



HE IS RISEN

HE IS RISEN INDEED

What a Difference Easter Makes

It's not too grand a thing to say that Easter Sunday is the most important day of the year for Christians; although many people outside of the Church might think that it's Christmas. This is literally the day that set humanity on a new course, it is that significant. One of the songs sung at our Easter Sunday morning service this year is 'This Changes Everything'. The words of the chorus are: *'He is alive, Jesus is alive, this changes everything, everything. Now I'm alive, in You I have life, this changes everything, everything for us.'* But why is that?

Before we think about the resurrection of Jesus we need to think about the death of Jesus - why did He die? It is quick and easy to say that He died to save us from our sins; although that is true. But, sometimes we miss the magnitude of that, and to truly understand it we need to go back to Genesis, chapter 3, when Adam and Eve ate the forbidden fruit from the tree. At that point they had disobeyed God, they had acted as if they knew better than God about what was good for their lives and that choice and subsequent actions ruined everything (we still do the same today). Sin had come into the world, and from now on their relationship with God was utterly damaged and they would from now on have a more broken relationship with each other.

We see that with humanity across the world today. We don't have a right relationship with God, and on our own we can't fix it. And it is so easy to see how people have such broken relationships with each other; with no human relationship honestly being anything like perfect - even though we might hope that it can be. Everything was and is broken because of our sin and thinking that we know best.

So, let's go back to Genesis, chapter 3, and see what else we read there. There are many things, but 2 that I want to mention. Firstly, God says to the serpent (who we find out in the Book of Revelation is Satan), that a male offspring of Eve would crush his head as he strikes this man's heel. The second thing is that God banishes Adam and Eve from the Garden of Eden so that they cannot eat the fruit from the tree of life and live forever.

So firstly, already in Genesis 3, when sin has just come into the world, God has a plan as to what he is going to do about it. As Satan strikes this special man, this special man will crush the head of Satan and defeat his destructive work. And as Jesus was struck down on the cross he was victoriously defeating the work of Satan and dying so that my sin and your sin can be forgiven.

Secondly, because sin has come into the world God stops human beings from living forever and having to live with the consequences of it.

So, sin and death are wrapped up together in one big bundle of suffering and problems. But Jesus is going to come and defeat the work of Satan. And he did just that. He died on the cross as a substitute for us, taking our sin upon himself (if we turn to him in faith) and giving us a clean slate in its place. He died so that our sins can be forgiven.

But, what about the death part of this bundle of suffering from Genesis 3 then? How is that dealt with? It is dealt with by God, who raised Jesus from the dead. This was God's great declaration that the death of Jesus was enough for my sin and your sin to be forgiven. He showed us that sin really is forgiven because of the cross of Jesus by raising Jesus from the dead. This is the best news that the world has to offer. It means that we can be free. It means that we can have a right relationship with God again and (even though it still won't be perfect) it means that when we follow the ways of Jesus we can have the best possible relationships with each other. There truly is no better news that the world has to offer than this. In a world of such bad news, this is the best and happiest news ever!

Happy Easter and God bless,

Paul

New or Visiting?

First Time Here?

If it's your first time here then welcome! It's great to have you with us. Here are a few short notes that you might find helpful.

Relax - You're our guest, so make yourself at home. If there is anything that you would like to know then ask one of the Welcome Team by the front door.

We don't expect guests to give - For those who are members or regular attenders there is an offering plate at the back, but we don't ask our guests for any money.

We have a Loop System - Switch your hearing aid to T-coil.

You might find it useful to sit towards the middle.

Hang around afterwards - Come and join us for a cup of tea or fresh coffee, and for a chat—drinks are served in the hall and we usually gather in the lounge to chat.

Prayer - If you would like someone to pray with you — either prayer for you or for someone you know — there are people who would love to do so after the service. Please make yourself known to the service leader.

Children & Youth - Once a month, the whole church worships together. On other weeks, there is a Sunday School for primary aged children. One of the Welcome Team can show you where Sunday School meets. For pre-school age children, there are green tables at the side of church with activities. Please don't be embarrassed if your children make any noise—they are welcome here and are part of the service, too! All our children and youth leaders have DBS checks and have undergone safeguarding training.

Next Steps

We are all on a journey through life, and our faith is no different. Depending upon where you are on your journey with God here are some 'Next Steps' you could take:

COMMIT YOUR LIFE TO CHRIST

Commit to follow Jesus today!

RE-COMMIT TO CHRIST

It's never too late for a fresh start with faith.

DECLARE YOUR FAITH THROUGH BAPTISM

If you feel you've made a commitment to God but have never been baptised, then this could be a great step for you.

JOIN A LIFE GROUP

If you're not in one, there are a number of groups that meet in homes throughout the week to get to know each other better, look at the Bible and pray together.

BE PART OF THE MISSION

There are lots of ways you can use your gifts to serve God, his Church and the wider community. Speak to one of the church team to find out more.

APRIL 2026

Thursday 2nd—Maundy Thursday
7:30 Maundy Thursday Communion Service

Friday 3rd—Good Friday
10:00 Good Friday Reflections

Sunday 5th—Easter Sunday
9:00-9:45 Bacon Butties served at church
10:00 Easter Sunday Family of God Service (followed by Easter Egg Hunt and Holy Communion)
6:30 Evening Service

Sunday 12th
10:00 Morning Service & Sunday School
11:30 Alpha Day
6:30 Evening Service

Wednesday 15th
9:00-1:00 Light Café
9:30-11:00 Messy Toddlers
1:00-1:15 Pause for Thought
7:00-8:30 Youth Club

Sunday 19th
10:00 Morning Service & Sunday School
6:30 Evening Service

Wednesday 22nd
9:00-1:00 Light Café
1:00-1:15 Pause for Thought
7:00-8:30 Youth Club

Sunday 26th
10:00 Morning Service & Sunday School
11:30 APCM (Church Annual Meeting)
6:30 NO EVENING SERVICE

Wednesday 29th
9:00-1:00 Light Café
1:00-1:30 BCP Holy Communion
7:00-8:30 Youth Club

Thursday 30th
7:30 Social Night

PRAYER MEETINGS

Monday
10:00-11:00 Zoom Prayers

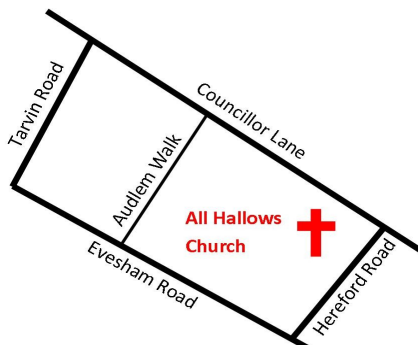
Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday
9:30-10:00 Morning Prayer in Room 2 (off the Church Hall)

Saturday Prayer Relays
Book a half hour slot during the day to pray, before somebody else takes over

Contact Details

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If you would like to make a one-off donation to the work of All Hallows Church you can do so by using the QR Code.