

Risen and Real: Resources for Intergenerational Worship Easter to Pentecost Year B



What this is: Call to worship for weeks of Easter to Pentecost

A multisensory, multi-voiced call to worship, drawing together the biblical themes and images from the lectionary readings from Easter to Pentecost.

The central unifying idea is that we are witnesses of Jesus' life and death and life, and we encounter Jesus through our senses, through Word, through sacrament and through one another in community.



Where it's used: In any intergenerational gathering, but specifically with Lectionary based gatherings



Time: 3 minutes



Bible focus/theme: Lectionary readings Easter 2-7; Encountering the Risen Lord.



What's needed:

- Text of the call to worship displayed on screen or in print form and distributed among the gathering. Slide show available here:
- A3 posters of the Chris Booth artwork images for this series.

Download here:

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/5sbbccun37k6v9hi/AABJ3ATPknDul8dvXme7eiGga?dl=0>

- Some readers for green individual solo lines pre-arranged.
- Items for sensory display
 - o Brick or large stone
 - o strips of white bandages with the name 'Jesus' written along them
 - o transparent bowl of water
 - o Cross made of sticks tied together with white wool
 - o Stretch of vine
 - o Metal tray of magnetic words
 - o Collection of plasticene 'blob' figures in many different colours
 - o Basket of bread and fruit

Read with deliberate rhythm and intention, enthusiasm and expression.
Take it slowly and feel the weight and joy of each line.
Leave time for the images and symbols (*indicated in italics*) to connect with the words.
Divide your group between the lines indicated in different colours (see guide below).

Call to worship.

Jesus is Risen
Jesus is risen
He is risen indeed
Jesus is Risen
We have seen
Jesus is risen
We know!
we have seen him risen and real
risen and real

Jesus is Risen –
The risen and real creator of the cosmos
Cosmic Creator more steadfast and solid
Than man-made walls of wood and structures of stone.

Jesus is Risen
We have heard
Jesus is risen
We know!
we have heard his voice risen and real
risen and real

Jesus is Risen
We have touched
Jesus is risen
We know!
we have touched his body risen and real
wounded and wondrous
risen and real

Jesus is Risen
We know! we have encountered risen and real
Presence, person,
breath, body,
gift, grace
risen and real

Risen and Real : Call to Worship/3

Jesus is Risen

-building block, cornerstone for new community

Large Stone



Jesus is Risen

-name for healing hurts and hearts – one name holding everyone

Strips of white bandages with the name 'Jesus' written along them



Jesus is Risen

-source of living streams for washing and watering

Transparent bowl of water



Jesus is Risen

-example of leading that lays down life for others

Cross made of sticks tied together with white wool



Risen and Real : Call to Worship/4

Jesus is Risen

-vine connecting us bunches and branches bearing fruit as one growing vine

Stretch of vine;



Jesus is Risen

-word of life to share around – testify!

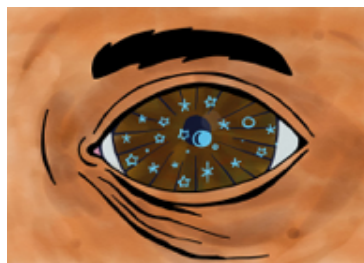
Metal tray of magnetic words



Jesus is Risen

-cosmopolitan choral counterpoint of voices

Collection of plasticene 'blob' figures in many different colours;



Jesus is Risen

single rule, a single way, a single command: Love

Basket of bread and fruit;



Jesus is Risen

risen and real

welcome and with us

present and praised.

*

Risen and Real: Call to Worship

What is this ?

This call to worship is designed to be used across all of the Sundays from Easter to Pentecost.

It draws together many of the themes of the lectionary texts for those weeks in language and in image.

Where in the liturgy can it be used?

Either use this as your call to worship at the beginning of your gathering, or use it in place of the early word each week, as an intergenerational expression of the texts and themes and images you are exploring as a community.

Who can present or participate and how?

The liturgy has been written with varying strengths and weaknesses of literacy, mobility and emotional courage in mind.

Some in your gathering may be strong readers but of limited mobility, or lacking emotionally expressive courage. Others may be pre or post or illiterate, but bring gifts of disinhibited emotional expression.

Allocate the lines in various colours according to the giftings of your gathering. All will have something to contribute.

The Orange text simply holds the base rhythm 'Jesus is Risen' – invite those who are not keen to say many words, or to read to declaim that line. Practice a couple of times. There is nothing more worthy to be said.

The Red text is the very simplest and smallest part 'Risen and Real'. State this in your invitation and see who volunteers.

The Blue text should be read by as many of the rest of the group who are able to read more fluently. There is still lots of repetition in this part so could include those with at least upper primary education. Allow some time for this group to quietly read over their parts before you begin.

The Green lines are more complex and have no repetition. They are to be shared, a line each, amongst those who are pleased to contribute a 'solo' part.

If you are concerned about the volunteering courage of your community, you might approach some likely candidates before the service and negotiate an allocation.

Risen and Real: Call to Worship

Multisensory elements?

There are images that accompany this series that will be used in a variety of ways throughout the resources.

In this call to worship, arrange for the images (printed on to A3 posters) to be brought to a display board in your gathering space and put up as the call to worship introduces the themes depicted on each poster, as indicated in the written liturgy.

Accompany each image with a solid object, placed on a table near the display board.

- Brick or large stone
- strips of white bandages with the name 'Jesus' written along them
- transparent bowl of water
- Cross made of sticks tied together with white wool
- Stretch of vine
- Metal tray of magnetic words
- Collection of plasticene 'blob' figures in many different colours
- Basket of bread and fruit;

Advice for presentation

Who shall lead?

The value of this kind of call to worship is that it brings many voices together in different ways. Beyond the convention of one leader calling and the whole group responding as one, this liturgy uses different groups within the gathering to call to one another, as well as individual voices. This can work especially well in spaces that are not 'performance' oriented, but community oriented. Consider where each group can be gathered or dispersed and where the facilitation might need to come from – probably not the front.

Finding items for symbols

Be creative and thoughtful in the choice or construction of the sensory items. In the case of each item there are plenty of ways to interpret and source the items. A brick might be a simple house brick, a brick made of many lego pieces, a large roughly hewn bluestone or sandstone block, or a stone that hasn't yet been shaped, more reminiscent of the resurrection stone rolled from the tomb. Remember that the *process* of a group of people deciding what to use for these items and thinking through their appropriateness and meaning, is as much a part of the worship and discipleship of your community as when the items are used in the Sunday gathering.