



GODALMING UNITED CHURCH
(Methodist & United Reformed)

SERVICES FOR SUNDAY APRIL 16th 2017 - **EASTER DAY** and notices for the coming week

For me, personally, Easter Day is the great climax of the Christian year. That is a statement of faith, and I cannot prove it in any empirical sense, but that doesn't mean it is not true. Faith for me, as for any humble believer, is not the absence of doubt. Nor is it an intellectually inferior position to take. It just happens to be a fact of life. (ie There are so many things I cannot prove by rational argument alone.) The element of Trust, which is an essential ingredient of faith, is all part of the reality of discovery, especially in relation to faith in the Risen Jesus.

In this act of worship, when we are joined with millions of other Christians on this Easter day, we are not primarily concerned with making and winning an argument. Christianity isn't about some fanatical superior assertion of what constitutes Truth, and condemning everybody who doesn't see things the way we do. It's about joyfully and with deep reverence, as we gather at the Table of the Lord, affirming the truth that binds us together in the Love of God revealed in Jesus Christ Our Lord. Our service does not begin with a question or a supposition, but with an affirmation of Faith:

'Alleluia Christ is risen. He is risen indeed, Alleluia!'

May we meet the Risen Christ this morning, as those disheartened disciples did in the Easter Garden. And may we go in peace, assured that the Risen Lord goes with us.

Paul Hulme

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK

Heavenly Father,
As we celebrate the resurrection of your son Jesus, inspire us with his glory so that in our daily lives we may reflect his everlasting love to others. Amen.

Today's stewards are

Vestry Steward Nancy Wilks
Duty Steward Sue Weighton

(stewards are the people to ask, if you need help before, during or after a service)

Our CLOSED LOOP SYSTEM requires hearing aids to be switched to 'T'.
Recordings of our services are available through the church website, or a CD
copy can be provided on request – please ask a Steward.

The Church operates a system of covenanted, planned giving (details of
which may be obtained from Nicola Garriock).

There is a children's area available at the rear of the Church which parents
and their young children may use during the service.

10.30am MORNING WORSHIP with HOLY COMMUNION

Led by	Rev Paul Hulme
Organist:	David Hartnell
Hosts:	Sylvia Hunt and Christine Wells
Sound System:	Richard August
Projection steward:	Julie Rowling

Call to Worship

Alleluia! Christ is Risen
He is Risen indeed! Alleluia!

Hymn (StF) 298 Christ the Lord is risen today

Responsive Psalm 796 (StF)

Prayer Page 160-161 (*Methodist Worship Book*)

Hymn (StF) 314 This joyful Eastertide

Lessons

1 Corinthians 15 v.12 – 20 (p.1155) read by Peter Riddy

Mark 16 v.1 – 8 (p.1023) read by Elizabeth Phillips

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord
Congregation: **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn (StF) 303

I know that my Redeemer lives

Sermon

Music for Reflection

Prayers and Lord's Prayer Page 165 - 166 *(MWB)*

Collection and dedication of the Offering *(congregation please stand)*

Holy Communion Page 169ff *(MWB)*

Prayer Page 172A *(MWB)*

Hymn (StF) 313

Thine be the glory

The Blessing

Everyone is welcome to join us for coffee or tea or a drink
of squash in the River Room after the service.

Thank you to Wendy Weston and her helpers for the Easter flowers.
If you would like to take an arrangement from the window sills
after the service this would be much appreciated.

**Traidcraft and Mission stalls will be in the Hall
after the service next Sunday 23rd April**

There will be a **Church Meeting** after the morning service on
Sunday 30th April

Membership and Confirmation classes led by Rev Claire Potter will be held at
Merrow Methodist Church on Wednesday evenings, 26th April, 3rd May,
17th May and 31st May, at 7.30pm.

(further information on a poster in the foyer)

