

St Augustine's

Easter

Family Service

23rd March 2008

We welcome you here in the name of Jesus !
May His risen presence surround us with His peace and love.

HE IS RISEN! ALLELUIA!

Today's theme : "Mary remembers the first Easter".

Today's sentence :

"Jesus said, 'Father, if You will, take this cup of suffering away from Me.
Not My will, however, but Your will be done.' "

Luke Chapter 22 verse 42

Please stand to sing the hymn

Lift high the cross.

Chorus :

*Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim,
Till all the world adore His sacred name.*

**1. Come, Christians, follow where our Captain trod,
The King victorious, Christ the Son of God :**

Chorus

**2. Saved by the cross on which their Lord was slain,
See Adam's children their lost home regain.**

Chorus

**3 Let every race and every language tell
Of Him Who saves our souls from death and hell !**

Chorus

**4. O Lord, once lifted on the tree of pain,
Draw all the world to seek You once again.**

Chorus

**5. Set up Your throne, that earth's despair may cease
Beneath the shadow of its healing peace :**

Chorus

Please sit.

It all started with Judas. Poor Judas ! We don't know what went wrong. Most people think it was just greed and ambition, but some wonder whether he might just have been trying to push Jesus into moving on a bit faster ...

JUDAS, PERHAPS ?

Well, who knows ? Certainly Judas changed his mind; after Jesus died, he tried to give the money back, and committed suicide.
So now we'll never know.
Poor Judas.

Judas agrees to betray Jesus : *Matthew Chapter 26 verses 14-16*

Jesus predicts His betrayal and Peter's denial :
*John Chapter 13 verses 21-27 and 30,
and Mark Chapter 14 verses 27-31.*

Is it I, Lord ?

Surely not me !

Nor I !

I wouldn't do that.

ALL : **It's not me either !**

I tell you that before the rooster crows twice tonight, you will say three times that you do not know Me.

I will never say that, even if I have to die with You !

ALL : **We will never leave You.**

.....

As the meal ended Jesus and the disciples got up and went to the Garden of Gethsemane on the Mount of Olives to pray, followed by Jesus's arrest (Matthew 26, 31-56; Mark 14 verses 32-52; Luke 22 verses 39-46).

Please stand for the hymn

Go to dark Gethsemane

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>1. Go to dark Gethsemane,
You that feel the tempter's
power;
Your redeemer's conflict see,
Watch with Him one bitter hour;
Turn not from His griefs away :
Learn of Jesus Christ to pray.</p> | <p>2. Follow to the judgment-hall,
View the Lord of Life arraigned;
O, the wormwood and the gall !
O, the pangs His soul sustained !
Shun not suffering, shame, or
loss :
Learn of Him to bear the cross.</p> |
|---|--|

(continued)

**3. Calvary's mournful mountain climb;
There, adoring at His feet,
Mark that miracle of time,
God's own sacrifice complete;
"It is finished", hear Him cry;
Learn of Jesus Christ to die.**

We invite all of you to imagine that you are sitting in the Garden of Gethsemane with the disciples.

My Father, if it is possible take this cup of suffering from Me ! Yet not what I want, but what You want.

Simon Peter, are you asleep ? Weren't you able to stay awake for even one hour ?

Keep watch and pray that you will not fall into temptation. The spirit is willing but the flesh is weak.

My Father, if this cup of suffering cannot be taken away from Me unless I drink it, Your will be done.

Are you still sleeping ?

Look ! The hour has come for the Son of Man to be handed over to the power of sinners !

The man I kiss is the one you want. Arrest Him !

Jesus is denied by Peter : *Luke Chapter 22 verses 54-62.*

You too were with Jesus of Galilee.
I don't even know Him.

You are one of them, too.
No, I'm not.

A little while later the bystanders accused him :

ALL : **You can't deny that you are one of them, because you are from Galilee too.**

I swear that I am telling the truth ! May God punish me if I am not ! I do not know the man you are talking about.

Before the rooster crows twice you will deny Me three times.

Please stand for the hymn :

Jesus in the olive grove

*Omitted for copyright reasons;
click for more information*

Please sit for the reading.

This reading is from Mark Chapter 15 verses 1-2, 11-20, 25-26, 29-32.

Aha ! You were going to tear down the Temple and build it up again in three days !

Save yourself !

He saved others, but He can't save Himself.

Let us see the Messiah, the King of Israel, come down from the cross now, and we will believe Him !

ALL : Go on, save yourself !

At the end of this reading, you are invited to follow Jesus to the cross. The actors will tell you what to do, and when.

The Crucifixion :

John Chapter 19 verses 25-27, 30.

Please return to your seats.

Jesus buried in the cave tomb :

Matthew Chapter 28 verses 57-61.

Please stand to sing the hymn

At the cross her station keeping

1. At the cross her station keeping
Stood the mournful Mother
weeping,
Where He hung, the dying Lord;
For her soul, of joy bereaved,
Bowed with anguish, deeply
grieved
Felt the sharp and piercing
sword.
2. O how sad and sore distressed
Now was she, that mother
blessèd
Of the Sole-begotten One !
Deep the woe of her affliction,
When she saw the Crucifixion
Of her ever-glorious Son.

3. For His people's sins chastisèd
She beheld her Son despisèd
Scourged, and crowned with
thorns entwined;
Saw Him then from judgement
taken,
And in death by all forsaken,
Till His spirit He resigned.
4. O good Jesus, let me borrow
Something of Your Mother's
sorrow
Fount of love, Redeemer kind,
That my heart fresh ardour
gaining,
And a purer love attaining,
May with You acceptance find.

Please sit.

The women go to the tomb :

*Mark Chapter 16 verses 1-8;
Luke Chapter 24 verses 1-7.*

HE IS RISEN! ALLELUIA!

The women tell the disciples "HE IS ALIVE": *Luke 24 : 8-11, 36-49*

Peace be with you. !

Look at My hands and feet !
A ghost doesn't have flesh and bones
as you can see I have !
Ghosts don't eat real fish !

.....

He really is risen !

He is risen !

He is risen !

ALL (standing) : HE IS RISEN INDEED !

HE IS RISEN! ALLELUIA!

(The next hymn will not be announced; just follow the organ and SING)

1. To God be the glory, great things He has done !
So loved He the world that He gave us His Son,
Who yielded His life in atonement for sin,
And opened the life-gate that all may go in :

Chorus :

*Praise the Lord ! Praise the Lord !
Let the earth hear His voice !
Praise the Lord ! Praise the Lord !
Let the people rejoice !
O come to the Father, through Jesus the Son,
And give Him the glory - great things He has done !*

2. O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood,
To every believer the promise of God !
And every offender who truly believes,
That moment from Jesus a pardon receives :

Chorus

3. Great things He has taught us, great things He has done,
And great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son;
But purer, and higher, and greater will be
Our wonder, our rapture, when Jesus we see.

Chorus

HE IS RISEN! ALLELUIA!

Please sit.

I'm so glad and thankful that Jesus chose to take the hard road – that He endured the pain and humiliation of the cross that we might be redeemed.

He opened the way for us to come to Him for forgiveness and showed us the way to live for God.

It was a hard road for me as well, but I'm so glad I followed Jesus's way. I pray that you will follow it too..

Let us also choose to take the hard road that God lays before us, knowing that as we do this God will give us the strength we need.

HE IS RISEN! ALLELUIA!

Please sit or kneel for the prayers, which we shall conclude by singing the Lord's prayer.

Lord God, help us to dedicate our lives to loving and serving You. You love us so much that You gave us Your Son to die on the cross for us.

We thank You, Jesus, that You carried out Your Father's will in Your life.

Teach us, Lord God, to follow Your will for our lives so that we may truly live for You. **Amen**

Father, we pray for all who are finding life difficult at this time.

We pray for the sick, the hungry, the homeless and those in pain,; help them in their distress. Teach us how to offer our help wherever it is needed. **Amen.**

Together we sing –

**ALL : Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name.
Your kingdom come, Your will be done,
in 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.

Please stand for our final hymn : Jesus Christ is risen today, Alleluia !

1. Jesus Christ is risen today, 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 !

Please remain standing for the Blessing.

HE IS RISEN! ALLELUIA!

Those taking part :

Names omitted



Family Service dates for
this year (all at 10am) :
18th May,
13th July,
31st August,
19th October

Christmas Services :
Carol Service and
BBQ November 30th
at 5pm
Christingle Service
December 24th at
7pm.

Anyone wishing to take
part in these services
please phone ●●●●
(●●●●●●) at least two
weeks before the service.

**Kids' Club
for
Primary School
children
meets in the Hall
3:15 - 4:30pm
each Tuesday
during term time.
All children
welcome !**