

Amazing God, we praise you that  
from the silence of an empty tomb,  
a message of joy has spread around the world.

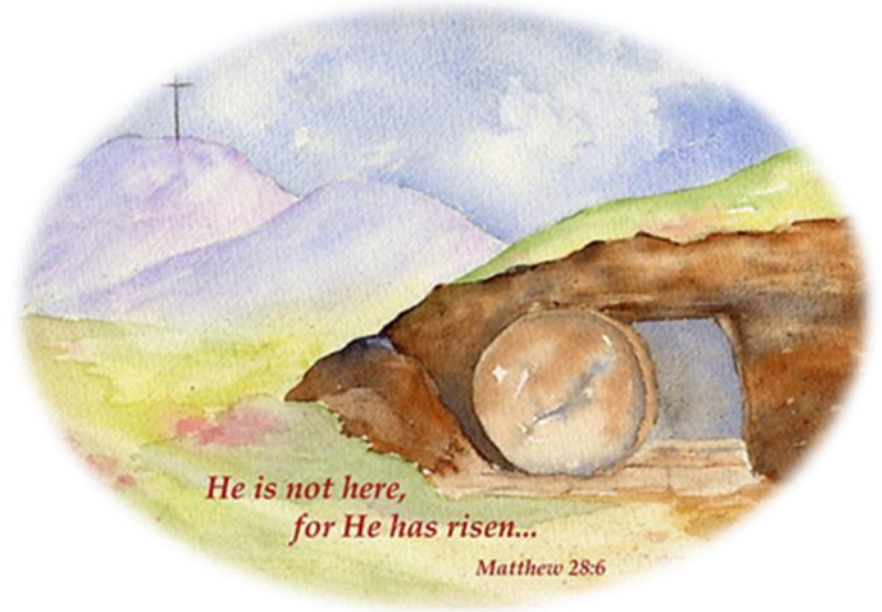
From the brutality of a death on a cross,  
healing love has touched the whole of creation.

From the initial uncertainty  
of the first disciples,  
your Church has grown  
and reached out in faith to all.

Thank you for Easter;  
thank you for life;  
thank you for  
everything.

Amen

## Wimborne Methodist Church Easter newsletter



April 2022

## Message from the Minister

John 20: 11-16 *Mary stood weeping outside the tomb, and as she wept she stooped to look into the tomb. And she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had laid, one at the head and one at the feet. <sup>13</sup>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." <sup>14</sup>Having said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing, but she did not know that it was Jesus. <sup>15</sup>Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you seeking?" 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." <sup>16</sup>Jesus said to her, "Mary." She turned and said to him in Aramaic, "Rabboni!" (which means Teacher).*

Dear Friends,

We read how Mary stood sobbing beside Jesus' tomb on that first Easter morning. At first sight the story of Mary Magdalene in the garden is a little puzzling. How is it that, having been told Jesus has risen and then seeing him face to face, she doesn't realise who he is? Yet is that really so strange? She had watched as he drew his last breath on the cross, she had seen him carried limp and lifeless into the tomb, she had witnessed the stone being rolled across and understandably she was convinced that it was all over, his life irrevocably extinguished. Anybody who has faced the apparent finality of the death of a loved one will understand those feelings.

Yet slowly the truth dawned: from that ending had come a new beginning, a beginning not just for Jesus, but for her and everyone. Joy, hope, purpose, love, which had all been buried with Jesus in

the tomb, came leaping back to life; the future that a moment before had seemed so empty was suddenly brimming over with promise. That is the truth of resurrection not just for Mary but also for us all. It does not only speak of life beyond the grave, it tells us that from what looks to be the bleakest of endings God is able to bring new beginnings beyond our wildest dreams. Ask yourself, 'What wild dreams, what new beginnings' are you being called to act upon, what is God asking you to do, in order to assist you on your faith journey?

Every Blessing



## Up and coming special services and events

April 10th	10.30am	Palm Sunday	Miss Liz Ward
April 12th	7pm	Service of Lights	St Catherine's
April 14th	7pm	Maundy Thursday HC	Revd Pauline Crispin
April 15th	11am	Walk of Witness	Churches together
April 17th	10.30am	Easter Day HC	Revd Robert McBain
April 24th	10.30pm	2nd of Easter	Mrs Dania Middleditch
May 1st	10.30am	Holy Communion	Revd Pauline Crispin
May 8th	10.30am	4th of Easter	Mr David Webb
May 15th	10.30am	World Church Day	Mr Andy Dye
May 22nd	10.30am	Aldersgate Sunday	Revd Andrew de Ville
May 29th	10.30am	7th of Easter	Revd Pauline Crispin
May 29th	4pm / 5pm	Easter offering Dedication Service tea @ 4pm. The service @ 5pm	MWiB

