

# Season of Easter

27th April 2025

Led by Laurence Wareing and Kate Owens

## Welcome & Gathering

### Call to worship

One: As Winter sleeps and Spring awakens,

ALL: God weaves new life from death.

One: As a seed dies and a shoot is born,

ALL: God weaves new life from death.

One: As Jesus dies and Christ becomes,

ALL: God weaves new life from death.

One: Holy Source who weaves new life,

ALL: We give you thanks and praise!



Where God grows

By

Jan Richardson

### Hymn: Christ is alive CH4 422

Christ is alive, and the universe must celebrate  
and the stars and the suns shout on this joyful Day!

Christ is alive, and his family must celebrate  
in a great alleluia,

a great alleluia

to praise the power that made the stone roll away.

Here is our hope: in the mystery of suffering  
is the heartbeat of Love, Love that will not let go;  
here is our hope, that in God we are not separate,  
and we sing alleluia,  
we sing alleluia  
to praise the power that made the stone roll away.

Christ Spirit, dance through the dullness of humanity  
to the music of God, God who has set us free!  
You are the pulse of the new creation's energy;  
with a great alleluia,  
a great alleluia  
we praise the power that made the stone roll away.

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## Opening Prayer with movement

ALL: The Source of life, holds us (*hands clasped*)  
The Guide of living, leads (*hands making a cross*)  
The Spirit of re-birth, transforms us (*hands in butterfly*)  
Holy Three-in-One, we worship you.

We unite our prayers together in the Jesus Prayer or Lord's Prayer, using the form or words which are most worshipful for us...

Source of Life,  
Father and Mother of us all:  
Creation honours you!  
May your Realm of Justice & Joy  
Sustain our hope and come on earth.

With the bread we need for today, feed us.  
In the hurts we absorb from one another,  
forgive us.  
In times of temptation and test, strengthen us.  
From trials too great to endure, spare us.  
From the grip of all that is evil, free us.  
For you reign in the glory of the power that is love, now and forever. Amen

## **Time for all ages**

**Hymn: How often we like Thomas CH4 432** (Tune: Thornbury WOV 389)

How often we, like Thomas,  
need proof before we trust.  
Lord Jesus, friend of doubters,  
come, speak your truth to us.  
We long to feel your presence,  
and gain new faith from you,  
to find, without our seeing,  
the blessing Thomas knew.

You always stand among us,  
no doors can lock you out.  
Your presence reassures us  
though we still live with doubt.  
As present-day disciples,  
whose lives by sin are flawed,  
we want to come believing,  
and cry: "My Lord, my God!"

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**Readings read by Leslie Cunningham**

## **John 20:19-31**

19 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." 20 After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. 21 Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." 22 When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. 23 If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." 24 But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. 25 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."

26 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." 27 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." 28 Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" 29 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." 30 Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. 31 But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

## **Reflection by Kate Owens**

## **Meditation by Mike Holroyd**

## **Prayers of the People by Laurence Wareing**

## **Offering & Dedication**

Praise God from whom all blessing flow  
Praise God all creature here below  
Praise God above, You heavenly host  
Praise Maker Christ and Holy Ghost

*Music: Louis Bourgeois, c. 1510-1561.  
Words: Thomas Ken, 1637-1711*

## **Notices**

## **Hymn: Christ is risen while earth slumbers CH4 430**

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 loved and died to 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  
is not silenced by the tomb.

Christ has risen to companions  
former friends who fear the night,  
sensing loss and limitation  
where their faith had once burned bright.  
They bemoan what is no longer,  
they expect no hopeful sign  
till Christ ends their conversation,  
breaking bread and sharing wine.

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.

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**Blessing & Sung Amen**

**What's on @ AUC this week?**

Event	Date	Time	Location	Notes
Sunday Worship	Sun 27 <sup>th</sup> April	11am	AUC & Online	Laurence is leading and Kate is preaching
Post Service Zoom Social	Sun 27 <sup>th</sup> April	12 noon	Online	
Our Tribe Coffee Social	Sun 27 <sup>th</sup> April	1.30pm	Coffee Saints, 2A Little King Street, EH1 3AR	All welcome!
Contextual Bible Study	Weds 30 <sup>th</sup> April	7.30pm	Online	<i>Revelation 1: 1-20</i> . Email <a href="mailto:minister@augustine.org.uk">minister@augustine.org.uk</a> for the Zoom link
Contextual Bible Study	Thurs 1 <sup>st</sup> May	12 noon	Online	<i>Revelation 1: 1-20</i> . Email <a href="mailto:minister@augustine.org.uk">minister@augustine.org.uk</a> for the Zoom link
Our Tribe Online	Thurs 1 <sup>st</sup> May	7.30pm	Online	All welcome!
Sunday Worship	Sun 4 <sup>th</sup> May	11am	AUC & Online	Fiona is leading and Carol is preaching
Post Service Zoom Social	Sun 4 <sup>th</sup> May	12 noon	Online	
NDAS: a neurodivergent affirming space at Augustine United Church	Sun 4 <sup>th</sup> May	12.30-2.30pm	AUC & Online	A space to be ourselves. A space to meet other neurodivergent people. A space where you can be heard and feel supported. For more information or to let us know your dietary requirements, please contact Matt at <a href="mailto:matt.baines@augustine.org.uk">matt.baines@augustine.org.uk</a> .
Rota Volunteers Catch Up	Sun 4 <sup>th</sup> May	12.45 – 2.30pm	AUC	An opportunity to meet with other volunteers, fine tune areas of our ministry and get to know one another. We will also be looking at how to develop short role descriptions of each of our tasks to support our ongoing learning. <b>Sandwich lunch included!</b>

**Zoom ID for worship: 84317815003**

**Zoom ID for all social events: 3140057633**

**Password: 1861AUC**

**Zoom Telephone number: 0131 4601196**