

*your life is now hidden with Christ in God. <sup>4</sup> When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.”*

Our first reading today jumps to a little while after the resurrection ~ It tells us something of the beginning of the church ~ peter finding his voice and beginning to speak out about all that Jesus and the New Faith will mean. Remember that Simon Peter had been one of the first at the empty tomb ~ he had seen for himself and he also knew all that the Scripture had prepared Gods people to understand and receive. This is the same Simon Peter who under pressure had denied Jesus before the crucifixion ~ that Jesus instantly forgave ~ knowing what Peter would do when he understood clearly. Peter was still learning to understand ~ but he knew enough to now that he had to share what had happened and let the Spirit do the rest.

So this morning the headline in church is

### **Alleluia ~ Jesus Christ is Risen ~ Alleluia**

that is our message, our cause for rejoicing, for celebrating ~ because this is the real sign of God’s eternal love for us. Later we will share the Easter Eggs ~ sharing God’s provision for us ~

### **What will we find in the eggs?**

Nothing ~ of course ~ they are empty to remind us that Jesus is risen ~ the tomb is empty ~ but God’s provision for us through Jesus is for ever!

Peter learned to find the words to share Jesus with others so that they could know God’s love, we can know God’s love.

Today we are the disciples and it is our calling to share Jesus so that many more may know Him too ~ We are to do as Peter did ~ with the Spirit’s help.

~ Have you watched children enthusiastic for a task? With that eagerness of children, excited and involved in activity ~ the Easter feast ~ we need to join the call “coming ~ ready or not” or the shout of the News Cryer

~ Extra, Extra ~

and get out there and share what we know!

### **Knowing Jesus ~ Making Him known**

Amen.

**Ministry Musings (16<sup>th</sup> April 2017)**

## **Alleluia He is Risen**



What brings you to stand at the foot of the cross? Maybe a great seascape or country scene, watching children play, appreciating someone’s skills artistically, a friends care of you or a need for comfort and reassurance.

This week in the news it was reported that many who called themselves Christian believed in some sort of afterlife but did not believe in the Resurrection of Jesus Christ. There is something desperately wrong with their perception of what it is to be a Christian and the teaching offered by our churches if people are able to travel with such lack of understanding.

Christianity is not for dipping in and out of it is a celebration of accepting God’s love for us, as individual’s, shown in the ministry, death and Resurrection of our Lord and Saviour. That is what we celebrate today!

Sadly many who call themselves Christians do so because somewhere in their family history they had relations who went to church, or the church as friendly when they needed something ~ Baptism, wedding, funeral ~ but only fit to be ignored the rest of the time ~ they will not be in a church Today ~ how sad!

As I write this “Tainted Love” is playing on the radio and it hit me ~ yet again ~ that there is absolutely nothing tainted about the Love of God. The lyrics say “I love you though you hurt me so” ~ they could be attributed to our Lord. We hurt Him but Jesus continues to love us. So this Easter how do we correct the misconception of many and bring them to where we are blessed to be?

**Knowing Jesus ~ making Him known**

Acts 10: 34-43           page NT 126  
Colossians 3:1-4       page NT 198  
John 20:1-18           page NT 111

### **Extra, Extra ~ read all about it!**

If the News Crier was up and about this morning what would be the extra be that was being proclaimed?  
What would the headlines say?  
Hopefully they would say

### **Alleluia, He is Risen!**

Who is risen today?  
So the best headlines would say

### **Alleluia, Jesus Christ is Risen today!**

Who would the reporters have got their story from and why would they have come to the conclusion that this thing had happened ~ this extraordinary thing?

### **What did John tell us this morning?**

Mary Magdalene went to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed! So she ran to Simon Peter and John and told them ~ what?

“They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we don’t know where they have put him!”

### **What did Simon Peter and John do?**

They ran to the tomb ~

### **Who got there first?**

John

### **What did he do?**

He looked in and saw but he did not enter!

### **When Simon Peter arrived what did he do?**

He went in and saw for himself and the John joined him.

### **What did they think had happened?**

The men believed although they still did not understand from Scripture that Jesus had to rise from the dead!

### **Then what did they do?**

They returned to where all the disciple's were staying..

### **But they didn’t all return to the place they were staying ~ what did Mary do?**

She remained by the tomb crying. Then she looked into the tomb and saw two angels in white seated where Jesus body had been.

### **What did the angels ask Mary?**

They asked her why she was crying. .

### **What did Mary tell them?**

That they had taken away her Lord.

### **What happened while she was telling the Angels?**

Jesus took their place and carried on the conversation with her.

### **Did Mary realise ~ who did she think she was now talking to?**

No! She thought he might be the gardener!

### **What did Mary ask Him?**

She asked where he had put Jesus’ body!

### **How did Jesus reply?**

He said Mary’s name.

### **That made Mary realise that it was her Lord and she said Rabboni! Which means ‘Teacher’!**

### **Jesus gave Mary a special instruction ~ what was it?**

Not to hold on to Him as he had not yet ascended to the Father ~ but to go back to the disciples ~ who Jesus called brothers ~ and tell them what was to happen.

### **Mary went back to the disciples ~ and how did she share the news?**

“I have seen the Lord!”

And she told them all that Jesus had said to her.

### **How do you think they were all feeling? How would you feel? How does this morning make you feel?**

Colossians put into words for us this morning how we should be feeling as those living as made alive in Christ ~ being Christians ~

*“Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. <sup>2</sup>Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. <sup>3</sup>For you died, and*