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## BARROW UPON SOAR METHODIST CHURCH

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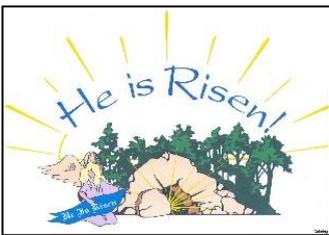
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# BUSMC - KEEPING CONNECTED



NOTICES FOR SUNDAY 14<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2020

## EASTER SUNDAY

Flowers are added to the cross.

Reading: John 20:1, 11, 12, 14-16

Early on Sunday morning, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene went to the tomb and saw that the stone had been taken away from the entrance. Mary stood crying outside the tomb. While she was still crying, she bent over and looked in the tomb and saw two angels there dressed in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been, one at the head and the other at the feet. Then she turned around and saw Jesus standing there; but she did not know that it was Jesus. "Woman, why are you crying?" Jesus asked her. "Who is it that you are looking for?" She thought that he was the gardener, so she said to him, "If you took him away, sir, tell me where you have put him and I will go and get him." Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned towards him and said in Hebrew, "Rabboni!" (This means "Teacher.")

**Prayer – Prayer** – Lord Jesus, our long, dark walk through Lent is finished. This new day is bathed in your resurrection light! Thanks be to God. Amen.

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**YOUR PRAYERS** are asked this week for **KATE AND MIKE MORLEY** as they have had been on a roller coaster of emotions this week! Mike Morley's sister Kath is in Doncaster Hospital with heart and kidney problems, sepsis and Covid-19 and is very seriously ill. And for Kate's brother, Howard who has just returned home after spending 10 days in the Northern General Hospital, Sheffield also with Covid-19 and now needs rest. Our love and prayers for them and all the families.

We also think of Glenda this week as she is getting quite distressed and doesn't understand what is happening!

### REDEDICATION OF THE REFURBISHED WORSHIP AREA

I am sure that you will have realised that the Rededication Service of our newly refurbished Worship Area will not now be taking place on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> May as originally planned. As soon as the situation improves, we will be speaking to our guest speakers and will arrange a new date.

### EASTER CROSS

As you know every year, we bring flowers on Easter Sunday to decorate our empty cross and transform it into something beautiful. This year we may not be able to meet in person but we would like to create a digital cross of flowers. We ask you to submit photographs of flowers that you may have taken in your garden or on your daily exercise and send to Natalie at [natalie.thompson@sky.com](mailto:natalie.thompson@sky.com) by midday on Saturday and the digital cross will then be pasted on Easter Sunday on our Facebook page and on our website. Thanks in advance

xx

## WORTH A LOOK

Bella Ramsey, a local girl and actress who was in "Game of Thrones" and played Mildred Hubble in "The Worst Witch" has felt led to start a You Tube channel "United Hope" with daily updates and thoughts to help us through the current situation. <https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=cxPaY2ba4jo&feature=youtu.be>

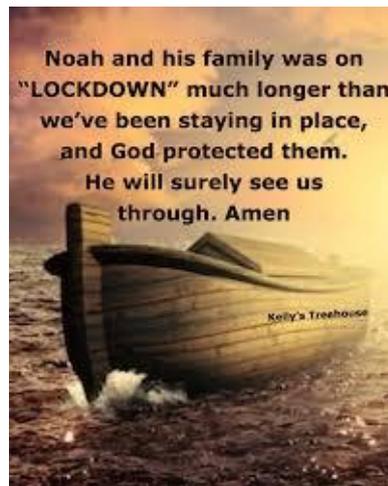
**IF YOU NEED HELP:** John's phone number is at the top of this document should you have need to contact him. Heather and Carolyn have very kindly offered to get shopping for anyone so if you, or anyone you are in contact with, needs anything give Heather a call on 620261

There is also a group of volunteers **BARROW UPON SOAR HELPING HANDS** which consists of folk from the village, the Conservative Club and the Baptist Church – you can contact them on 07395902961 or email [community@barrowbaptist.org.uk](mailto:community@barrowbaptist.org.uk)

## ALERT

Criminals are targeting people with NHS scam emails. The NHS will NEVER ask you to send money directly to a bank account. If you would like to donate to the NHS, you should do so via their official channels or your local NHS Trust. Watch out for scams both at the door and online – be vigilant!!

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## BIBLE READINGS AND REFLECTION FOR EASTER DAY

(from *The Vine at Home*)

**Readings: Colossians 3:1-4** The New Life in Christ

So, if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. <sup>2</sup>Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth, <sup>3</sup>for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. <sup>4</sup>When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

**John 20:1-18 - The Resurrection of Jesus**

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. **2** So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him." **3** Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went toward the tomb. **4** The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. **5** He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. **6** Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, **7** and the cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. **8** Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; **9** for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. **10** Then the disciples returned to their homes. Jesus Appears to Mary Magdalene. **11** But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; **12** and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. **13** They said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him." **14** When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. **15** Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?" Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away." **16** Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned and said to him in Hebrew, <sup>[a]</sup> "Rabbouni!" (which means Teacher). **17** Jesus said to her, "Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'" **18** Mary

Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord"; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

### REFLECTIONS ON THE READINGS:

Why are we here? What happens when we die? What is the meaning of life?  
(If you listened to the Hitchhikers' Guide to the Galaxy, perhaps you are already muttering '42')  
Is this all there is to existence?

Perhaps these 'big questions' feel more pertinent than ever at the moment.

Easter Sunday doesn't necessarily answer all the big questions, and the Easter story raises one or two of its own...

But Easter does add a huge portion of hope to the equation. That's what this day is all about: because he lives, I can face tomorrow. On Easter Sunday, or Resurrection Sunday as it is in some traditions, we celebrate the remarkable crescendo of the gospel stories – where the crucified Jesus becomes the risen Jesus. Where death loses its sting. Where life, love and hope win against death, hate and despair.

This crucial moment in the Christian story, and in the story of humanity, doesn't immediately bring about the end of all that is evil, unjust or broken in our world.

Easter doesn't solve the world's problems. We know that, as we live through the pain and confusion of a global pandemic.

But that is why Easter matters.

Because, at Easter, we realise that "the worst thing is never the last thing" (to quote Pastor Adam Hamilton from the Church of the Resurrection in the USA). At Easter, we learn that "it will be alright in the end, and if it's not alright, it's not the end" (to quote Mark Kermode, film reviewer and podcaster).

The big questions, the uncertainty and the pain don't disappear with the resurrection. But everything seems a little bit brighter. That's what it means to be a resurrection people, to be an 'Easter people' – we have hope.

So when it comes to questions about the afterlife, we can't possibly know for certain what it will look like. But because of Jesus, because we believe in resurrection, we have hope.

When it comes to existential questions like 'why are we here?' or 'what is the meaning of life?', we don't know quite how to answer – but we have hope.

When we think about the future, when we face up to uncertainty and anxiety, when we watch the news or live with the pain of our families and friends, we can't bring immediate resolution. We can't fix everything overnight. But we have hope.

As Paul puts in in Colossians, we are 'made alive' in Christ. We live life to the full, and we live it with hope, because we are resurrection people.

On that first Easter, Jesus' followers found themselves locked away inside. Scared, confused, bereaved. Their whole way of life, what was normal to them, their lives for the last few years, had been taken away from them, and so suddenly as well. So, as we sit in our homes, with so much of our normal not available to us, let us briefly look forward in the Gospel. Pentecost was just around the corner for them – our Pentecost is just off in the distance. The disciples will discover that they could not go back to how it had been, however much they wanted to...

But that is for the coming weeks. So today, as you go about your day, whatever that involves, go about it with hope.

**Christ is risen. He is risen indeed. Hallelujah!**

*The Vine at Home is compiled and produced by twelvebaskets*



Four candles slowly burned  
The ambience was so soft you could almost hear them talking  
The first candle said "I am peace. The world is full of anger and fighting  
Nobody can keep me lit"  
Then the flame of peace went out completely  
The second candle said "I am Faith I am no longer indispensable  
It doesn't make sense that I stay lit another minute"

Just then a breeze softly blew Faith's flame  
Sadly, the third candle began to speak. "I Am Love and I haven't the strength to stay lit any longer.  
People put me aside and don't understand my importance. They even forget to love those who are  
nearest to them."

And waiting no longer, Love goes out completely.

Suddenly a child enters the room and sees the three candles no longer burning.  
The child begins to cry, "Why are you not burning? You are supposed to stay lit until the end."

Then the Fourth Candle spoke gently to the small child, "Don't be afraid, for I Am Hope  
and while I still burn, we can re-light the other candles."

With shining eyes, the child took the Candle of Hope and lit the other three candles.

The greatest of these is Love but Hope should never go out of your life

With Hope each of us can live with Peace, Faith and Love

Dear God, you are my light and my salvation. You are my hope, please come into my heart, forgive all my  
wrongs and give me your wonderful gift of eternal life. Help me be an instrument of your love and cause  
your light to shine on others through me. Amen

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The Notice Board and Display window at church kept up to date by Kate.



## SERVICE SHEETS AND STREAMED SERVICES FROM THE METHODIST CHURCH OF GREAT BRITAIN

Those of us who can access the internet may wish to worship at home using material from the Methodist Church website: [www.methodist.org.uk](http://www.methodist.org.uk)

Live services are streamed from:

- Wesley's chapel in London at 11.00 am
- Swan Bank Methodist Church in Burslem near Stoke on Trent – 10.45 am
- Methodist Central Hall Westminster at 11.00 am
- There is also Songs of Praise on BBC 1 at 1.15 pm this Sunday
- Morning Worship on BBC 1 at 11.25 am - To celebrate Easter Sunday, the Very Rev Kathy Jones leads a service from Bangor Cathedral in north Wales.
- Britain's Easter Story Gareth Malone and Karen Gibson learn how Easter was once banned and reveal the story of a hymn by prolific writer Charles Wesley. With music from the Kingdom Choir. Sunday 10.10 am.
- Radio 4 has Sunday morning Worship at 8.10 am this week; a specially compiled service to celebrate the joyful story of Easter resurrection with the Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby

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## A REFLECTION FOR EASTER DAY

### HE SPEAKS YOUR NAME – Please read John Chapter 20 verses 1-18

Do you remember Eliza Doolittle? She's the heroine of Shaw's play Pygmalion (musical 'My Fair Lady'). She's a flower girl. Professor Henry Higgins bets with a friend that he can pass her off in high society as a born and bred duchess. He's using her to feed his own vanity. It doesn't work out and, in the final scene, an angry Eliza hurls this at Higgins:

'The difference between a flower girl and duchess isn't the way she behaves; it's the way she's treated.' I wonder about Mary Magdalene, in the garden early that Easter morning. The gospels tell us little about her, but tradition has it that she was a woman who'd had a troubled life, used and exploited by others – a sort of flower girl for the Henry Higgins of this world. But, whatever her troubles, she had found healing in Jesus' friendship. You might say He treated her like a duchess. She became the Mary God intended.

When Jesus hung on the cross, dying, as darkness enveloped the land, Mary, standing, watching, must have felt the darkness, herself dying inside. But in the garden, early that morning, she heard the gardener speak her name – 'Mary'. I imagine that only Jesus said her name 'Mary' that way. In that moment, in that 'Mary', she knew Jesus risen. And His resurrection was her resurrection. If the Christmas message is 'God is with us', then the Easter message is 'God is with us, no matter what'. At a time like this we need to hear and celebrate that 'no matter what'.



I pray that this Easter each one of us may hear Jesus speak our name in His unique way; and that this Easter we may know that His resurrection is our resurrection too

Paul Johns

### SURNAMES QUIZ ANSWERS – Did you identify these twenty surnames from the clues

1. Sounds like a fairy tale man	Anderson	11. Gentle tread	Lightfoot
2. One of a carillon	bell	12. Car or dancer?	Morris
3. A good place for a tea party	Boston	13. Ouch! Sounds like tooth ache	Payne
4. Fruit for the pie	Cherry	14. Useful on the farm	Pitchfork
5. Ready, steady .....e	Cooke	15. One on its own	Singleton
6. .... robbers	Copson	16. Horseshoe maker	Smith
7. Jimmy the goal scorer	Greaves	17. One on another, says the carol	Snow
8. Half an hour?	Hancock	18 True to the plumb line	Wall
9. Long for warmth	Johns	19. Hall to meet in	Webster
10. As royal as it gets	King	20. Holes or Fargo	Wells

This quiz was copied from the Keyworth Methodist Church newsletter (with their permission) so question 19 relates to a hall in Keyworth so probably Heather is the only one who might know that!

### BAD JOKES – REALLY BAD JOKES!

There was a partridge, a grouse and a pheasant – all dressed up as clowns  
Game for a lough!

I told the doctor I feel as if I have been hit on the head with a bongo  
He said, "You've probably got slight percussion!

I've got a horse called treacle  
He's got golden stirrups!

I visited a monastery and as I walked by, I saw a man frying chips. I asked him "Are you the Friar?"  
No, he said I'm the Chip Monk!

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Test your Bible knowledge with these trivia questions related to Easter Week.  
Answers next week

### QUESTIONS

1. What was the Jewish feast which was being celebrated the week Christ was crucified?
2. When Jesus entered Jerusalem during what is known as His Triumphal Entry, what animal was He riding on?
3. Why is the Sunday before the resurrection called Palm Sunday?

4. Which disciple cut off the ear of the high priest's servant in an attempt to protect Jesus from being taken as a prisoner?
5. What was the name of the high priest's servant who had his ear cut off by the disciple and subsequently reattached by Jesus?
6. How many times did Peter deny Christ after he abandoned the Lord?
7. How many pieces of silver did Judas trade the life of Jesus for?
8. How did Judas identify Jesus to the soldiers?
9. In repentance Judas returned the money to the priests that he was given as the price of betrayal of the Lord and then did what?
10. The priests took the money that Judas had returned to them and did what with it?
11. Who was surprisingly released before Pontius Pilate sentenced Jesus to death?
12. What did Pilate's wife counsel him to do concerning Jesus?
13. A man named Simon was compelled to carry the cross of Jesus. In Mark 15 we are told the names of Simon's two sons. What were their names?
14. What was the inscription above the cross?
15. Can you quote 4 of the 7 statements recorded in the Bible that Christ said from the cross?
16. Following the statements of Jesus on the cross, there was a statement by a Roman soldier concerning Christ. What was it?
17. What happened in the Temple as a sign that the death of Jesus had made way for the individual believer to approach God?
18. When Jesus died there was darkness in the land. How long did it last?
19. In John 19 two men helped prepare the body of Christ for burial. One is said to have been a secret disciple and another secretly came to Jesus early in His ministry to ask a question. Who were these men?
20. Who was the first person to see the risen Christ?