



**EASTER 2C**

**24 APRIL 2022**

**TRANSFORMED INDIVIDUALS-  
TRANSFORMED COMMUNITIES**

**Love is come again, like wheat  
that springs up green**

**WELCOME & ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

Fear was present but subsided -  
Doubt was present but subsided -  
So fearless and sure of Christ's risen presence,  
we draw near to God in worship:

**For Christ is Risen!**

*(Christ candle is lit)*

We light our candle as a celebration  
of the light of the risen Christ among us,  
and as a reminder of the call for us to be a community  
in which, and through which,  
the light of God's grace and justice shines.

**For Christ is among us!**

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 grave clothes  
Where Thy body lay

*Thine be the glory  
Risen conquering Son  
Endless is the victory  
Thou o'er death hast won*

Lo! Jesus meets us  
Risen from the tomb  
Lovingly, He greets us  
Scatters fear and gloom  
Let the church with gladness  
Hymns of triumph sing  
For her Lord now liveth  
Death hath lost its sting

No more we doubt Thee  
Glorious Prince of life  
Life is naught 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

**PRAYER**

## **ENCOUNTERING THE LIVING WORD**

Acts 4:32-35

<sup>32</sup> Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. <sup>33</sup> With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. <sup>34</sup> There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. <sup>35</sup> They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

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!

Christ has risen for the people  
whom he tried to love and 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  
Can't be silenced by the tomb.

Christ has risen and forever  
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.

Words by John L. Bell & Graham Maule © 1988 WGRG,  
c/o Iona Community, Glasgow,

John 20:19-31

<sup>19</sup> When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." <sup>20</sup> After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. <sup>21</sup> Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." <sup>22</sup> When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. <sup>23</sup> If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

<sup>24</sup> But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. <sup>25</sup> So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

<sup>26</sup> A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." <sup>27</sup> Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." <sup>28</sup> Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" <sup>29</sup> Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

<sup>30</sup> Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. <sup>31</sup> But these are written so that you may come to believe<sup>[b]</sup> that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

May the truths of this story come alive in our hearts  
**And lead us to new life**

## REFLECTION

### ***RESPONDING WITH OUR LIVES***

#### **ROLL THAT STONE AWAY**

Lord, I want to roll that stone away  
Let our dead lives be dead, as we  
greet the new day  
Lord, I want to roll that stone away  
The sun is gonna shine down today

Lord, I want to roll that stone away  
Let peace, love and joy, enter my  
days  
Lord, I want to roll that stone away  
The sun is gonna shine down today

The sun is gonna shine, shine, shine  
The sun is gonna shine, shine, shine  
The sun is gonna shine, shine, shine  
Shine down today

Lord, I want to roll that stone away  
We rise in the Light, and we walk in  
the Way  
Lord, I want to roll that stone away  
The sun is gonna shine down today

Yesterday my life was so sad, and I felt  
like I was dying  
But with the sunshine and the dawning  
I walked through that door  
The sweet breeze of the morning, love  
shines through my heart  
Suddenly, renewed and free to start

Lord, I want to roll that stone away  
Let our dead lives be dead, as we greet  
the new day  
Lord, I want to roll that stone away  
The sun is gonna shine down today

The sun is gonna shine, shine, shine  
The sun is gonna shine, shine, shine  
The sun is gonna shine, shine, shine  
Shine down today  
Shine down today  
Shine down today  
Shine down today

*John Coleman and friends*

## Prayers of the People

When fear, uncertainty and doubt prevail

**Response: Grant your peace and hope**

*(Those who wish are invited to light a candle as a symbol of their prayer)*

### ***The Disciples' Prayer***

***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 forever.  
Amen.***

**We shall go out with hope of resurrection;  
we shall go out, from strength to strength go on;  
we shall go out and tell our stories boldly;  
tales of a love that will not let us go.  
We'll sing our songs of wrongs that can be righted;  
we'll dream our dream of hurts that can be healed;  
we'll weave a cloth of all the world united  
within the vision of new life in Christ.**

**We'll give a voice to those who have not spoken;  
we'll find the words for those whose lips are sealed;  
we'll make the tunes for those who sing no longer,  
expressing love alive in every heart.  
We'll share our joy with those who are still weeping,  
raise hymns of strength for hearts that break in grief,  
we'll leap and dance the resurrection story  
including all in circles of our love.**

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### **Sending out:**

Jesus said to them again,

'Peace be with you.

As the father has sent me, so I send you.'

When he had said this, he breathed on them

and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit.'

**We go out now, in the power of that same Spirit.**

### **THE BLESSING**