

**Smethwick Old Church**



*A Service of the Word*

for the Easter season

## The Greeting

Alleluia. Christ is risen.  
He is risen indeed. Alleluia.

Praise the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.  
He has given us new life and hope.  
He has raised Jesus from the dead.  
Alleluia. Christ is risen.  
He is risen indeed. Alleluia.

## Opening Prayer

Faithful one, whose word is life:  
come with saving power  
to free our praise,  
inspire our prayer  
and shape our lives  
for the kingdom of your Son,  
Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

## Prayers of Confession

Risen Christ,  
we come to you in sorrow for the ways in which we  
have separated ourselves from your love.

1.

When our faith  
stands at the grave,  
grieving  
for a stone that's rolled away,  
forgive us.

When our faith  
is short of  
understanding  
though the truth is there to see,  
forgive us.

When our faith,  
beset by doubt, sees  
no further  
than an empty tomb today,  
forgive us.

Bring to mind  
the cry of Mary,  
'I have seen the Lord!'  
and grant us faith to believe!

*(written by John Birch, and posted on Faith and Worship )*

Pause...

We celebrate Easter  
as forgiven people,  
Let us walk together  
in love, hope and in faith. Amen

2.

## Gloria in Excelsis

Glory to God in the highest,  
and peace to his 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 Collect** (see list of readings for the day)

## The Word of God in Scripture

**First Reading** (see list of readings for the day)

**Psalm** (see list of readings for the day)

3.

**Gospel Reading** (see list of readings for the day)

Five minutes silent reflection on the readings ...

## Prayers

- For the world
- The church
- Those who are suffering
- Those who face death and those who are grieving

*This response may be used between biddings*  
Risen Christ  
Hear our prayer.

*Ending with*

Keep us  
under in the circle of your love  
in this time of uncertainty and distress.  
Sustain and support those who are fearful,  
and lift up all who are brought low.  
May we know the comfort of your presence  
knowing that nothing can separate us from your love  
in Christ Jesus. Amen.

4.

## The Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour taught us, so we 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.  
Lead us not into temptation  
but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours  
now and for ever. Amen.

## Easter Praise

Alleluia. Christ is risen.  
He is risen indeed. Alleluia.  
Praise the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.  
He has given us new life and hope.  
He has raised Jesus from the dead.  
God has claimed us as his own.  
He has brought us out of darkness.  
He has made us light to the world.  
Alleluia. Christ is risen.  
He is risen indeed. Alleluia.

5.

## The Peace

The risen Christ came and stood among his disciples  
and said, 'Peace be with you.'  
Then were they glad when they saw the Lord.  
Alleluia.

Let us Greet those who are close, and those who are at a  
distance from us, with the words

The peace of the Lord be always with you

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6.

