

Celtic Liturgy for Easter Season 2020

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

In his great mercy God has given us new birth
into a living hope through the resurrection of
Jesus Christ from the dead. *1 Peter 1:3*

Thine be the glory,
Risen, conquering Son;
Endless is the victory
Thou o'er death has won.
Angels in bright raiment
Rolled the stone away,
Kept the folded grave-clothes
Where thy body lay.

*Thine be the glory,
Risen, conquering Son;
Endless is the victory
Thou o'er death hast won.*

Edmond Louis Budry. Tr. R. Birch Hoyle.

Reading Matthew 28:1-10

The Resurrection

28 Now after the Sabbath, toward the dawn of the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb.

² And behold, there was a great earthquake, for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven and came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. ³ His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow.

⁴ And for fear of him the guards trembled and became like dead men. ⁵ But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified. ⁶ He is not here, for he has risen, as he said. Come, see the place where he^[a] lay. ⁷ Then go

quickly and tell his disciples that he has risen from the dead, and behold, he is going before you to Galilee; there you will see him. See, I have told you." ⁸ So they departed quickly from the tomb with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. ⁹ And behold, Jesus met them and said, "Greetings!" And they came up and took hold of his feet and worshiped him. ¹⁰ Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee, and there they will see me."

We take a moment of quiet reflection and thank God for the resurrection of Christ

Hallelujah! The Lord is risen.
We celebrate the miracle
of Christ's resurrection.

**Risen Lord, open our eyes.
Give us a glimpse of your resurrection glory.**

**Wipe away our tears of mourning;
fill us with joy in your presence.**

**Take away our spirit of heaviness;
clothe us with a garment of praise.**

**Hope has been renewed; joy has been rekindled.
Death has been defeated; eternity beckons.**

In this season of reflection and hope
we celebrate the resurrection of Christ
with thankful hearts. Amen



We think back and confess to God all that has been wrong in our lives

Easter reminds us
that each time
we deny you, Lord,
another nail is sharpened;
and each time
we defy you, Lord,
into your hand it's hammered.
When faith is weak,
temptation strong
and courage fails,
forgive us, Lord.
Become once again
that risen presence
within our hearts. Amen



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God of resurrection
of life and death
rebirth
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God of promise
of all beginnings
and all endings
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God of hope
of new growth
and harvest
Renew our hearts and minds

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Poem Easter Metaphor by Joyce Rupp

Creator of springtime,
how can it be that every year
I forget the miracles visiting
the land in the form of fresh leaves,
laughing flowers, greening grass?
Winter holds a strong power over me.
I lose the memory of vibrant vigour,
the unseen energy raising
dead earthen things to awakening life.



Risen One, dwelling within me,
how can it be that I forget you,
your passionate grace tending my soul,
your constant stream of hope
rising up through the dead ground
of my brown, barrened prayer?

I turn to you in this season of spring,
bowing gratefully
to every growing plant, every flourishing flower,
for each one sings an Easter metaphor
full of memory, proclaiming your wild embrace
of my inner life, a life holding the promise
of an eternal return to spring.
Easter 2004

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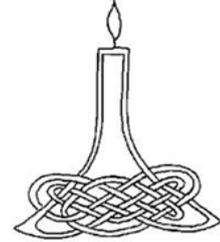
We pray

God of compassion,
be close to those who are ill, afraid or in isolation.
In their loneliness, be their consolation;
in their anxiety, be their hope;
in their darkness, be their light;
through him who suffered alone on the cross,

but reigns with you in glory,
Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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Your light is the only light we need
as we travel through life's mystery.
Your word the only voice we hear
that still small voice that leads us
to the place where we should be.
Your presence is the only company we need
as we walk this narrow road.
Your fellowship the warmth we crave
to help us on our way.



May the truth of Easter
The joy of Easter
And the blessings of Easter
Be with us this day and all days. **Amen**

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Time to pray for others

The Lord's Prayer

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.

No more we doubt thee,
Glorious Prince of life;
Life is naught without thee:
Aid us in our strife;
Make us more than conquerors
Through thy deathless love;
Bring us safe through Jordan
To thy home above:

*Thine be the glory,
Risen, conquering Son;
Endless is the victory
Thou o'er death hast won!*

Edmond Louis Budry. Tr. R. Birch Hoyle.

Closing Prayer

May we live in the power of the risen Christ,
United in hope to serve His world. **Amen**



