



EASTER SUNDAY **He is risen indeed!**

*Join in our celebration by admiring
the EASTER CROSS on the Parish
Hall front steps. Plan your 'daily
exercise' route to pass by!*

Thanks to the Sharp family for setting this up.

I read an article last week that said, "The Good News of Jesus is almost always drowned out in peacetime". When things are going well and there is nothing to fear, people seem to have little time for God. While we may continue to struggle with God's purposes in this situation there can be little doubt that he is beginning to get many people's attention.

C S Lewis once wrote, "God whispers to us in our pleasures, speaks to us in our conscience, but shouts in our pain: it is His megaphone to rouse a deaf world...."

While none of us would wish for it, for many their experience of suffering has transformed and matured them in their faith. David Watson, a vicar, wrote this shortly before his death from cancer. "There is no doubt that millions of Christians all down the centuries have become more Christlike through suffering. I know of many who have an almost ethereal beauty about them, refined through pain. In fact those who have experienced more of the love of God than anyone I have ever met have also endured more suffering. When you crush lavender, you find it full of fragrance; when you squeeze an orange, you extract its sweet juice. In the same way it is often through pains and hurts that we develop the fragrance and sweetness of Jesus in our lives".

The Bible gives many examples of how God uses suffering to bring about his good purposes. Joseph is just one example. After all he'd been through, towards the end of his life he could say to his repentant brothers, "You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives." And Joseph's story points to the cross, that place of unimaginable suffering, where our freedom and salvation was won.

In his book, "Why does God allow suffering", Nicky Gumbel tells the story of Handley Moule, Bishop of Durham. On one occasion he had the task of visiting the families of 170 miners who had been killed in a mining accident. As he was wondering what to say, he picked up a handwoven bookmark his mother had given him. On the reverse was a tangled web of knots and thread. But on the other side it said, "God is love." The world may be a tangled web and hard at times to decipher, but behind it all is the love of God and he will work his good purposes out.

Blessings for this Eastertide, Peter.

Our Easter Sunday Service:

Please join us (online!) for our Easter Sunday Service. Go to Exwick Community Church's Youtube Channel, and find Peter's Easter Service. We'll gather at 11 am to 'share' as a family together. You can then sing along to the songs on the video, words below!

Good morning all,
We woke this morning with the sun streaming into our beautiful Devon B & B, the smell of a full English being prepared in the kitchen, toast and marmalade to follow. Then after a short break, a long walk along the beach listening to the waves breaking on the shore.

Of course we were day-dreaming, we were having beautiful thoughts. It reminded me of Philippians 4 vv 6 – 8. It talks about not being anxious, approaching God with thanksgiving and the peace of God guarding our hearts.

Then in verse 8 Paul says, 'Finally brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy, meditate on these things.'

I'm singing the song: 'I cast my mind to calvary, where Jesus bled and died for me.'

We may be restricted in body but our mind is free to go anywhere in the world.

What's your best ever memory?

God bless John and Dorcas

VERSE OF THE WEEK:

The angel said to the women, 'Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. He is not here; he has risen, just as he said.'

Matthew 29:5,6

Hello dear ECC family,

I just wanted to update you on the situation at Diospi Suyana Hospital, Curahuasi, Peru, where Sarah and I went in November to do the Club Foot Training Course.

My niece and her husband, who is the hospital administrator, explained that due to the strict government lockdown, only emergency patients are being seen. This has reduced the income of the hospital from the small charges for treatment made to patients who can afford it. This income is used to pay local healthcare staff (foreign volunteers raise their own support from home).

In addition to this, the hospital only has 5 ventilators. Steven and the director made an 18-hour car journey to Lima, the capital (having special passes and numerous police checks along the way) to try and procure some more.

Due to the generosity of you all at ECC and other sources, Sarah and I (and Lis) still had some money "left over" (£800) from our trip and were keeping it for the next trip, which we were hoping to do this year, to do the Advanced course. We have made the decision to forward these funds directly to the hospital, and hope you all agree. It's so great that we can be of help in this time of need.

Thanks again to all for making this possible.

Sarah and Chela x

Easter Sunday Worship Songs

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The greatest day in history

Death is beaten You have rescued me
Sing it out Jesus is alive
The empty cross the empty grave
Life eternal You have won the day
Shout it out Jesus is alive
He's alive

Chorus: And oh happy day happy day
You washed my sin away
Oh happy day happy day
I'll never be the same
Forever I am changed

When I stand in that place
Free at last meeting face to face
I am Yours Jesus You are mine
Endless joy perfect peace
Earthly pain finally will cease
Celebrate Jesus is alive
He's alive

Oh what a glorious day
What a glorious way
That You have saved me
And oh what a glorious day
What a glorious name, Yeah!

Ben Cantelon, Tim Hughes ©2006 Thankyou Music

See, the stone has rolled away,
No more trace of death, just an empty space,
History is changed.
All the things You claim to be,
Every promise made, every prophecy
Finally came true,
Today You make things new.

**CHORUS: O what a glorious day,
You are alive, You are the Christ,
O what a price You paid,
Your joy has filled my heart on this glorious day.**

Now, to go and tell the news
Of my Saviour King and His saving truth,
Jesus is alive,
He has risen from the grave,
He has conquered all my sin and shame,
Finally I'm free
For all eternity.

Jesus is alive
Jesus is alive
Jesus is alive
Jesus is alive!

Tim Light and Don Chapman
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Here is the risen Son riding out in glory

Radiating light all around
Here is the Holy Spirit
Poured out for the nations
Glorifying Jesus the Lamb

We will stand as a people
Who are upright and holy
We will worship the Lord of hosts
We will watch we will wait
On the walls of the city
We will look and see what He will say to us.

Ev'ry knee shall bow before Him
Ev'ry tongue confess that He is King of kings
Lord of lords and Ruler of the earth

Michael Sandeman © 1997 Thankyou Music

