**Easter Sunday 12th April**

1 Peter 1: 3-7

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, **4**and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade. This inheritance is kept in heaven for you, **5**who through faith are shielded by God’s power until the coming of the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time. **6**In all this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials. **7**These have come so that the proven genuineness of your faith – of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire – may result in praise, glory and honour when Jesus Christ is revealed.

Christ is Risen! He is risen indeed! Hallelujah!! Shout in triumph to the Lord! He has won the victory! The resurrection of Jesus Christ is well-attested in history, and it is the source of our hope and confidence in God. Because of the resurrection of Jesus, we know He is who he said he was, that all His words are truth and that He can be fully relied upon to keep His promises! Because of the resurrection of Jesus, we know that His sacrifice on the cross was fully effective, winning the battle against sin and all other attempts of the enemy to kill, steal and destroy! Because of the resurrection of Jesus, we know that we have a hope and a future – an eternity with the Lord – death is defeated! Because of the resurrection of Jesus, we know that the troubles we face in this life will not have the last word! Praise be to our God!

Worship the risen Jesus with all your heart today! He is worthy! You could join us singing: ‘All Hail King Jesus’ <https://youtu.be/8U8eHs1xqxk>

*Praise to you King Jesus! You have conquered sin and death and hell! We rejoice in you today, our great Saviour! As we celebrate your victory, we pray that this Good News will ring out over our nation today, and that many will come to know your saving grace and the life in all its fullness that you bring. Amen.*

