



CONNECTED

Week Beginning Sunday 11th April

***“Sing to the Lord, bless His name;
Proclaim the good news of His salvation
from day to day.”***

Psalm 96 v 2

Good News

A very warm welcome to St Swithin's today. We continue to be in the Easter season where we're celebrating the momentous events of the Resurrection. Christ is Risen. It's worth taking some time to think and meditate about what the wonder of Christ's Resurrection means for us.



A number of years ago I used to be an avid follower of 'The News', poring over all the latest developments in and around the globe, enjoying being 'up to speed' with the latest developments and events that shape our modern world. Yet, it took

me quite a while to realise that feasting on our modern news wasn't doing me a whole lot of good.

Often 'the News' was barely news at all and mostly not good. The cumulative effect of my desire to be informed and up to date was not having a good effect on my heart. Rather than faith and the fruit of the Spirit growing in my life, there was growth in 'cynicism and anxiety' that seems to be at the heart of much of our public life.

In this post Easter season, we're going to spend the first part of this term focusing on and discovering the Good News at the heart of the Christian Faith. Christianity is Good News.....still. My prayer is that the enormity of this Good News, captured in the wonder of the Resurrection of Jesus, would captivate our hearts and our lives in a fresh way in 2021.

Tim



Salvation belongs to our God

Who sits upon the throne
And unto the Lamb
Praise and glory wisdom and
thanks
Honour and power and strength

*Be to our God forever and ever
Be to our God forever and ever
Be to our God forever and ever.
Amen*

And we the redeemed shall be
strong
In purpose and unity
Declaring aloud
Praise and glory wisdom and
thanks
Honour and power and strength

Your grace is enough

More than I need
At Your word I will believe
I wait for You
Draw near again
Let Your Spirit make me new

*And I will fall at Your feet
I will fall at Your feet
And I will worship You here*

Your presence in me
Jesus light the way
By the power of Your word
I am restored
I am redeemed
By Your Spirit I am free

Freely You gave it all for us
Surrendered Your life upon that
cross
Great is the love poured out for all
This is our God
Lifted on high from death to life
Forever our God is glorified
Servant and King rescued the
world
This is our God



In the darkness we were waiting

Without hope without light
Till from Heaven You came running
There was mercy in Your eyes

To fulfil the law and prophets
To a virgin came the Word
From a throne of endless glory
To a cradle in the dirt

Praise the Father

Praise the Son

Praise the Spirit three in one

God of Glory

Majesty

Praise forever to the King of kings

To reveal the kingdom coming
And to reconcile the lost
To redeem the whole creation
You did not despise the cross

For even in Your suffering
You saw to the other side
Knowing this was our salvation
Jesus for our sake You died

Praise the Father.....

And the morning that You rose
All of heaven held its breath
Till that stone was moved for good
For the Lamb had conquered
death

And the dead rose from their
tombs
And the angels stood in awe
For the souls of all who'd come
To the Father are restored

Praise the Father.....

And the Church of Christ was born
Then the Spirit lit the flame
Now this Gospel truth of old
Shall not kneel shall not faint

By His blood and in His Name
In His freedom I am free
For the love of Jesus Christ
Who has resurrected me

Praise the Father.....



News

We are looking forward to continue our various forms of worship – in person, online and with hard copies. Over the next few weeks the pattern looks as follows (don't forget you still need to book a place via the website if you want to join us in person).

Sunday 11 th April	Service at 10am in the church building
Sunday 18 th April	Café in the garden at 10am followed by service in the church at 10.30am
“	6pm Communion Service
Sunday 25 th April	Café in the garden at 10am followed by service outside at 10.30am

Join us via the website, where a livestream video will appear near the top of the page

<https://www.stswithinswalcot.org.uk/talks>

Or contact Janet in the church office 01225 789168 for hard copies.



Don't forget you can 'join' James and Niamh live at their wedding service on Saturday 10th April at 11am. They would love to know you are part

of their celebrations.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V1qv2yQKQhg>

We will continue to open the church on Wednesdays between 12noon and 2pm for individual prayer. Do pop in. We'd love to see you.



Prayer

We give thanks for the encouraging news of the vaccine roll out and the reduction in hospitalizations and deaths over recent weeks. But we know there are still uncertainties ahead and we pray for all those involved in making key decisions as we anticipate a relaxation of the covid rules and regulations.

We continue to pray for all those who have not yet heard the Good News of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ. May we all be alert to those around us who might be open to hearing some 'good news' right now!



*God of glory,
by the raising of your Son
you have broken the chains
of death and hell:
fill your Church with faith and hope;
for a new day has dawned
and the way to life stands open
in our Saviour Jesus Christ.
Amen.*