

HE HAS RISEN!

“For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures, and that he appeared to Cephas and then to the twelve.”

1 Corinthians 15:3-5

REFLECTION

The death and resurrection of Jesus Christ did not happen randomly. It was part of God's plan of salvation for the world. That is why Paul in his letter to the Christians in Corinth wrote that what happened to Jesus at Calvary, culminating with the empty tomb, was no accident. They happened *“in accordance with the scriptures.”* The Bible had anticipated the coming of Christ, his cruel death and his victorious resurrection. This momentous event was witnessed by more than 500 *“brothers and sisters”* (1 Cor. 15:6) It happened in real time and history.

What this means is that we serve and worship the Living Lord and not a dead deity. The reality of the Resurrection of Jesus gives us the resource and stamina to live life to the fullest, following the teachings of Christ and not some godless ideas and value-systems.

Christians need not fear the future. We do not have to be afraid of uncertainties. We do not have to be anxious about death. Like Bill and Gloria Gaither have written, *“Because he lives, I can face tomorrow. Because he lives, all fear is gone. Because I know who holds the future, and life is worth the living, just because he lives.”*

PRAYER

Living Lord, it is a privilege to worship you and serve you! With your resurrection, we can live life without fear. When you conquered death, you freed us from despair and darkness and directed us to the path of hope. We give you thanks for reaching out to us and rescuing us from the trap of wasteful life to a life of faith, hope and love made available by our Risen Lord. Amen.

SUPPLICATION

- We praise and glorify our Lord for the message of hope that comes with the Easter event when Jesus defeated death and appeared as the

victorious King of kings. As Easter people, we pray that our Lord will grant us courage to proclaim that Jesus is alive, and that the Easter songs we sing will not be mistaken as a dirge, but songs of celebration, with the joy of the Lord in our hearts.

- We bring before God our own family and friends, asking that our Lord will watch over them. We pray that those who have yet to accept Jesus as their Lord and Saviour, will do so, prompted by the power of the resurrected Christ and the persuasion of the Holy Spirit. May our Lord use us as channels of his redemptive love, setting desirable example for others to follow and leading them to the saving knowledge of Christ.
- We pray for those who are sick and those struggling to stay afloat in this turbulent pandemic time. We name them _____ before the Lord, pleading that our Lord will stretch out his healing hands to restore health and offer his helping hands to find suitable jobs for the unemployed and those living in fear of losing their regular income.
- Looking at the challenges we face in our world today, we commit in prayer to God to raise up leaders from among young Christians with brilliant minds, humble spirit, deep spiritually, and an uncompromising love for God and neighbours. Pray that God will give us Christian leaders who are willing and prepared to provide pastoral leadership as well as thought leadership; leaders who will inspire confidence in our Christian walk with God, in cultivating greater love for God and in contributing to the social and spiritual well-being of both Church and society.

*“Christ has died,
Christ is risen,
Christ will come again.”*

**If you need any prayer or pastoral care support,
kindly contact the pastoral care team via:**

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