

Read **John 20.1-18**

Jesus died on Friday; it is now Sunday morning. In their grief, three friends visit Jesus' tomb and find him gone. Two leave, believing the body has been taken, but Mary remains, perhaps looking for something to hold onto in this difficult time, and Jesus is revealed to her. She runs to tell the other disciples that Jesus is alive.

**A note on the passage** And suddenly, the story seems to be over. Jesus, who promised so much, is gone. The dream is over. Jesus' closest friends are shattered. This wasn't the plan. Illegally tried, brutally hung up to die and then shoved in a borrowed grave before the start of the Sabbath. The friends wait. What is there left to do? And then Sunday, time to properly treat the body which was so hastily buried two days before – and then what? Go back to what life was like before? Except that Mary doesn't find him in the tomb, as expected, instead she meets him – alive – in the garden.



*How would you describe the mystery of Easter?*



## Wesley Methodist Church

**Minister: Revd. Josephine Soon 01384 821854**

Link for on line worship

<https://www.valeofstour.org.uk/virtual-church/live/vosworship>

**Newsletter: Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> April 2021**

**Easter Sunday**



**Church Contact: Margaret Kite 01384 392310**

**As always, Stay safe God Bless**

## An Easter Hymn

1 Christ the Lord is risen today, Alleluia!  
Earth and heaven in chorus say, Alleluia!  
Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia!  
Sing, ye heavens, and earth reply, Alleluia!

2 Love's redeeming work is done, Alleluia!  
Fought the fight, the battle won, Alleluia!  
Death in vain forbids him rise, Alleluia!  
Christ has opened paradise, Alleluia!

3 Lives again our glorious King, Alleluia!  
Where, O death, is now thy sting? Alleluia!  
Once he died our souls to save, Alleluia!  
Where's thy victory, boasting grave? Alleluia!

4 Soar we now where Christ has led, Alleluia!  
Following our exalted Head, Alleluia!  
Made like him, like him we rise, Alleluia!  
Ours the cross, the grave, the skies, Alleluia!

5 King of glory, soul of bliss, Alleluia!  
Everlasting life is this, Alleluia!  
Thee to know, thy power to prove, Alleluia!  
Thus to sing, and thus to love, Alleluia!

Thank you to those who have been sending collection by cheque or bacs, but please note that from April we can only claim the Gift Aid, under the Small Donations Scheme on Cash. You may wish to keep collection until we start services. If you are a tax payer and have signed up for Gift Aid, there is no problem with whichever method of payment you make.

Cheques/bacs can still be accepted for donations to church funds.

From Revd Josephine Re Birch Coppice

Dear all,  
I am delighted to invite all of you who are ready to back to congregational worship!

Rev Matthew and myself are preparing for the first **BC Gathering Worship** in the Birch Coppice chapel - Easter Sunday.  
While our Birch Coppice Methodist Church worship will be postpone until further notice.

**Day:** Every **1st** Sunday and **3rd** Sunday

**Time:** **3pm**

**Address:** Birch Coppice Methodist Church, Coppice Lane, DY5 1AR

**Car park:** Road side

We will continue with our monthly **3rd Sunday 2pm-3pm for Food Bank Collection Day**.

For **booking seats**, please contact: Rev Matthew Brookes  
07810660649

For any other matter or information or query or concern, please contact  
Rev Josephine Soon 013884 821854

All are welcome, first 'book' first get a seat.

In Christ,

*Josephine*