
ST THEODORE'S, TOORAK GARDENS

EASTER DAY
20 APRIL 2025



WELCOME

St Theodore's is an active, caring and supportive community which values liturgy, prayer and preaching to sustain our daily lives, as we seek to foster love, hope and justice to all. You are welcome here as you are, embraced within God's boundless love. It is good to have you here today and we hope that you will feel at home.

PRAYING WITH CANDLES AND STONES

As you enter our church, there are two stations for prayer. One is an invitation to light a candle, symbolising our praying for each other before God. The other is an invitation to drop stones into a bowl of water, symbolising letting go of something (or someone) weighing us down.

ADMINISTRATION OF COMMUNION

All are welcome to receive Holy Communion and/or receive anointing for healing at the back. Due to Covid precautions, intinction (dipping) into the wine is prohibited.

If you do not wish to drink the wine, we invite you to pause briefly before the chalice to acknowledge the sacramental presence.

LIVE-STREAMING

Our 9:30am Sunday Service is live-streamed on Facebook Live. During administration of communion, the camera is adjusted so that no one coming forward is visible online, but this cannot be guaranteed.

HEARING ASSISTANCE SYSTEM

We have a Hearing Assistance System available on Wi-Fi, usable with or without hearing aids. Please ask the stewards for assistance.

Please email office@theodores.org to join our mailing list.

LIGHTING OF THE PASCHAL CANDLE

The congregation is invited to gather around the candle at the back of the church.

Dear friends in Christ,
we come together this Easter Day,
in union with the church throughout the world
to celebrate the Passover of our Lord Jesus Christ
from death to life.
We remember his death and celebrate resurrection,
confident that we shall share his victory
and live with him forever in God.

The deacon holds the candle as the priest marks it and prays:

Jesus Christ yesterday and today,
the beginning and the end,
Alpha
and Omega.
All time belongs to Christ
and all the ages.
To Christ be glory and power
through every age for ever. **Amen.**

The priest inserts the five nails, one after each line:

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

The priest lights the candle and prays:

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

THE PROCESSION

*The sanctuary party processes to the front and the congregation to their seats.
Everyone faces the deacon holding the Paschal Candle.*

*The deacon processes with the Paschal Candle, stopping three times. Each time,
the deacon sings and we respond:*

The light of Christ.
Thanks be to God.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN: CP 149 "LIGHT'S GLITTERING MORN"

- 1 Light's glittering morn bedecks the sky;
heaven thunders forth its victor-cry:
Alleluia.
The glad earth shouts her triumph high,
and groaning hell makes wild reply:
Alleluia.
- 2 While he, the King, the mighty King,
despoiling death of all its sting,
and trampling down the powers of night,
brings forth his ransomed saints to light:
- 3 His tomb of late the threefold guard
of watch and stone and seal had barred;
but now, in pomp and triumph high,
he comes from death to victory:

4 The pains of hell are loosed at last,
the days of mourning now are past;
an angel robed in light hath said,
‘The Lord is risen from the dead’:

Tune: Lasst Uns Erfreuen
Music: Geistliche Kirchengesang (1623)
Words: Latin, 4th Century *tr* J M Neale
(1818-1866)
© Common Praise 2001

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

As we gather in worship, we acknowledge the Kurna People as the traditional owners and custodians of this land.

May we walk together in harmony in a spirit of reconciliation.

INVOCATION AND GREETING

Christ is risen, Alleluia!

He is risen indeed, Alleluia!

The stone has been rolled away, Alleluia!

From the mouth of the tomb, Alleluia!

He is not among the dead anymore, Alleluia!

The Living One is risen again, Alleluia!

† Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Blessed be God’s kingdom, now and forever.

WELCOME

OPENING SENTENCE

The Lord is risen indeed, alleluia! (1 Corinthians 5.7-8)

GLORIA

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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

God of glory,
fill your Church with the power
that flows from Christ's resurrection,
that, in the midst of this sinful world,
it may signal the beginning of a renewed humanity,
raised to new life with Christ;
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Please be seated

FIRST READING: ISAIAH 65.17-25

¹⁷ For I am about to create new heavens
and a new earth;

the former things shall not be remembered
or come to mind.

¹⁸ But be glad and rejoice for ever
in what I am creating;

for I am about to create Jerusalem as a joy,
and its people as a delight.

¹⁹ I will rejoice in Jerusalem,
and delight in my people;

no more shall the sound of weeping be heard in it,
or the cry of distress.

²⁰ No more shall there be in it

an infant that lives but a few days,

or an old person who does not live out a lifetime;

for one who dies at a hundred years will be considered a youth,

and one who falls short of a hundred will be considered accursed.

²¹ They shall build houses and inhabit them;

they shall plant vineyards and eat their fruit.

²² They shall not build and another inhabit;

they shall not plant and another eat;

for like the days of a tree shall the days of my people be,

and my chosen shall long enjoy the work of their hands.

²³ They shall not labour in vain,

or bear children for calamity;

for they shall be offspring blessed by the Lord —

and their descendants as well.

²⁴ Before they call I will answer,

while they are yet speaking I will hear.

²⁵ The wolf and the lamb shall feed together,

the lion shall eat straw like the ox;

but the serpent — its food shall be dust!

They shall not hurt or destroy
on all my holy mountain,
says the Lord.

For the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM: HYMN TO THE RISEN CHRIST

Response: This is the day the Lord has made, rejoice and be glad.

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. **R**
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. **R**
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. **R**
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. **R**

SECOND READING: 1 CORINTHIANS 15.19-26

¹⁹ If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.

²⁰ But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died. ²¹ For since death came through a human being, the resurrection of the dead has also come through a human being; ²² for as all die in Adam, so all will be made alive in Christ. ²³ But each in his own order: Christ the first fruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. ²⁴ Then comes the end, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father, after he has destroyed every ruler and every authority and power. ²⁵ For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. ²⁶ The last enemy to be destroyed is death.

For the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand if you wish

GRADUAL HYMN: CP 147 "JESUS CHRIST IS RISEN TODAY"

- 1 Jesus Christ is risen to-day, *Alleluia*,
our triumphant holy day, *Alleluia*,
who did once upon the cross, *Alleluia*,
suffer to redeem our loss. *Alleluia*.
- 2 Hymns of praise then let us sing, *Alleluia*,
unto Christ, our heavenly King, *Alleluia*,
who endured the cross and grave, *Alleluia*,
sinners to redeem and save. *Alleluia*.
- 3 But the pains that he endured, *Alleluia*,
our salvation have procured; *Alleluia*,
now above the sky he's King, *Alleluia*,
where the angels ever sing, *Alleluia*.

Tune: Easter Hymn
Music: Lyra Davidica (1708)
Words: Lyra Davidica (1708)
© Common Praise 2001

THE GOSPEL

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

**Christ our paschal lamb has been / sacrificed;
Let us feast with joy / in the Lord.**

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

The Lord be with you
And also with you.

The Holy Gospel according to Luke 24.1-12
‡ Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

¹ But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, they came to the tomb, taking the spices that they had prepared. ² They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, ³ but when they went in, they did not find the body. ⁴ While they were perplexed about this, suddenly two men in dazzling clothes stood beside them. ⁵ The women were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, 'Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen. ⁶ Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, ⁷ that the Son of Man must be handed over to sinners, and be crucified, and on the third day rise again.' ⁸ Then they remembered his words, ⁹ and returning from the tomb, they told all this to the eleven and to all the rest. ¹⁰ Now it was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the other women with them who told this to the apostles. ¹¹ But these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them. ¹² But Peter got up and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; then he went home, amazed at what had happened.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

SERMON

The sermon is followed by a time of silence for reflection.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Christ is Risen, and the power of His resurrection fills the world today with new life, hope and expectation and so we bring him all our needs.

Faithful God, we think of your church today celebrating the Resurrection all over the world. Language race and nationalities may be different but our worship and our joy on the Day of the Resurrection make us one in the Gospel. We pray that The Holy Spirit may guide and strengthen us in mission and service praying that day by day we may grow in love for you and for all people.

Christ is Risen.

He is risen indeed, Alleluia.

Creator God, we pray for the leaders of the nations of the world that they may give priority to those with greatest need in the distribution of the world's basic resources. We especially pray on this special day for peace in the world and for countries where there is war and conflict. We pray especially for the peoples of Ukraine and Russia, Gaza and Israel.

Christ is Risen.

He is risen indeed, Alleluia.

Loving God at this joyful Eastertide we pray for our families and friends as they enjoy the Easter Feast, and for all people enjoying the Easter Holidays. We thank you too for the joy of sending and receiving Easter cards and messages of love. Please be with our loved ones when we are separated by great distances.

Christ is Risen.

He is risen indeed, Alleluia.

Creator God we pray for those who are in need and ask you to look with compassion on those who suffer. We especially pray for all those within our parishes and churches who have asked for our prayers. We especially pray for the broken-hearted, for the sick, for the lonely that your very presence would comfort them in their time of need.

Christ is Risen.

He is risen indeed, Alleluia.

Merciful God, we pray that those who have recently died may one day share in the promise of new life won for us all by the resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ and his triumph over death and the grave.

Christ is Risen.

He is risen indeed, Alleluia.

The prayers are followed by a time of silence for reflection.

Compassionate God, you have promised to hear our prayers.

Grant that what we have asked in faith

we may by your grace receive,

through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Please stand if you wish

RENEWAL OF BAPTISMAL VOWS

The sanctuary party moves to the baptismal font.

Water is poured into the font filling it.

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

We give you thanks that at the beginning of creation
your Holy Spirit moved upon the waters
to bring forth light and life.
With water you cleanse and replenish the earth;
you nourish and sustain all living things.
Thanks be to God.

We give your thanks for your Son Jesus Christ:
for his baptism by John,
for his anointing with the Holy Spirit.
Thanks be to God.

We give you thanks that through the deep waters of death,
Jesus delivered us from our sins
and was raised to new life in triumph.
Thanks be to God.

We give you thanks for the grace of the Holy Spirit
who forms us in the likeness of Christ
and leads us to proclaim your kingdom.
Thanks be to God.

And now we give you thanks
that we are made one with Christ
in his death and resurrection.
Pour out your Holy spirit in blessing,
that this water may be a sign of our new birth in Baptism.

May we continue for ever in Jesus Christ our Lord,
in the unity of the Spirit, now and for ever.

Amen.

Now that our Lenten observance is ended, let us reaffirm the
promises we made in baptism.

Do you turn to Christ?

Do you repent of your sins?

Do you renounce all that is evil?

I do.

I ask you now to reaffirm as yours the faith of the Church.

Do you believe in God the Father?

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and
earth.**

Do you believe in God the Son?

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father;
from there he will come to judge
the living and the dead.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,**

**the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

This is the faith of the Church.

This is our faith.

We believe in one God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.

Will you each, by God's grace,
strive to live as a disciple of Christ,
loving God with your whole heart,
and your neighbour as yourself,
until your life's end?

I will with God's help.

God our creator,
Rock of our salvation,
has given us new birth by water and the Spirit,
and forgiven our sins
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
May God keep us faithful to our calling
now and for ever. **Amen.**

The people are sprinkled with holy water.

THE GREETING OF PEACE

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

The peace of the risen Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

OFFERTORY HYMN: CP 141 "CHRIST THE LORD IS RISEN AGAIN"

- 1 Christ the Lord is risen again,
Christ hath broken every chain.
Hark, angelic voices cry,
singing evermore on high, *Alleluia!*
- 2 He who gave for us his life,
who for us endured the strife,
is our Paschal Lamb to-day;
we too sing for joy, and say *Alleluia!*
- 3 He who bore all pain and loss
comfortless upon the cross,
lives in glory now on high,
pleads for us, and hears our cry: *Alleluia!*
- 4 He who slumbered in the grave
is exalted now to save;
now through Christendom it rings
that the Lamb is King of kings. *Alleluia!*
- 5 Now he bids us tell abroad
how the lost may be restored,
how the penitent forgiven,
how we all may enter heaven. *Alleluia!*
- 6 Thou, our Paschal Lamb indeed,
Christ, thy ransomed people feed;
take our sins and guilt away:
let us sing by night and day. *Alleluia!*

Tune: *Orientis Partibus*
Music: French mediaeval melody
Words: Michael Weisse (1480-1534)
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PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

God our strength and salvation,
receive all we offer you this day;
grant that we who have received new life in baptism
may live in the joy of the resurrection.

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 always and everywhere,
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 saying:

**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.'

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.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

† 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**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.**

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

As this broken bread was once man grains,
which have been gathered together and made one bread:
**so may your Church be gathered
from the ends of the earth into your kingdom.**

AGNUS DEI

**Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us.
Jesus, bearer of our sins, have mercy on us.
Jesus, redeemer of the world, grant us your peace.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.
Come, let us celebrate the feast.
Draw near with faith, to feed on Christ
on your hearts with thanksgiving.

Alleluia!

This is the table of communion with the earth,
in which Christ became incarnate
So come to this table, those who have much faith
and those who would like to have more;
those who have been here often
and those who have not been for a long time;
those who have tried to follow Jesus;
and we who have failed.
Come.

Please stand if you wish

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

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

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Eternal God, giver of life,
in the breaking of the bread we know the risen Lord.
May we who celebrate this holy feast
walk in his risen light and bring new life to all creation.

PRAYER OF SELF-OFFERING

Living God,
make us apostles of the risen Christ.
Give us joyful hearts, words of hope,
and grace to recognize the Lord Jesus when he meets us,
wherever we are on the road.

BLESSING

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

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

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

Please stand if you wish

DISMISSAL

Go in the peace of Christ, Alleluia! Alleluia!
Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

RECESSIONAL HYMN: TIS 379 "HE IS RISEN, HE IS RISEN!"

- 1 He is risen, he is risen!
Tell it with a joyful voice:
he has burst his three days' prison,
let the whole wide world rejoice.
Death is conquered, we are free,
Christ has won the victory.
- 2 Come with high and holy gladness,
sing our Lord's triumphant song:
not one touch of twilight sadness
dims his resurrection morn;
brightly dawns the radiant east,
brighter far our Easter feast.
- 3 He is risen, he is risen!
He has opened heaven's gate:
we are free from sin's dark prison,
risen to a holier state;
soon a brighter Easter beam
on our longing eyes shall stream.

Tune: Unser Herrscher (Neander)
Music: Joachim Neander (1650-1680)
Words: Cecil Frances Alexander (1818-95)
© Together In Song 1999

POSTLUDE: VINER: MAKE A JOYFUL NOISE

Liturgy from *A Prayer Book for Australia* © Broughton Publishing 1995.

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Where there is a † in the liturgy, you are invited to make a sign of the cross if you wish. When the Gospel is read and we say "† Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ", you are invited to make three tiny signs of the cross, on the forehead, on the lips and on the chest. This symbolises the Word of God in our minds, our words and our hearts.

How I've Started to Pray

And if god is in everything — in the bend of the river
and the apricot tree, the song of the blackbird
and the awkward smile of the little ballerina
in purple who wandered out tonight onto the stage
to join a dance recital already in progress —
a dance class that wasn't even hers — yes, if god
is in everything, and I believe god is —
in the dishrag, in the man who throws
bottles at the people marching for peace,
even in this angriest red sliver of me,
if god is in everything then maybe that is why
I have started to want to pray to everything —
or maybe more truly, to pray with everything —
the wave, the blossom, the awkward smile,
the dirty cotton, the broken glass, the rising ache,
the wonder that opens in me when I trust
there was never even a half of a moment when we all
did not deeply, fully, wholly belong to each other.

Rosemerry Wahtola Trommer

<https://ahundredfallingveils.com/>