the cross,  
he offered the one true sacrifice for sin,  
and obtained an eternal deliverance for his people.

And now we give you thanks  
that you raised him to life triumphant,  
and exalted him in glory.

By his victory over death,  
the reign of sin is ended,  
a new day has dawned,  
a broken world is restored  
and we are made whole once more.

Therefore with angels and archangels,  
and with all the company of heaven,  
we proclaim your great and glorious name,  
for ever praising you and singing:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of power and might,  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

Merciful God, we thank you  
for these gifts of your creation,  
this bread and wine,  
and we pray that by your Word and Holy Spirit,  
we who eat and drink them  
may be partakers of Christ's body and blood.

On the night he was betrayed Jesus took bread;  
and when he had given you thanks  
he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying,  
'Take, eat. This is my body given for you.  
Do this in remembrance of me.'

After supper, he took the cup,  
and again giving you thanks  
he gave it to his disciples, saying,  
'Drink from this, all of you.  
This is my blood of the new covenant  
shed for you and for many  
for the forgiveness of sins.  
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.'

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

Therefore we do as our Saviour has commanded:  
proclaiming his offering of himself  
made once for all upon the cross,  
his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension,  
and looking for his coming again,  
we celebrate, with this bread and this cup,  
his one perfect and sufficient sacrifice  
for the sins of the whole world.

Renew us by your Holy Spirit  
unite us in the body of your Son,  
and bring us with all your people  
into the joy of your eternal kingdom;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
with whom, and in whom,



in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,  
we worship you, Father,  
in songs of never-ending praise:

**Blessing and honour and glory and power  
are yours for ever and ever. Amen.**

As our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are confident to pray:

**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.**

## THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD AND THE COMMUNION

Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;  
Therefore let us keep the feast.

**Alleluia!**

The disciples knew the Lord Jesus in the breaking of the bread.

**Be known to us Lord Jesus in the breaking of the bread.**

The bread which we break, alleluia, is the communion of the body of Christ.

**Be known to us Lord Jesus in the breaking of the bread.**

We are one body, alleluia, for though we are many we share one bread.

**Be known to us Lord Jesus in the breaking of the bread.**

### *The invitation to receive Holy Communion*

Come let us take this holy sacrament of the body and blood of Christ in remembrance that he died for us, and feed on him in our hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

*The Sacrament is given with the following words, after which the communicant responds*

The body of Christ keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

The blood of Christ keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

### *After Communion*

Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us; therefore let us keep the feast.

The Lord is risen, Alleluia!

**He is risen indeed, Alleluia!**

Lord God, you have brightened this day with the radiance of the risen Christ. Quicken our spirits and renew us in mind and body to give you whole-hearted service. May we who share Christ's body live his risen life; we who drink his cup bring life to others; we whom the Spirit lights give light to the world.

**Keep us in this hope that we have grasped; so we and all your children shall be free, and the whole earth live to praise your name.**

Most loving God,

**You send us into the world you love. Give us grace to go thankfully and with courage in the power of your Spirit.**

### *Notices and invitations*

#### *Dismissal Hymn: 115 NEH*

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:

#### *Refrain:*

*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*

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:*  
*Love is come again,*  
*Like wheat that springeth green.*

*The Blessing*

The blessing of the Living God,  
 who brings us light out of darkness,  
 be upon you now and for ever. **Amen.**

The blessing of the risen Christ,  
 who sends you as apostles into all the world  
 be upon you now and for ever. **Amen.**

The blessing of the Holy Spirit,  
 who fills the church with joy and praise,  
 be upon you now and for ever. **Amen.**

The blessing of our God,  
 the holy and glorious Trinity,  
 be upon you and remain with you now, and for ever. **Amen.**

*Dismissal*

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia, Alleluia!  
**In the name of Christ. Alleluia, Alleluia!**



Words: J.M.C. Crum 1872-1958  
 The New English Hymnal

From a Prayer Book for Australia.  
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## The Case of the Empty Tomb

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.  
 John 20:1 (NIV)



Based on John 20:1-18 (NIV)

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G A R D B B B E L I E V E D X  
 A I A E O R B U R I A L M G H  
 U E T W M D N L I N E N A Y K  
 H R Q T K O S T R I P S R Y J  
 B G A R F K V L R H I Q Y R E  
 O N A N K L C E C L O T H Y N  
 F D I L G D O R D X D A Y Q W  
 I G I A B E G R Y P V Z V P W  
 R D F M M A L N D I K R I L S  
 S F O Y E D G S N Y N H W V X  
 T T O Y N K Y Y K D K G N S Z  
 M Y K L S I M V O E O N R T V  
 M G I Y D X V I E B G W I O F  
 P K P Z V E M W F L O E S N W  
 Y B R J J E D R V E Q V E E V

CRYING	STRIPS	HEAD	DEAD	STONE
WEEK	ANGELS	FIRST	BURIAL	LORD
RISE	REMOVED	TOMB	FOLDED	MARY
BELIEVED	LINEN	DAY	DARK	CLOTH