

Australian Evangelical Lutheran Church
BETHLEHEM TOOWOOMBA, OUR SAVIOUR LOWOOD, ST JOHN'S AUBIGNY,
ST PAUL'S GREENWOOD, TRINITY MARBURG, TRINITY OAKEY

17 April, 2022

Easter Sunday

HYMNS: 88 91 105 761

INTROIT:

Protect me, O God! For I have taken refuge in You.

I have been saying to the LORD: "You are my Lord. Without You I have nothing good."

As for the holy people who are in the land, they are the excellent people, and all my delight is in them.

Those who run after another god will have many sorrows. I shall not pour out their libations of blood or take up their names on my lips.

O LORD, You are my allotted portion and my cup. You are firmly holding what has been allotted to me.

The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places. Surely, I have a delightful inheritance.

I shall bless the LORD, who has given me advice. Even during the nights my inmost parts teach me.

I have set the LORD before Me constantly. Because He is at My right hand, I shall not stagger.

Therefore, My heart is glad, and My glory rejoices. My body also will dwell securely. For You will not abandon My soul to Sheol or allow Your Faithful One to see decay.

You make known to Me the path of life. In Your presence there is fullness of joy. At Your right hand there are pleasures for ever. Psalm 16

COLLECT: Almighty God the Father, through Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, You have overcome death and opened the gate of everlasting life to us. Grant that we, who celebrate with joy the day of our Lord's resurrection, may be raised from the death of sin by Your life-giving Spirit; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

READINGS: Isaiah 65:17-25 God promises a new heaven and a new earth.

1 Corinthians 15:19-26 As in Adam all die, the new Adam brings life.

Luke 24:1-12 The empty tomb indicates that the Lord has risen.

SERMON: GOD DESTROYS DEATH SO THAT HE MAY RE-CREATE LIFE Isaiah 65:17-25

Welcome to all worshipping with us today! Christ has risen!

Pastor Peter Ziebell, Phone 0407583922.

Email him at paziebell@gmail.com or to the church office at ddaalc@gmail.com.

Please notify pastor of anyone who is unwell or in need of a visit.

The Resurrection of Christ

The sequence of events of Jesus' resurrection is this: (1) Jesus became alive in the grave, (2) He descended into hell, and then (3) He came victoriously out of the grave. The events are covered by the Apostles' Creed with these words: "He descended into hell, the third day He rose again from the dead." The words "the third day He rose again from the dead" refer to His coming out of the grave after He became alive and had descended into hell to proclaim His victory.

It is worth noting that Jesus did not come out of the grave after the angel rolled away the stone but before. The gospel writers leave us very much with the impression that when the stone was rolled away, Jesus was already gone (Matthew 28:1-6; Mark 16:1-6). He did not need the help of the angels in coming out of the tomb. They rolled away the stone so that the women and the disciples could go into the tomb and see that He was not there, not so that Jesus could get out.

That Jesus simply left the tomb without bothering with the stone is another indication of the change that took place in the state of exaltation. From the time of the resurrection, Jesus no longer accepted the limitations of time and space the way that He usually did during the state of humiliation. Then, He walked from place to place. He occupied space, and He limited Himself to time. But after His resurrection He does not regularly do that. So He came out of the grave without anyone seeing Him and without any need to have the stone rolled away for Him. So He appeared and disappeared in the upper room on Easter Sunday without going through the door; He did the same again the following week (John 20:19-31). So He hid His identity from the Emmaus disciples, then revealed it, then disappeared (Luke 24:13-31).

Nevertheless, He was not a ghost, not a phantom, and certainly not a hallucination. His body was real and His human nature consisting of the union of body and soul was intact. He still walked when He chose to, as with the disciples on the road to Emmaus. He let the disciples touch Him and He ate with them (Luke 24:37-43; John 20:27).

That then is the next step in His exaltation. He appeared physically for 40 days after His resurrection when and where He wished to appear. He no longer walked regularly with the disciples, lived with them, or regularly ate and drank with them. Nevertheless, His appearances were such that there could be no doubt that He was indeed alive, that He had indeed risen from the dead. The closing chapters of the four gospels, the sermons in the book of Acts, and the epistles all rejoice in the reality of Christ's resurrection from the dead. St. Paul summarises the resurrection appearances in 1 Corinthians 15:3-8. All of these appearances mentioned by Paul were appearances of the whole Christ - not just of His human nature, not just of His divine nature, but of the one Lord Jesus Christ, true God and true man in one person. For there are not two Christs, one divine and one human; there is but one Christ, the Son of God and Mary's son, true God and true man, one person. Whenever He appeared, whether to the women outside of the tomb (Matthew 28:9,10) or to the disciples in the upper room (John 20), it is the total, the whole, and the complete person who appears, now with His exalted human nature showing divine attributes that he had hidden during the state of humiliation.

Weekly sermons and bulletins are available at www.aelc.org.au.

Weekly Sunday School lessons are also now available in the Members section.

If there are any late changes to be made to divine services, these will be listed immediately on the website. If you are unsure, please contact pastor.

COMING SERVICES

24 April 2 EASTER	1 May 3 EASTER	8 May 4 EASTER
9.00am GRN HC Baptism 9.30am AUB LR 10.45am TMBA HC Confirmation Service 7.00pm OAK HC 9.00am LOWOOD LR	8.30am OAK LR 9.00am TMBA HC 9.00am GRN LR 10.45am AUB HC Confirmation Service	8.30am OAK LR 9.00am TMBA LR 9.00am GRN LR 9.30am AUB LR 9.00am LOWOOD HC & Bible Study
Sunday, 24 April		
READINGS: Acts 5:12-32; Revelation 1:4-18; John 20:19-31		
HYMNS: AUB/OAK/LOWOOD: 100 103 169 (839 292) 175 GRN: 276 100 103 839 292 279 TMBA: 299 103 100 301 292 175		
Sunday, 1 May		
READINGS: Acts 9:1-22; Revelation 5:1-14; John 21:1-19		
HYMNS: 386 336 113 (162 289) 434 AUB: 299 336 162 301 289 292		

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Downs members, please note the change in the service schedule for next Sunday!

Tomorrow, 18 April, 10.00am. Parish Sunday School Picnic at Aubigny. Everyone is invited. Could each family please provide something for a shared lunch? Children, if you haven't already, please take a colouring-in picture home and enter it in the colouring-in competition on the day.

BIBLE STUDIES:

Thursday, 21 April, 10.00am at Lowood.

Friday, 22 April, 7.30pm at Greenwood.

Friday, 29 April, 7.30pm at Aubigny for AUB/OAK members.

Sunday, 1 May, 1.00pm at Bethlehem Toowoomba. Frank Steinhardt will be celebrating his 85th birthday and is holding an afternoon tea with fellowship. All members of the AELC are invited to attend. No cards or gifts, but please bring a plate to share.