

THE CHURCH OF ST URSULA BERNE



April - May 2020

St Ursula's Church Jubiläumsplatz 2, 3005 Berne, Switzerland

Chaplain: Revd Helen Marshall

chaplain@stursula.ch

031 351 03 43

Day off: Friday

Lay Reader

Archana Jacob

archana@stursula.ch

Church Office: 031 352 85 67

Marriages, Baptisms and Funerals by arrangement with the Chaplain

Normal pattern of Sunday services:

8.30 Said Eucharist (2nd and 4th Sundays)

10.00 Sung Eucharist with Junior Church and Crèche

Our services follow the Church of England's Common Worship Order One (2000)

On the 2nd Sunday of the month, the 10.00 service is more informal.

See Calendar of Services inside for details of the next few weeks.

Services in Thun: 18.30 on the first and third Thursdays of the month at Chapelle

Romande, Frutigenstrasse 22: Eucharist and Bible study.

Contact: Church Office 031 352 85 67

ST URSULA'S BERNE

The church is one of the nine Swiss chaplaincies that have a resident chaplain (minister) and together form the Archdeaconry of Switzerland. This is part of the Anglican Diocese of Europe which stretches from the Canary Islands to Ankara, from Moscow to Morocco.

The church was built in 1906 on a site that had been given to the community by the British-Berne Land Co. An American lady, Mrs Castleman from St Louis, provided the bulk of the money for the building as a thank offering for the near miraculous recovery of her adopted daughter, who was treated at the clinic of the famous Professor Kocher.

The hall and the house were added in 1959. An English Missionary Society, the USPG, helped to support the church from its earliest days. Since 1977, however, the chaplaincy has been fully self-supporting, relying solely on its members and well-wishers for its financial support.

St Ursula's has a long tradition of ministry to all English-speaking people in the Canton of Berne and beyond. It also provides a home for Christians from many different denominations and cultural backgrounds. Regular worshippers are encouraged to add their names to the Electoral Roll and so play a full part in the life of the church. Details from the Churchwardens or any member of the Church Council.

See Calendar inside for details of this month's services

St Ursula's Church website: www.stursula.ch

E-mail: berne@anglican.ch



St Ursula's Church Magazine

VOL 39/2

April - May 2020

Published & printed in Berne by St Ursula's Church/Hergestellt in Bern durch St Ursula's Church
Appears 6x a year/wird 6x jährlich herausgegeben

Annual Subscription Rates:
Fr22 including inland postage
Postfinance Accounts 30-4416-8 (Church), 60-666488-7 (Charitable Association)

Table of Contents

From the Chaplain	2	Services and Readings	16
Mrs Pilate's Dream	4	Confirmation Service	17
A Word for the Month - Blessing	6	For Your Diary	18
Youth Confirmation Class	7	Shrove Tuesday	19
A Note from the Treasurer	8	Swiss Archdeaconry Retreat 2020	20
AGM Postponed	12	Junior Church News	23
Eco-Notes	13	Happy Birthday	23
Church Breakfasts	13	Bishop's Lent Appeal 2020	24
Pub Quiz Night	14	Charity of the Month– KDWSP	26
Summer Fête– Save the date!	15	Magazine Subscription Notice	29
		Here to Help You	36

NOVEL CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)

During the current pandemic, some of the events scheduled here may be postponed or cancelled. Please check with the Church Office (031 352 85 67) or on the Church website (www.stursula.ch) for recent information.

COPY DATE

for the June - July 2020 magazine is

17 May 2020

Please send copy to magazine@stursula.ch

COLLATING DATE: Thursday 28 May 2020

From the Chaplain

Dear Friends,

As I write this we are well into Lent, a Lent very different from any other I have ever experienced.

During this period we remember Jesus' time in the wilderness, forty days of solitude when he faced extreme physical hardship and spiritual struggle. This may take on a new meaning for us this year when, due to the coronavirus crisis, so many people are now in an enforced solitude and many are experiencing physical, emotional and spiritual struggle. Jesus, in his time of trial in the wilderness, drew nourishment and strength from the scriptures and put his trust in God his Father. I pray that we too may find strength and hope through the Word of God. We can do this through reading the Bible ourselves, but also through listening to reflections, sermons and services on television or online. As many of us have discovered, during this Lent, the words of the Psalms can be a particular resource for us as we express our struggles, doubts and fears and as we pray for a deeper trust in God. (If you want to explore this further, you can look at the material on the Psalms on the website)

Soon we will approach Passion Week, when we recall how Jesus was betrayed, denied and deserted by his closest friends, mocked by the religious leaders and jeered at by the crowds, and then tortured and executed in an agonising way. Even though we will not be able to read the Passion Narrative in church as we usually do on Palm Sunday, I hope we will all read this for ourselves at home. This year it is from Matthew's gospel (Matthew 26 v14 - end of 27). As we read, let us use our imagination to try to enter into the story, seeing ourselves in the attitudes and actions of those around Jesus, yet hearing his words of forgiveness from the cross addressed to us too: 'Father, forgive them for they don't know what they are doing'. Jesus suffered physical and spiritual torment, and as he suffered on the cross, he cried out: 'My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?' Jesus shares fully in the darkest pain and anguish of our world, even the sense of God's seeming absence. But it is in the cross that 'God proves his love for us' (Romans 5 v8); for 'God was in Christ reconciling the world to himself' (2 Corinthians 5 v19).

Jesus' death on the cross is not, of course, the end of the story. The cross is a symbol of hope and redemption, as well as pain and suffering, because of the resurrection. When we meet to celebrate the Eucharist together, which sadly we cannot do at the present time, we say:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.



Can we live as people who believe in the resurrection?

This time of trial and suffering reminds us of the fragility of life. Many things might feel fragile at present in our lives: our health, our family relationships, our social networks. Likewise, many things which we take for granted in our modern life in the West are also looking fragile: economic stability, medical services, a wide range of social activities and leisure pursuits, the freedom to travel, all are under threat in these uncertain times. Perhaps this offers us the opportunity to ponder where our true security comes from. This is a good time to remember that this life is not all that there is. Our hope and security is in God; the God who raised Jesus to life, and will raise us all to new life in him.

This does not mean we have no concern for this present life; far from it. All our energies, our prayers, our compassion should be engaged in caring for the vulnerable near and far. Let us seek to do all we can to provide practical, emotional and spiritual support to one another, our friends, family and neighbours, and especially those who are on their own. We can support one another through phone calls, emails and other social media as well as through our constant prayers. I will continue to send out regular email messages with material for reflection and encouragement, community updates, and different suggestions of how we can stay in touch with each other. We need to ask ourselves how we can care for those in our church community and the wider society, here and abroad, and continue 'being church' in these strange times.

But we also need to remember the bigger picture. Whatever happens in this crisis, to ourselves or our loved ones, to our community, our country or our world, God's love remains sure. If we are people of the resurrection we will not give up hope however sorely we are tested, for nothing can separate us from the love of God in Christ. The death and resurrection of Christ is the firm basis for our confidence that God loves the world he has made, and holds everything and everyone in his loving purposes, now and always.

I look forward to celebrating the joy of the Risen Lord with you.

- *Helen*

Mrs Pilate's Dream

No, of course she wasn't called that. Her husband held something of a key position in the Roman Empire, and the Pontius family had risen above the plebeian social class. To become a prefect, or governor, even of a relatively minor province like Judaea, you needed to be noble – an equestrian, and to be an equestrian, you had to be seriously rich – rich enough to keep a thousand or so soldiers.

Judaea was a small province on the edge of the Empire. The Arabs beyond the southern border were civilized and peaceful. The province of Syria to the north was becoming strategically important. As in many provinces, the local people had their own practices, and as long as everyone kept the provincial laws, the *lex provincialis*, everything went quietly. The locals were not even pressed to receive a Roman education (the commander whose soldiers arrest Paul in the Temple in Acts 21 is quite surprised that Paul speaks Greek, the working language of the Roman administration).

The Romans had deposed Herod's son Archelaus in 6 AD and had begun direct rule. Since then, the prefect had ruled his province from Caesarea on the Mediterranean coast. A lot of locals used to go up to Jerusalem for the Passover, and Pilate and his wife would have gone there too, just to keep an eye on events. This year, the prefect is involved in a trial the Jewish elders are conducting, a trial for blasphemy. The religious leaders cannot sentence anyone to death, so they present it to Pilate as a case of treason. Pilate does not want to antagonize them by saying no, but thinks he has found a loophole by using his power to pardon one prisoner at festival time.

It is just at this point, Matthew's Gospel tells us, that a message arrives from Pilate's wife. "Have nothing to do with that innocent man, for today I have suffered a great deal because of a dream about him." (27:19) Many events at the beginning of Matthew's Gospel were accompanied by dreams. Here another dream interrupts the story, and at the same time makes Pilate more resolved to acquit Jesus. When the crowd insists on having Barabbas released and not Jesus, Pilate washes his hands of the matter – "I am innocent of this man's blood; see to it yourselves." And then, the Gospel reads "the people as a whole answered, 'His blood be on us and on our children!'"

This is something that all four Gospels stress. The Romans looked kindly on Jesus and his followers. Opposition came from the chief priests and the temple authorities. The guilt for Jesus' death lay even wider, with "the people as a whole" - not just the pilgrims in Jerusalem for the festival, not just the Jewish



Pilate Washing his Hands by Hendrick Jansz ter Brugghen, between 1615 and 1628

nation, but all of us, all of us who continue to cause grief and suffering, all of us for whom he shed his life-giving blood, given “for us and for our children.” The Roman prefect and his wife see through the mass hysteria of the crowds baying for Jesus’ death. The husband is almost prophetic in his words. “This man has done no wrong.” And his wife’s dream gives her an insight into true reality – a disturbing one.

We are well advised not to place too much weight on our own dreams. Yet reality sometimes means seeing the world from a new angle. Jesus’ Kingdom is not “of this world” (John 18:36). The wisdom of this world is foolishness with God (1 Corinthians 3:19). This Holy Week and Eastertide, let us follow the lamb-like Christ who has done no wrong, share in that death at Calvary, and break loose from sin and death in the joy of the Resurrection, where there are no more dreams because we see God’s glory face to face.

- *Hector Davie*

A Word for the Month – Blessing

We all know about false friends – not the human kind, but the sort that are called *faux amis* in French or *falsche Freunde* in German – words like nervous or actually, which have very different meanings from *nervös* or *aktuell*. Fortunately nobody would see any connection between “God bless you” and *Que Dieu te blesse*. But interestingly the two words are connected. (Yes, I know it should be *Que Dieu te bénisse*. We’ll come to that later.)

For both words come from old expressions to do with blood - the French word more obviously (the word originally meant to bruise), the English one from pagan sacrifice. In heathen times, it meant to mark with blood. When Christians came, they saw the similarity with the story of the Passover. Marking with blood recalled the way the Hebrews painted their doorposts in Egypt, when God passed them over to visit punishment on the Egyptians, and so the word passed into Christian use.

The English word translated the Latin *benedicere* (from where the French word, *bénir*, comes) and the Greek *eulogein*. Neither of these had anything to do with blood – they both meant to speak well of someone. And they had been chosen to translate the Hebrew word, *barakh*, which, like the Arabic word *baraka*, means to bless.

That long introduction (and there’s a bit more to come) brings us to what a blessing actually is. But in fact it is two things. It is something we do to God – praise, thanksgiving, awe, respect. And it is something God does to us – favour, generous love. On the one hand, the psalmist can sing “Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name” (Ps.103:1), and on the other hand, the narrator can tell of God saying to Abraham, “I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing.” (Gen. 12:2).

When God blesses us, the love that fills us brings us joy (“bliss”), but also spills over to other people – the idea is that we should pass on a blessing to others. We can also bless the things we use, reminding them that they are used in God’s service. We commonly bless the food we eat, we sometimes bless the dwellings we live in, and prayer books remind us that we can bless everything we use – I have beside me a prayer for the blessing of a typewriter and one for the blessing of a reservoir. In George Herbert’s words, “nothing could be so mean which with this tincture, ‘For thy sake’, will not grow bright and clean.”

At the same time, we respond by blessing God – by recognizing God in all around us. Observant Jews are more systematic than we are: they will bless

God for gifts that bring pleasure – food, sweet scents. They will bless God when performing commandments – reading scripture, performing ceremonies. And they will bless God for good news, for wonders and sights that inspire awe. So should we.

To return to words, the Hebrew word *barakh* also means to kneel – it is how we show our praise of God, and it is how we receive God’s blessing, on our knees. In German, what we do to God is *loben*, what God does to us is *segnen*, another word with a long story (it means to mark with a sign, especially the sign of Christ’s cross). But whatever the word, let us continue to have a blessed Lent, and be blessed with the joys of this coming Easter!

- *Hector Davie*

Youth Confirmation Class

The youth confirmation class is coming to an end. It has been an interesting journey, with a number of challenges. But we have learnt a lot along the way – about God, about the Bible, prayer, the church, the sacraments. We have had many discussions and also some fun times.

All five members of the youth confirmation class wish to be confirmed on 7 June. Please pray for them individually as they take this next step on their Christian journey. Their names are:

Delali Agoba

Joana Agoba

Daniel Hänggi

Michael Hänggi

Emmanuel Lehmann

I want to take this opportunity to thank them all for their contributions. I would also like to thank the many adults, especially Helen, who helped me with the planning and execution of this course.

-*Tricia Carrick*



A Note from the Treasurer



Dear all

At the time of writing the coronavirus is in all the news, and they have just announced the latest state of emergency. Our Church is closed until after Easter which I personally find to be very sad. There will be an impact financially as well. We cancelled the Irish night event as a result, but I am happy that our Spring sale could still take place, raising over Fr4000 for church funds, plus a lot more people came than I expected. The community enjoy our sales, and appreciated the fresh food delivery. Georgina baked and sold 250 crumpets which is incredible, along with lots of other home-made goodies. This is clearly the way to go. We were also taking orders for hot cross buns, but with the new restrictions and daily changes, we feel that we cannot do them after all this year.

Our AGM has been moved to the end of April and so I am enclosing a copy of our 2020 budget as well as a copy of the accounts. 2019 was good to us, and we managed to make a small surplus as well as transfer money to the building fund. The budget is my 6th version. The 5th version balanced our income and expenditure, and I have now added a column for what I feel could be the impact of closing our premises on our income. Clearly we will spend a little less, but we will also get less in hall hire and collections. This will have an impact, but we have the reserves, and this is the sort of situation that reserves are for. However if you would like to give a little extra this year, then I am happy to accept.

In the budget, you will also note some little extras, including the defibrillator. That is now ordered. We are still accepting donations for that.

Look out for my note about magazine subscriptions as well please, as this is also important to us. It may only be Fr22, but it quickly adds up when people forget to pay.

Finally if anyone has not received a tax acknowledgement for 2019, or you need a paying-in slip, please contact me either by email on treasurer@stursula.ch or telephone 076 690 5088.

Best wishes

Sue Higson

St Ursula's Church and Association Budget 2020 proposal

	2020 budget	covid-19 2020	2019 Act
Income from Community	170,500	167,750	178,253
<i>Pledged giving</i>	133,000	133,000	135,250
<i>Donations</i>	21,000	21,000	21,818
<i>Collections</i>	16,500	13,750	18,185
legacies			3,000
Income from events	27,170	25,000	33,662
Income from other sources	24,500	20,500	24,888
<i>Contribution to costs: hall</i>	24,000	20,000	24,548
<i>Other</i>	500	500	340
Income from Thun	1,400	1,120	1,348
Permanent activities net	3,420	2,970	7,490
<i>Magazine</i>	1,200	1,200	1,201
<i>Books and Cards</i>	400	250	665
<i>Coffee</i>	1,820	1,520	1,833
<i>Other</i>	-	-	217
Expenditure			
Financial exp net of income	200	200	239
Personnel-related costs	138980	138300	126595.36
Stipends and remunerations	99000	99000	81,541
Travelling expenses	6600	6300	5,255
Other personnel costs	33380	33000	39,799
Running costs	44210	41110	53675.11
<i>Premises</i>	36500	34000	45,792
<i>Office</i>	1000	900	659
<i>Telephone and Internet</i>	800	800	1,106
<i>Insurance</i>	1800	1800	1,800
<i>Property tax</i>	1610	1610	1,607
<i>Vestry</i>	1200	1000	1,148
<i>Ministry and Hospitality</i>	800	500	1,035
<i>Subscriptions and advertising</i>	500	500	530
Youth and Junior Church	600	500	460
Diocese/Deanery	22000	22000	19,053
Charity	21000	21000	22,000
result before extraordinary	0	-5770	20044
and before allocations			

Note that we will also be spending money on the defibrillator and the eco garden.

Any net expense on the defibrillator as well as any loss from normal activities will be taken from our contingency reserve. The eco garden will be financed from our building fund.

Balance sheet as at 31.12.2019						
CHF	note	31.12.2019	31.12.2019	31.12.2019	31.12.2018	31.12.2018
Assets		Church	Association	Total	Church	Association
Cash and Bank						
Current accounts + Petty cash						
CH		30,351.14	8,843.84	39,194.98	34,361	12,901
UK		18,377.47		18,377.47	18,974	
Deposit accounts						
CH		110,500.55	90,000.00	200,500.55	103,165	70,000
Total Cash and Bank		159,229.16	98,843.84	258,073.00	156,500	82,901
<i>Stocks on hand</i>	B1	1,332.95	-	1,332.95	2,534	-
<i>debtors and monies due</i>	B2	1,731.00	-	1,731.00	-	-
Total other assets		3,063.95	-	3,063.95	2,534	-
Fixed assets	B3	-	1,431.64	1,431.64	-	-
Prepayments & deferred expense		- 73.85	1,080.35	1,006.50	5,682	211
Pension assets		119.30		119.30	3,603	
total Assets		162,338.56	101,355.83	263,694.39	168,319	83,111
current liabilities						
creditors		- 5,990.97	- 1,708.25	- 7,699.22	- 8,793	- 14,942
collections to be paid out	B4	- 5,853.00		- 5,853.00	- 2,376	-
due within 1 month		- 11,843.97	- 1,708.25	- 13,552.22	- 11,169	- 14,942
owed between the Church and Association		2,421.71	- 2,421.71			
provisions and deferred income	B5	- 435.00	- 9,969.50	- 10,404.50	- 2,115	- 3,632
funds held for others	B6	- 3,356.89	- 2,355.00	- 5,711.89	- 1,163	
excess of assets over liabilities		149,124.41	84,901.37	234,025.78	153,872	64,538
Capital reserves						
Contingency reserve		-120,236.80	- 12,153.09	- 132,389.89	- 119,076	- 13,585
Ministry Training Fund	B7	- 15,991.99	-	- 15,991.99	- 17,262	-
Building and Development Fund		- 15,000.00	- 70,952.94	- 85,952.94	- 15,000	- 50,953
non liquid capital	B8	- 1,372.95	- 1,431.64	- 2,804.59	- 2,534	
Capital reserves before allocations		-152,601.74	- 84,537.67	- 237,139.41	- 153,872	- 64,538
Allocation of result						
<i>Ordinary result to contingency reserve</i>		-13.65	-30.20	-43.85		
<i>Extraordinary against contingency reserve</i>		3,490.98		3,490.98		
<i>Extraordinary to Building fund</i>			-333.50	-333.50		
net worth		-149,124.41	- 84,901.37	- 234,025.78		

Income statement

INCOME	note	2019	2018	Budget 19	note	EXPENDITURE	2019	2018	Budget 19
Income from Community	1	178,253	151,261	150,000					
<i>Pledged giving</i>		<i>135,250</i>	<i>112,165</i>	<i>110,000</i>		Personnel-related costs	126,595	100,039	122,625
<i>Donations</i>		<i>21,818</i>	<i>22,400</i>	<i>20,000</i>		Stipends and remunerations	81,541	65,508	83,600
<i>Collections</i>		<i>18,185</i>	<i>16,697</i>	<i>20,000</i>		Travelling expenses	5,255	2,302	6,025
<i>Legacies</i>		<i>3,000</i>		-		Other personnel costs	39,799	32,229	33,000
						Running costs	53,675	50,184	47,460
Income from events	2	33,662	32,378	33,000	6	<i>Premises</i>	45,792	40,578	37,000
					7	<i>Office</i>	659	1,869	1,500
						<i>Telephone and Internet</i>	1,106	668	900
Income from other sources					8	<i>Insurance</i>	1,800	2,968	2,800
<i>Contribution to costs: hall</i>		<i>24,888</i>	<i>25,433</i>	<i>25,000</i>		<i>Property tax</i>	1,607	1,607	1,610
<i>Other</i>	3	<i>340</i>	<i>2,168</i>	<i>2,000</i>		<i>Vestry</i>	1,148	1,861	2,000
						<i>Ministry and Hospitality</i>	1,035	169	800
Income from Thun		1,348	1,274	1,400		<i>Subscriptions and advertising</i>	530	464	850
Income for Charity	4	4,199				Youth and Junior Church	460	543	500
						Library	-	12	-
Permanent activities income	5	7,490	8,752	8,935		Permanent activities expense	3,575	4,745	4,200
<i>Magazine</i>		<i>3,996</i>	<i>5,689</i>	<i>5,500</i>		<i>Magazine</i>	2,795	3,097	3,100
<i>Books and Cards</i>		<i>895</i>	<i>546</i>	<i>535</i>		<i>Books and cards</i>	230	868	400
<i>Coffee</i>		<i>2,305</i>	<i>2,506</i>	<i>2,400</i>		<i>Coffee</i>	472	435	400
<i>Other</i>		<i>294</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>500</i>		<i>Other</i>	77	345	300
						Diocese/Deanery	19,053	14,915	21,000
					9	Charity	26,199	22,441	22,000
						Financial Expense	403	435	400
Financial income		265	233	230		Forex loss	101		
TOTAL		250,106	219,332	218,565	10	transfer to building fund	20,000	20,000	10,000
Building Appeal receipts		334	23,775	-		TOTAL	250,063	213,313	228,185
						excess	44	6,020	-

The results for the year are a small excess after the transfer to the building fund which was 10'000 higher than budgeted. The budget was for a small loss before the transfer to the building fund.

Note that item 4 is extraordinary in nature in actual fact and is balanced out by an increase in the charity allocation under expense. Therefore this has a null impact on the result.

Annual General Meeting (AGM) – Postponed

Because of the Coronavirus pandemic, our AGM has to be postponed. This is the case in many chaplaincies throughout Europe. Bishop Robert is setting up new regulations to make sure that church government runs smoothly.

We do not know when it will be possible to elect our new churchwardens, council and synod representatives,, and we shall not have definite information until after this magazine comes out. We will keep in touch with you.

Our annual report booklet with information about the various groups and activities in St Ursula's is available in the hall or from the church office, and will soon be available on line. Please read your copy.



Eco-Notes



Good news. The formalities are complete, and soon our Bronze Plaque will be dignifying our premises. This should not just be a reminder of how good we are. It should remind us that there are Silver and Gold levels still to reach. And even more, it should remind us of the standards we need to uphold.

We can increase the efficiency of our buildings, we can make our grounds more attractive to visitors and to wildlife, we can ensure our church meals are ethically sourced, we can provide bicycle racks, solid crockery, herb gardens, tips of the week, but the aim of all this is to change hearts, little by little. Polluting God's air, God's seas, God's forests, God's icecaps, God's fertile ground, wasting food, wasting the resources God has set around us should become as abhorrent as owning slaves, crucifying lawbreakers or torturing animals or people.

The latest Coronavirus pandemic is a reminder of how we are all interrelated. At the same time, it is a challenge to find new forms of community. The church is a body, and fellowship is at its heart. Finding new ways to help each other, to communicate with each other, to share news, love and affection is a challenge, and very much an eco-challenge. May we face it together.

- *Hector Davie*

Church Breakfasts

After six years, we have decided to discontinue the regular church breakfast on the first Sunday of each month. The numbers have diminished significantly in the last months, so the regular core decided to stop.

Many thanks to all those who contributed and to all those who came along – we had many enjoyable and interesting discussions over our coffee, cereal and croissants.

- *Tricia Carrick*



PUB QUIZ NIGHT



British &
Swiss Ales

Good Pub
Grub

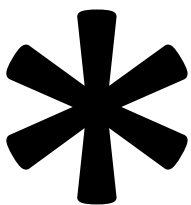
Friday 8 May from 19.00

Fr. 10 per person including free first drink

Teams of 1 - 6

Tickets for sale until 6 May

For more information email: event@stursula.ch



St Ursula's Church, Jubiläumsplatz 2, 3005 Berne

Tel: 031 352 85 67, www.stursula.ch

From Bern railway station: Tram: No. 8 direction

Saali or No. 7 direction Ostring, stop: Luisenstrasse

Bus: No. 19 direction Elfenau, stop: Tierpark





More details and a flyer will be in the next magazine. If you'd like to have a stall selling bric à brac or crafts etc please contact Church Office on 031 352 8567 or office@stursula.ch to reserve your space.

Save the Date!



Services and Readings

April and May 2020

The current situation means that there will be no services in church until further notice. Please use these readings for your own devotions. The service plan is just a guide – it is good to think of fellow church members at these times.

Sunday 5 April - Palm Sunday

~~10:00 Procession of Palms and Sung Eucharist~~

Matthew 21:1-11
Isaiah 50:4-9a
Philippians 2:5-11
Matthew 27:11-54

Thursday 9 April - Maundy Thursday

~~1830 Eucharist~~

Exodus 12:1-4[5-10] 11-14
1 Corinthians 11:23-26
John 13:1-17,31b-35
Gospel of the Watch: Mark 14:26-72

Friday 10 April - Good Friday

~~1000 Family Service~~

~~1400 Liturgy of the Last Hour~~

Isaiah 52:13-53:12
Psalm 22
Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:7-9
John 18:1-19:42

Sunday 12 April - Easter Sunday

~~0830 Said Communion~~

~~1000 Proclamation of the Resurrection and First Eucharist of Easter~~

Jeremiah 31:1-6
Acts 10:34-43
John 20:1-18

Sunday 19 April - Second Sunday of Easter (Low Sunday)

~~1000 Sung Eucharist~~

Acts 2:14a,22-32
1 Peter 1:3-9
John 20:19-31

Sunday 26 April - Third Sunday of Easter

~~0830 Said Communion~~

~~1000 Sung Eucharist~~

Acts 2:14a,36-41
1 Peter 1:17-23
Luke 24:13-35



Sunday 3 May - Fourth Sunday of Easter

1000 Sung Eucharist

Acts 2:42-47

1 Peter 2:19-25

John 10:1-10

Sunday 10 May - Fifth Sunday of Easter

0830 Said Communion

1000 Informal Eucharist

Acts 7:55-60

1 Peter 2:2-10

John 14:1-14

Sunday 17 May - Sixth Sunday of Easter

1000 Sung Eucharist

Acts 17:22-31

1 Peter 3:13-22

John 14:15-21

Thursday 21 May - Ascension Day

1030 Eucharist

Ephesians 1:15-23

Acts 1:1-11

Luke 24:44-53

Sunday 24 May - Seventh Sunday of Easter

0830 Said Communion

1000 Sung Eucharist

Acts 1:6-14

1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11

John 17:1-11

Sunday 31 May - Pentecost (Whit Sunday)

1000 Sung Eucharist

Acts 2:1-21

1 Corinthians 12:3b-13

John 20:19-23

Sunday 7 June - Trinity Sunday

1000 Confirmation Service with Bishop Robert

Confirmation Service

There will be a confirmation service on 7 June 2020 at 10.00. Currently, it seems that 5 young people (Delali Agoba, Joana Agoba, Daniel Hänggi, Michael Hänggi, Emmanuel Lehmann) and 1 adult (Rachel Du) from St Ursula's will be confirmed. Bishop Robert Innes will be taking the service.

It is an important occasion, so please pray for all those involved.

The service will be followed by an aperitif for the whole congregation to celebrate with those who have been confirmed.

Many thanks for your support and prayers.

- *Tricia Carrick*

For Your Diary April & May 2020

Our Regular Weekly Events are not taking place until further notice

Mondays	08.00 – 08.30	Morning Prayer
	18.00 – 18.30	Evening Prayer
Tuesdays	08.00 – 08.30	Morning Prayer
	18.00 – 18.30	Evening Prayer
Wednesdays	08.00 – 08.30	Morning Prayer
	09.15 – 11.15	Parents and Tots
Thursdays	10.30 – 11.30	Holy Communion & Fellowship
Fridays	09.30	Patchwork
	18.00 – 18.30	Evening Prayer
Saturdays	09.30 – 11.30	Choir Practice

Other Events (all events are provisional)

Sunday 5 April		PALM SUNDAY
Thursday 9 April		MAUNDY THURSDAY
Friday 10 April		GOOD FRIDAY
Sunday 12 April		EASTER DAY
Friday 24 April	17.30	JC Film Night
Sunday 3 May	11.00	Men's Bible Study
Tuesday 5 May	19.00	Council Meeting
Thursday 7 May	18.30	Thun Service
Saturday 8 May	19.00	Pub Quiz Night
Saturday 9 May		SACEP Event in Berne
Friday 15 May	09.00	Book Sorting
Sunday 17 May		COPY DATE
Thursday 21 May	10.30	ASCENSION DAY
		No Thun Service

Thursday 28 May

Magazine Collating

Sunday 31 May

PENTECOST with
International Lunch

Future Dates

Tuesday 2 June

Council Meeting

Sunday 7 June

TRINITY SUNDAY

CONFIRMATION SERVICE

Sunday 21 June

Thank you barbecue for JC teachers

Saturday 27 June

Summer Fête

Saturday 29 –
Sunday 30 August

Junior Church Family Event –
Picnic and Sleepover

Saturday 5 September

Book and Food Sale

Shrove Tuesday = Pancakes

It is a tradition in the UK to eat pancakes on Shrove Tuesday – the day before Lent begins.

This year, on 25 February, around 25 people came and ate pancakes, with various toppings. Chilli con carne was especially popular, as were Nutella, cheese, maple syrup and the traditional sugar and lemon. Everyone helped – some in the kitchen mixing, cooking, serving and washing up. Others helped with setting up and tidying up. A good time was had by all.

As well as generally chatting to people we know and those we didn't know, we were challenged by Hector's quiz. As always, we couldn't answer all the questions – indeed I think the best score was 10 out of 20. But we all had fun.

Pancake evening is a popular event – if you missed it this year, put it in your diary now for next year.

- *Tricia Carrick*



The Swiss Archdeaconry Retreat 2020

Thursday 15 October (from 4pm) to Saturday 17 October (4pm)
A 48-hour retreat in the beautiful surroundings of Crêt Berard in Puidoux
in the midst of the vineyards above Lake Geneva



Internationally renowned author and Bible scholar, Lois Tverberg will lead our retreat.

Have you ever wondered what it would have been like listening to Jesus on the shores of Lake Galilee or following him around the countryside? Have you ever wished you could understand the culture and setting of those times? Certainly, the Bible's Hebrew words are aromatic and savoury, from the dusty, ancient land of their origin. Each one is richer and deeper than any English equivalent. What better reason could we have to discover and explore the Jewish context of Jesus' words – so different from our western culture. Together with Lois we'll do just that, discover how Jesus' first hearers actually 'heard' what he taught. And in so doing we'll discover some surprising and challenging things which will deepen or even change our understanding of his message. Alongside many of the practical aspects arising from this understanding we'll also take time to look, not just at how Jesus' life was saturated in prayer but also at some of the rich Jewish prayer customs that can help us to pray more like Jesus did.

Lois Tverberg

Lois Tverberg has been teaching and writing about the Jewish background of Christianity for the past twenty years. Her passion is to translate the Bible's ancient setting into fresh insights that deepen and strengthen Christian faith.

Lois grew up with plenty of Sunday school knowledge, but it wasn't until after she had earned a PhD in biology and was teaching as a college professor that her fascination for the Bible's original



Jewish setting was ignited. She has since studied several times in Israel, taking courses in biblical Hebrew, Koine Greek, and in the physical and cultural context of the Bible.

In 2009 Lois partnered with Ann Spangler to write the bestselling *Sitting at the Feet of Rabbi Jesus* (Zondervan). Together they discovered how restoring Jesus to his first-century Jewish reality sheds light on his life and ministry. Later Lois followed with *Walking in the Dust of Rabbi Jesus* (Zondervan, 2012), which challenged readers to follow their Rabbi more closely by hearing his words in light of Jewish thought.

In her latest book, *Reading the Bible with Rabbi Jesus*, (Baker, 2018), Lois equips readers to encounter the Scriptures more like first-century disciples. The book looks at big-picture ideas that are lost on modern Westerners, helping us bridge the cultural divide that separates us from Jesus' original Middle Eastern context.

Lois brings to her writing a surprising set of tools from her training as a scientist. She received her BA in physics and her PhD in Molecular Physiology. She has published several scientific papers and holds a patent from her PhD research. For several years she taught biology at Hope College in Holland, Michigan.

In 2001 she cofounded the En-Gedi Resource Center (EnGediResourceCenter.com), an educational ministry with a goal of deepening Christian understanding of the Bible in its context. There she published her first book, *Listening to the Language of the Bible*, a devotional guide to Hebrew words and ideas.

Lois currently writes from her home in Holland, Michigan. Along with writing, she speaks at churches, conferences, and retreats. Her current news and articles are available on her website, OurRabbiJesus.com.

Every living soul shall bless your name, O God!

All created things will give you glory and thanksgiving!

Eternally you are God, and no one can stand before you. Who but you offers freedom and help, nourishes us and redeems us, sustains us and saves us, and at all times views with unfailing compassion our sorrows and distress?

There is no one but you!

(A traditional Jewish hymn from the 3/5th centuries)

REGISTRATION

Prices include room, all meals and in between breaks. All prices are per person.

- A. Single room w. Shower/WC separate: CHF 290.00
- B. Single room w. Shower/WC in room: CHF 336.00
- C. Double room w. Shower/WC in room: CHF 288.00

In order to be sure of your room PLEASE register as soon as possible, even if at the moment provisionally. That way we can get the rooms we need! The number is limited – so first come, first served!

Payment will be required by 15 September 2020

Please register at bemdeo@gmail.com stating your preferred choice of room, name, and address.

If you are sharing a double room, please state with whom.

There will also be a 'taxi' service from the station. Please indicate when registering if this is required.

For any questions please contact me by above email or on 079 286 86 16

I look forward to sharing in this retreat with you. A precious opportunity to escape the daily routine, to move closer to God, to relax, unwind, pray – deepen our spiritual experience.

- *Elizabeth Bussmann*



Junior Church News

At the moment, the Junior Church is not meeting – until further notice.

In January and February, the groups worked together to produce some posters for Mission Sunday held on 16 February. These illustrated the work of some of our mission partners. This was a good opportunity for the young people to learn more about different charities, in addition to the Tear Fund “Uganda Water and Sanitation” project that we support through our weekly collection and special events.

There are some special events planned this year for Junior Church children and families:

24 April – Film Night

21 June – Thank you barbecue for JC teachers

29 – 30 August – Junior Church Family Picnic and Sleepover

More information about these events will be available soon – together with a flyer.

We are very pleased that two more people are considering joining our teaching team, once they have found out a bit more. If you would also like to know more about teaching our lovely young people please talk to Helen or to one of the teachers: Françoise, John, Ruby, Sharon, Tricia, Isabelle or Jana. We would love to have more teachers joining our team.

- *Tricia Carrick*

Happy Birthday!

Congratulations to our Junior Church children with birthdays in April and May:

Rebecca Shergold 14 on 11 April

Lily Janssen 12 on 15 April

Miriam Patton 10 on 6 May

Esabe Alexande Ngho 3 on 26 May



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

BISHOP'S LENT APPEAL 2020

Classroom Building Appeal – Diocese of Mumias, Kenya

2020 is the year of the Lambeth Conference. Some 600 Anglican bishops from all over the world will gather together in Canterbury in July. Last summer, I was privileged to take part in a preparatory pilgrimage that brought together 15 of these bishops and spouses.

One of those with whom I shared the pilgrimage was Joseph Wandera, Bishop of the Anglican diocese of Mumias in Kenya. I had previously met Joseph at a Carol Service in our chaplaincy in The Hague. Joseph had studied at advanced level in the Netherlands and was visiting the Hague to examine research theses in theology. I was impressed by +Joseph's sensitivity, care and courage in working in frequently tough conditions with very limited resources.

In view of this being a special year for the Anglican Communion, I invited Bishop Joseph to suggest a project in his diocese which could be the subject of his appeal. I therefore join with Bishop Joseph in inviting us to help raise funds for a new classroom at the Bishop Hannington Memorial Academy being built by the diocese of Mumias.

The Challenge

In 2013 the Kenyan government introduced a policy of free primary education. This has led to big increases in the numbers of children enrolled in schools. All the evidence suggests that improving primary school participation rates is a key factor in development and wellbeing.

However, the number of teachers has not increased and classrooms are congested. Some classes have as many as 150 pupils with students sharing desks. In other cases, a shortage of buildings means children trying to learn outside, despite the vagaries of the weather.

The Opportunity

Aware of this challenge, the Anglican Diocese of Mumias has established the Bishop Hannington Academy as their contribution towards better quality primary education in a Christian context. Their current enrolment stands at 38. The school currently consists of just one block with two classrooms, with a third room serving as the administrative wing. At present, they have three grades, Kindergarten, Grade One and Grade Two, and the Diocese employs three teachers.

The Bishop and Diocese would love to expand the school. To do that, they need to build more classrooms.

The Appeal

Bishop Joseph estimates it will cost 20,000USD to build and furnish a new classroom. (That is very good value by Western European standards!)

Our Lent Appeal could therefore go most of the way to constructing a very



tangible expansion of the Diocese of Mumbias's mission to educate primary school children.

Safeguarding

We expect recipients of appeals to meet safeguarding standards. Bishop Joseph has sent me a copy of their safeguarding policy for the protection of children and vulnerable adults, approved in June 2019 by the Mumias Diocesan Synod, which I have shown to our own Diocesan Safeguarding Advisor.

To donate to the Bishop Hannington School Classroom Building Appeal please send money via your chaplaincy treasurer to Nick Wraight in the Diocesan Office.

I wish you a holy Lent.

With every blessing,

+Robert Gibraltar in Europe

P.S...A Note Regarding Future Appeals

I would very much like my next Appeal to come from within our own diocese. If you have a charitable cause in the field of social mission, preferably run by or in partnership with one of our own chaplaincies, please do discuss with your Archdeacon and then send me details.

Charity of the Month: Kigezi Diocese Water and Sanitation Programme

Bishop George Bagamuhunda from the Diocese of Kigezi, Uganda and the Revd Canon Reuben Mbaguta Byomuhangi were planning to visit Switzerland in May under the auspices of TearFund Schweiz. However, this cannot take place due to the Coronavirus crisis. Rev Reuben Byomuhangi has provided us with the following report.



Kaato GFS collection chamber

Kigezi Diocese Water and Sanitation Programme (KDWSP) update – February 2020

KDWSP and the communities served appreciate the support of St Ursula's Church over the years. We do not take your efforts for granted. We pray for God's blessings upon you. Many people have benefited – increased access to clean water and reduced distances to water sources and interventions in flood controls have improved household livelihoods and saved lives respectively.



Kaato GFS reservoir tank of 20000 litres

The current Kaato Gravity Flow Scheme (GFS) community is about 75 km from Kabale town. It covers 12 villages with a total of 1,517 households and 9,102 people, 8 churches, 5 schools, 3 trading centres and 1 health centre. The base-line survey was conducted amongst 1,077 households with a total population of 6,282 people.



Gabion being set up in Nyamabaare

The Kaato GFS has two sources and two collection boxes from Nyamabare and Kinyarushengye have been built. Two reservoir tanks each of 24m³ have been completed and site construction of the third tank of 16m³ is underway. Two break pressure tanks out of five have been constructed. Eleven tap stands out of 65 tap stands have been completed and connected to the distribution lines. A total of 9.2km out of 29.9km of pipeline network have been excavated, pipes laid and backfilled.

There have been intensive and practical trainings for communities of Nyamabaare in disaster risk reduction. Farmers have been supported with construction of 21,900m² of bench terraces, 14,000m² of conservation channels, 34 percolation pits, 14 energy saving stoves, rehabilitation of two galleys and 34 contact farmers facilitated to establish demonstration sites for learning and replication. Gabions are being set up.



Completed public tap stand

Gabions are being set up.

Ihembe is a community about 2500 meters above sea level with two churches and two public primary schools in the area. The community has one health centre and new settlements in two villages because of landslides

which devastated the communities that live in valley bottoms. Being on a hilltop, there is a major problem of water scarcity as the communities draw water from a round trip of 5 km. 84 Ferrocement tanks of 4,000 litre capacity out of 85 tanks have been completed are serving 406 people.



Institutional rain water tanks: 9 out of 10 institutional tanks of 20,000 litre capacity have been constructed for schools, health centres and churches and the surrounding communities benefiting 2,958 people (1,694 females and 1,264 males)

Institution tank (20,000l) constructed by KDWSP masons

Springs protected: 20 out of 21 protected springs have been constructed for 20 villages of a total population of 4,949 (2,507 females and 2,442 males).

Prayers:

We pray for special fellowship with God during this Lent season. Meteorological forecasts indicate that we are likely to have too much rain during April and May, pray with us that it will not be very destructive. Locusts spreading from Kenya have invaded some parts of Uganda and we cannot know the outcome of this. The corona virus is a threat to everyone; though we have not heard any registered case in Uganda, we are worried. Please pray with us that the Mighty Hand of God will prevail over these storms of life.



Rainwater tank (4,000 l) constructed by women

- Cecily Klingler for St Ursula's Charity and Missions Team

Magazine Subscription Notice

This magazine appears 6 times per year and we hope you agree that it is great value. If all pay we can keep the price low. Unfortunately in 2019 several people forgot to pay, and as a result our income was around Fr 1500 less than anticipated. In 2020 we are giving you the opportunity to pay your subscription at this time, or also later in the year if more convenient. There will be a paying in slip with all future magazines. You can of course just use it for a donation if you wish, or add on a donation to your subscription.

It is up to you.

The subscription for 2020 remains at Fr22 including postage within Switzerland, and Fr32 outside Switzerland.

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You may use the enclosed slip, or transfer it to our account

If you no longer wish to receive this magazine, please let us know under magazine@stursula.ch or call the office.

Thank you for your support.

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Easter 2019

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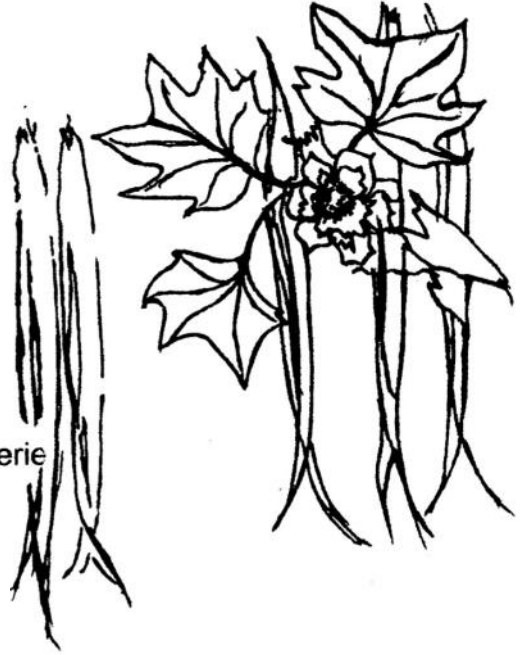
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jean charlton white

beneath the tulip trees

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vernissage wednesday 8th april 18.30
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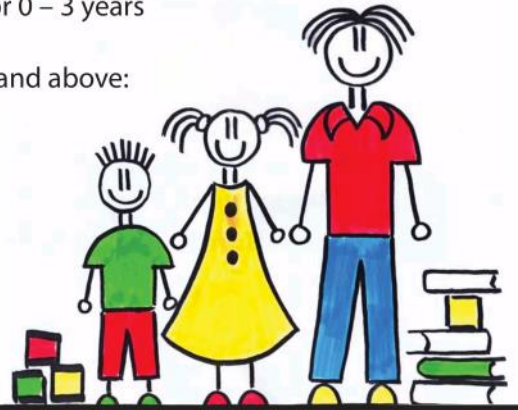


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English Speaking Club of Bern

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We are looking forward to meeting you

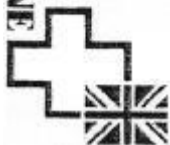
Mittelstrasse 55, 3012 Bern | Open every Thursday & Friday from 8pm | www.englishclub.ch

Why not join the International Club of Berne ?

The club was formed in 1991 as a non-political, non-religious organization open to all men, women and their families, interested in meeting for social and cultural activities. Our aim is to facilitate a better understanding of - and integration into - Switzerland, through a variety of services, programmes and joint explorations of this country and its people. We welcome members from all over the world, and currently count 140 members (including families) from some 30 nations. Our common language is English, but among our members many other languages can be heard. We hold a monthly meeting with guest speakers and presentations on a wide range of topics, and publish a monthly Newsletter. In 2016 the club celebrated its 25th anniversary with several special events. We are waiting to welcome you !

Nazanin Kupferschmid, President
Tel. 078 905 5743, email nkschmid@gmx.net
International Club of Berne, 3000 Berne, [www: icberne.ch](http://www.icberne.ch)
Annual membership: CHF 50 for singles, CHF 60 for families.

SWISS-BRITISH
SOCIETY BERNE



The Swiss British Society, Berne organises a number of cultural events including visits to exhibitions, concerts, a Christmas dinner, Burns supper and musical evenings. We also invite guest speakers to address our members on a range of literary, musical or political topics. Usually our events have a social element - we try to combine dinner or lunch together with our lectures and outings, or at least a chat and a cup of tea! New members are always welcome. Our website (and circular) is hosted by the Federation of Anglo Swiss clubs at www.angloswissclubs.ch

Contact: President: Chris Warren

Email: cuwarren@zapp.ch

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This is a well-established Easter hymn, full of solemn joy (if such an oxymoron is possible) at Christ's victory over death, a good chance to sing Alleluia at the top of our voice! It has been said to be from the twelfth century, but in fact the earliest version we have is from a Jesuit song book from Cologne dated 1695.

It is easy to think it is from an earlier time, though. The images are of a battle with the Devil – a favourite mediaeval theme, and the tale they tell is a simple one: the forces of death and hell have tried to capture Jesus but have failed. The five verses do not tell us about Christ's love or his redeeming sacrifice – they are about victory. It has been called a very Lutheran hymn with a very triumphal message.

The original was written in Latin, and was later incorporated into the Roman Breviary – the daily prayer book of Roman Catholic clergy. Over the past couple of hundred years it has been translated several times, but the version we normally sing was by a young clergyman called Francis Pott. Pott's great grandfather was a renowned surgeon, who had discovered the connection between carcinogens and cancer. His father ran a vinegar factory in Southwark.

Francis had a keen interest in music, and was on the committee which published *Hymns Ancient and Modern* in 1861. *The strife is o'er* appeared in the same year. In later life he became deaf, but continued to write hymns (*Angel Voices* is his, as is *Forty days and forty nights*).

The three-line verses hide a feature of the original rhymes – the first two lines of each verse told of Christ's victory, the third was a call to respond with our own praise – Alleluia: praise the Lord. The final verse, with its tongue-twisting call to free us "from death's dread sting", is a prayer that we may share in that victory.

We sing it to two very similar tunes. The first, called 'Victory', is from a Mass by Palestrina, adapted by William Monk (more famous for setting *Abide with me*). The second is the tune from a German Moravian chorale, *Gelobt sei Gott im höchsten Thron*, with a very similar message (the English equivalent is *Good Christian men, rejoice and sing!*). The tune is named after its composer, Melchior Vulpius from Weimar, and was used in Percy Dearmer's setting in the hymnbook *Songs of Praise*.

After the long and hard struggle through Lent and Holy Week, it is good to be able to burst into praise again with hymns like this. For Paul's letters remind us that in the same way as we have shared in Christ's sufferings, so we will share in the joys of his resurrected life. Alleluia, and again and again, alleluia!

- Hector Davie



Pott served a curacy at Bishopsworth, 1856-8

Finita iam sunt proelia

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
The strife is o'er, the battle done;
Now is the Victor's triumph won;
O let the song of praise be sung:
'Alleluia!'

Death's mightiest powers have done their
worst,
And Jesus hath his foes dispersed;
Let shouts of praise and joy outburst:
'Alleluia!'

On the third day he rose again,
Glorious in majesty to reign;
O let us swell the joyful strain:
'Alleluia!'

He brake the age-bound chains of hell;
The bars from heaven's high portals fell;
Let hymns of praise His triumph tell:
'Alleluia!'

Lord, by the stripes which wounded Thee,
From death's dread sting Thy servants free,
That we may live, and sing to Thee:
'Alleluia!'

*Symphonia Sirenum Selectarum (1695)
translated by Francis Pott (1832-1909)*



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