

Easter Song

I got me flowers to strew Thy way,
I got me boughs off many a tree;
But Thou wast up by break of day,
And brought'st Thy sweets along with Thee.
The sun arising in the East,
Though he give light, and th' East perfume,
If they should offer to contest
With Thy arising, they presume.

Can there be any day but this,
Though many suns to shine endeavour?
We count three hundred, but we miss:
There is but one, and that one ever. *George Herbert (1593-1633)*

Good Friday is a reflection day for Christians to *survey* the wondrous cross in order to *convey* the wondrous cross. When Grünewald painted the crucifixion to display in a hospice caring for those with plague or leprosy, he depicted Jesus with bubonic sores, symbolically showing that Jesus understood and shared their afflictions. What can we emphasise in Christ's sacrifice and offer to a world in waiting this year?

To a hurting, grieving world, may we offer words of healing. The cross offers those facing death a chance to reassess life.
To a troubled, waiting world, words of comfort and hope. The cross suggests there's more going on than meets the eye.
To a confused weary world, words of help and direction. The cross gives us more than enough to go on – and keep going on.
Our reflections on the cross point to a Saviour who brings good from bad. **A broken world is not the end of the story. Our faith points to the one not limited by isolation, who steps through a locked door and a locked-down room and offers *shalom*.**

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All Deacons available by ☎ if needed.

Please note! Items for 7/52 should be given to **Sally** by **midnight THURSDAY** on 641305 or email: ian.pratt5@btopenworld.com

7/52 @ RBC

Easter Sunday 4 April 2021



CHRIST THE LORD IS RISEN TODAY!

Prayers for Ryde with our fellow believers in other Ryde churches at 7 pm tomorrow and every Monday.

Join in using the link at **Pray for Ryde – Continuing in Prayer**
This is followed by our own prayer meeting using the usual link.

Check out our website at **www.rydebaptist.xyz** for general updates, sermon notes and suggestions for reading and study.



What's On

Worship with Premier Radio

10 am Sunday Worship at home

6 pm Sunday Live with Pam Rhodes, followed by Prayer of Hope with Churches Together at **7 pm**

BBC1 10 am Easter Sunday Worship **1.15 pm** Songs of Praise



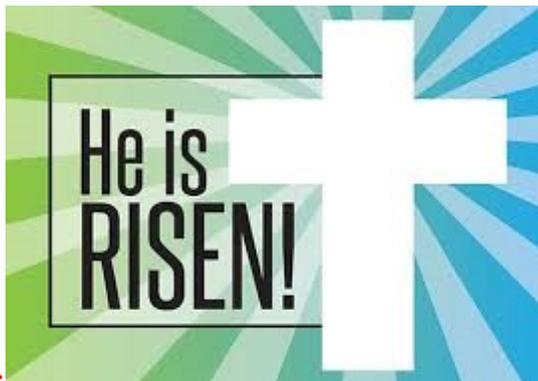
Recordings of all BU prayer broadcasts can be found at **The Baptist Union of Great Britain : Prayer broadcasts.**

Refresh your knowledge of the timeline of **Passion Week**, including prophecies and evidence for the Resurrection, by looking at the infographics at <https://www.biblegateway.com/blog/2021/03/passion-week-visualized/>

Following last week's Palm Sunday suicide bomb at a cathedral in Indonesia, and previous attacks in Pakistan and Sri Lanka, Christian volunteer security guards in **Pakistan** are preparing to defend their churches in the run-up to Easter, as Christian communities around the world face a heightened threat of terrorist attack. **Please pray** for our brothers and sisters in Christ who are celebrating this special weekend in dangerous situations.

The **People's Vaccine Alliance**, of which **BMS** is a part, campaign for intellectual property waivers on the Covid-19 vaccines. Waiving the patents means vaccines can be manufactured across the world. Those waivers are currently being blocked by Western countries, and have been since 2020.

The deadline for signing the Baptist World Alliance's petition for a Covid-free world has been extended to **12 April**, so if you haven't already signed it, please do so at <https://covidfreeworld.org.uk/petition/>



'We exist in a state of contradiction between the cross and the resurrection. Surrounded by decay, we nonetheless hope for restoration, a hope illuminated by the "fore-glow" of Christ's resurrection. Jesus gives a foretaste of a future time when the planet will be restored to God's original design. Easter is the beginning of the "laughter of the redeemed ... God's protest against death."

A person without future faith may assume from the suffering on this planet that God is neither all-good nor all-powerful. Future faith allows me to believe that God is not satisfied with this world either, and intends to make all things new. In a single sentence Jürgen Moltmann expresses the great span from Good Friday to Easter: **"God weeps with us that we may someday laugh with him."**

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'Christ did not descend from the cross except into the grave. And why not otherwise? Wouldn't it have put comical expressions on the faces of the scribes and chief priests and soldiers if at that moment he had come down in power and glory? Why didn't he do it? Why hasn't he done it at any one of 1000 good times between then and now? I knew the answer ... all the suffering of the world is in it. He didn't, he hasn't, because from the moment he did, he would be the absolute tyrant of the world and we would be his slaves. Even those who hated him and one another and their own souls would have to believe in him then....(and) the possibility that we might be bound to him and he to us and us to one another by love forever would be ended. He must forebear to reveal his power and glory by presenting himself as himself, and must be present in the ordinary miracle of the existence of his creatures. Those who wish to see him must see him in the poor, the hungry, the hurt, the groaning and travailing beautiful world'.
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*Thank you for all your continued financial support of the work of the Church. If you are able to give by standing order, **PLEASE** do so!*

**RBC Barclays current account number 20731102
sort code 20-60-55**

*If you usually give by cash or cheque, contact **Jim** on **810991** to arrange delivery or collection*

We are currently running at a large deficit, due to the loss of letting fees for the GSC and the continuing need to pay utility bills and repay loans.