

# Season of Easter

## Easter Sunday

5th April 2026

Led by Laurence Wareing & Helen Mee

### 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!

#### Hymn: Christ is alive CH4 416

Christ is alive! Let Christians sing.

The cross stands empty to the sky.

Let streets and homes with praises ring.

Love, drowned in death, shall never die.

Christ is alive! No longer bound  
to distant years in Palestine,  
but saving, healing, here and now,  
and touching ev'ry place and time.

In ev'ry insult, rift, and war,  
where color, scorn, or wealth divide,  
Christ suffers still, yet loves the more,  
and lives, where even hope has died.

Christ is alive, and comes to bring  
good news to this and ev'ry age,  
till earth and sky and ocean ring  
with joy, with justice, love, and praise.

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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 for ever. Amen

## **Time for all ages**

### **Hymn: Now the green blade rises CH4 417**

1 Now the green blade rises, from the buried grain,  
Wheat that in dark earth many days has lain;  
Love lives again, that with the dead has been:  
Love is come again like wheat that springeth green.

2 In the grave they laid Him, Love who had been slain,  
Thinking that He never would awake again,  
Laid in the earth like grain that sleeps unseen:  
Love is come again like wheat that springeth green.

3 Forth He came at Easter, like the risen grain,  
Jesus who for three days in the grave had lain;  
Quick from the dead the risen One is seen:  
Love is come again like wheat that springeth green.

4 When our hearts are wintry, grieving, or in pain,  
Jesus' touch can call us back to life again,  
Fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been:  
Love is come again like wheat that springeth green.

## **Readings read by Andrew Reynolds**

### **Acts 10:34-43**

34Then Peter began to speak to them: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, 35but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. 36You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. 37That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: 38how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. 39We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; 40but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, 41not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. 42He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. 43All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

### **Matthew 28:1-10**

28After the sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. 2And suddenly there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. 3His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. 4For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. 5But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. 6He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. 7Then go quickly and tell his disciples, 'He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him.' This is my message for you." 8So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. 9Suddenly Jesus met them and said, "Greetings!" And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshiped him. 10Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me."

### **Reflection by Rev Helen Mee**

### **Meditation by Phil Thornton**

### **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

## **Communion**

### **Hymn: Come to the table of grace**

Come to the table of grace  
Come to the table of grace  
This God's table it's not yours or mine  
Come to table of grace.

One: We unite in prayer with followers of Jesus since the earliest times as we say:

God be with you

ALL: And with your spirit

One: Lift up your hearts

ALL: We lift them to God

One: Let us give thanks to God

ALL: It is right to give our thanks and praise

One: Holy Loving God,

For the universe you have crafted in all its variety and mystery

ALL: We praise and thank you

One: For the gift of Christ Jesus; vulnerable healer & guide

ALL: We praise and thank you

One: For your Salvation; love crucified and resurrected.

ALL: We praise and thank you

One: With people everywhere, past present and yet to come

ALL: We praise and thank you.

One: We offer you our thanks as we sing together...

### **Hymn: God bless to us our bread CH4 763**

God bless to us our bread,  
And give bread to all those who are hungry  
and hunger for justice to all who are fed.  
God bless to us our bread.

### **Song: This is the body of Christ CH4 799**

Broken that we might be whole.

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This cup as promised by God,  
True to God's Word,  
Cradles our Lord  
Food the good of us all.

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### *Closing Response*

One: Together we are nourished by Jesus' life.

ALL: We go to share his life and love.

## **Notices**

### **Hymn: Let us talents and tongues CH4 673**

Let us talents and tongues employ,  
reaching out with a shout of joy:  
bread is broken, the wine is poured,  
Christ is spoken and seen and heard.  
Jesus lives again; earth can breathe again.  
Pass the Word around: loaves abound!

Christ is able to make us one,  
at his table he set the tone,  
teaching people to live to bless,  
love in word and in deed express.  
Jesus lives again; earth can breathe again.  
Pass the Word around: loaves abound!

Jesus calls us in, sends us out  
bearing fruit in a world of doubt,  
gives us love to tell, bread to share:  
God (Immanuel) everywhere!  
Jesus lives again; earth can breathe again.  
Pass the Word around: loaves abound!

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## **Blessing & Sung Amen**

## What's on @ AUC this week?

Event	Date	Time	Location	Notes
Pre-service egg rolls & hunt	Sun 5 <sup>th</sup> Apr	10:30 - 11am	AUC	
Sunday Worship	Sun 5 <sup>th</sup> Apr	11am	AUC & Online	Laurence is leading and Helen M. Mee is preaching
Post Service Zoom Social	Sun 5 <sup>th</sup> Apr	12 noon	Online	
Contextual Bible Study is on break until 15th April				
Sunday Worship	Sun 12 <sup>th</sup> Apr	11am	AUC & Online	Carol is leading and Deanna is preaching
Post Service Zoom Social	Sun 12 <sup>th</sup> Apr	12 noon	Online	

**Zoom ID for worship: 84317815003**

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

**Password: 1861AUC**

**Zoom Telephone number: 0131 4601196**