

1. Jesus Christ, Son of God,  
gave his life upon a cross,  
but the power of death was not  
enough to hold him down.

**Sing out an Easter song,  
tell everyone that the Lord has risen,  
sing out a joyful song,  
tell everybody that he's alive!**



2. Taken down from public view,  
he was placed inside a tomb,  
but the power of love broke through  
and raised him back to life.

**Sing out an Easter song...**

3 He returned to see his friends,  
showed himself alive again.

What a day it must have been  
to have him back again!

**Sing out an Easter song...**

*Mark & Helen Johnson*

Alleluia

**GATHERING HYMN:**

'Alleluia, Alleluia, Give thanks to the Risen Lord' – (9)

**COLLECT:**

Risen, ascended Lord,  
as we rejoice at your triumph,  
fill your Church on earth with power and compassion,  
that all who are estranged by sin  
may find forgiveness and know your peace,  
to the glory of God the Father. **Amen**

**FIRST READING**

**Acts 1: 15-17 & 21 – 26**

One day there were about 120 of the Lord's followers meeting together, and Peter stood up to speak to them. He said:

My friends, long ago by the power of the Holy Spirit, David said something about Judas, and what he said has now happened. Judas was one of us and had worked with us, but he brought the mob to arrest Jesus.

So we need someone else to help us tell others that Jesus has been raised from death. He must also be one of the men who was with us from the very beginning. He must have been with us from the time the



Lord Jesus was baptized by John until the day he was taken to heaven. Two men were suggested: One of them was Joseph Barsabbas, known as Justus, and the other was Matthias. Then they all prayed, "Lord, you know what everyone is like! Show us the one you have chosen to be an apostle and to serve in place of Judas, who got what he deserved." They drew names, and Matthias was chosen to join the group of the eleven apostles.

For the word of the Lord **Thanks be to God-**

## SECOND READING

1 John 5: 9-13

We believe what people tell us. But we can trust what God says even more, and God is the one who has spoken about his Son. If we have faith in God's Son, we have believed what God has said. But if we don't believe what God has said about his Son, it is the same as calling God a liar. God has also said he gave us eternal life and this life comes to us from his Son. And so, if we have God's Son, we have this life. But if we don't have the Son, we don't have this life.

All of you have faith in the Son of God, and I have written to let you know you have eternal life.

For the word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God**

**GOSPEL HYMN**— 'All Heaven Declares' – (16)

**We repeat the first verse after the Gospel Reading**

## GOSPEL

John 17: 6-19



You have given me some followers from this world, and I have shown them what you are like. They were yours, but you gave them to me, and they have obeyed you. They know that you gave me everything I have. I told my followers what you told me, and they accepted it. They know I came from you, and they believe you are the one who sent me. I am praying for them, but not for those who belong to this world. My followers belong to you, and I am praying for them. All I have is yours, and all you have is mine, and they

will bring glory to me.

Holy Father, I am no longer in the world. I am coming to you, but my followers are still in the world. So keep them safe by the power of the name you have given me. Then they will be one with each other, just as you and I are one. While I was with them, I kept them safe by the power you have given me. I guarded them, and not one of them was lost, except the one who had to be lost. This happened so that what the Scriptures say would come true. I am on my way to you. But I say these

things while I am still in the world, so my followers will have the same complete joy that I do. I have told them your message. But the people of this world hate them, because they don't belong to this world, just as I don't.

Father, I don't ask you to take my followers out of the world, but keep them safe from the evil one. They don't belong to this world, and neither do I. Your word is the truth. So let this truth make them completely yours. I am sending them into the world, just as you sent me. I have given myself completely for their sake, so they may belong completely to the truth.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**HYMN OF THE GIFTS:** 'Give Me Joy in my Heart' – (183)

## COMMUNION HYMNS:

'Bread is Blessed and Broken' – (72)

'Let Us Break Bread Together' – (382)

## POST COMMUNION

Eternal God, giver of love and power,  
your Son Jesus Christ has sent us into all the world  
to preach the gospel of his kingdom:  
confirm us in this mission,  
and help us to live the good news we proclaim;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen**

**FINAL HYMN:** 'Sing Out an Easter Song'

**Sing out an Easter song,  
tell everyone that the Lord has risen,  
sing out a joyful song,  
tell everybody that he's alive!**