

Kippington Cat

28th March 2021



Holy Week : More than a History lesson!

Holy Week is the final week in Lent, leading to the happy celebrations of Easter Sunday. During this week, Christians remember the important events of Christ's final days, His death and resurrection. Revisiting these events is more than a history lesson – it gives us a greater understanding about what Jesus did for us on the cross. His death was necessary for our salvation – which is a humbling realization, but one that should make us even more grateful for what He did for us.

Lent – all of it – is a really good time to reflect on our relationship with Jesus as we remind ourselves of the events that happened all those many hundreds of years ago; events that provide us with the very basis of our faith and Christian beliefs. But Holy Week is an especially good opportunity for thinking about Jesus and praying to Him.

Palm Sunday

Holy Week begins with Palm Sunday - a celebration of Jesus fulfilling prophecy with His triumphal entry into Jerusalem.

As Jesus entered Jerusalem, crowds of people laid down coats and palm branches on the ground as He passed.

(Palm branches were used in the ancient world as symbols of victory and peace.)

The act of laying down palm branches recognises that Jesus is King, a king who will bring peace.

We celebrate Christ as King on Palm Sunday.



Lord Jesus,

As we think of how excited the people were to see You, calling out "Hosanna! Lord – save us!" we wonder what we would do if You came riding into Sevenoaks High Street today.

As we read how You processed humbly into Jerusalem on a donkey, just as – later – You will humbly go to the cross, we realise yet again what a wonderful King You are!

You do not conquer with violence, but with love.

And You call us to act in the same way, by loving one another as You first loved us.

Help us, Lord, to act humbly – like You, to love others – like You.

Amen.

Maundy Thursday

Maundy Thursday honours the Last Supper, when Jesus washed the feet of His disciples and then ate a simple meal, telling them to think of Him when they would break bread or drink wine in the future.

Churches celebrate Maundy Thursday by taking Communion.



Lord Jesus,

We thank You for the promises You made at the last Passover meal You ate with Your disciples.

You taught us the basis of the Communion service we still do today.

You broke bread, saying "Take, eat; this is my body" and then told Your disciples to drink from the cup of wine, the "blood of the New Covenant".

Communion reminds us what You did for us, until You come again in Glory.

Thank You, Lord Jesus.

Amen

Good Friday

When we meditate on what Jesus did for us, we are reminded of His suffering and how powerful our sin is.

Jesus took on our sin and experienced the ultimate separation from God so that we will never have to experience that.

Good Friday is not a day of celebration but is marked by sombre reflections on the death of Christ.



Father God,
Oh, I do not like this day!

I do not want to think about sad and difficult things.

Why is it important to remember this horrible time?

We know the story ends with the joy of Christ's resurrection – why do we even have to think of the sad, dark events of Good Friday?

Help me, Father, to accept that I must look at the pain and suffering that Jesus went through – as it is only then that I will be able to fully recognise His amazing sacrifice and to remember that He was truly human.

Amen

Easter Sunday

Holy Week leads up to the celebration of Jesus' triumph over death on Easter Sunday. The Resurrection gives us hope that one day we will have eternal life with God.

This is a day for celebration and joy for all Christians – Alleluia!



On Easter Sunday, we can exclaim,

*Alleluia! Christ is risen!
The Lord is risen indeed!
Alleluia!*



Lord Jesus,

We thank You for this wondrous day!

We praise You that we can celebrate Your resurrection – that You showed Yourself to the disciples and they were able to pass on the joyous news.

It is sad that sin and death still exist in the world, but we know that they have lost their power because of You and that,

through the events of Holy Week, we are promised that we will be saved and have eternal life with the Father.

We praise You, Lord.

Alleluia!

Amen



Jesus is King!

Can you think of ways that we can treat Him like the King He is?

Maybe we could start by reading and obeying His Word.

Maybe we could tell others about his goodness.

And, most certainly, we could Praise and worship His holy name.

*Hosanna! Lord, save us!
Alleluia! Praise to our King!*

With love, K.C.



Tick tock!



Did your family remember to change the time?

It is that time of year again when we move the clocks forward – on Sunday 28th March.

It happens overnight in the hours between Saturday and Sunday – so you go to bed at your normal time – let's say that is at 9pm – but when your Mummy wakes you on Sunday at your normal time – let's say 8am – you will actually have had an hour less of sleep!

When the clocks change like this, we are moving from what is called Greenwich Mean Time (GMT) to British Summer Time (BST), or Daylight Saving Time (DST).

Nowadays, smart phones, computers, and other devices connected to the internet, update the time automatically. But, when I was a kitten – my human would go around the house, manually resetting the time on every timepiece – including the timer on the hot water and central heating.

Now, here are a couple of little-known facts...

First one: It was an American politician and inventor called Benjamin Franklin who first came up with the idea while in Paris in 1784. He suggested that if people got up earlier, when it was lighter, then it would save on candles.



Do you know the band, Coldplay? And the lead singer, Chris Martin?

Well, here is little-known fact number two: The concept of changing the clocks arrived in the UK after Coldplay singer Chris Martin's great-great-grandfather, a builder called William Willett, thought it was a good idea too. In 1907, he published a leaflet called *The Waste of Daylight*, encouraging people to get out of bed earlier. Willett was a keen golfer and he got cross when his games would be cut short because the sun went down and there was not enough light to carry on playing.

The idea of moving time forwards and backwards was discussed by the government in 1908, but many people were not keen on it, so it wasn't made a law. Willett spent his life trying to convince people that it was a good idea, but it was only introduced in 1916 - a year after he died.

Nowadays, clocks in the UK always go back by one hour on the last Sunday in October and forward by one hour on the last Sunday in March.

People have different opinions about whether we should change our clocks like this. Some think it is a good thing because it saves energy, by making better use of natural daylight, and helps to reduce traffic accidents. Others do not like it because they argue that it does not actually save any energy, and it can make it darker when children are going to school in the morning, which can be dangerous.

What about you? What do you – and your family – think?



As the weather (slowly!) improves, I am going out more. So, this is what I have been laughing at this week... about nature.

Q: How can you tell the ocean is friendly?

A: It waves

Q: Why is grass so dangerous?

A: Because it is full of blades

Q: What type of tree should you be able to fit in your hand?

A: A palm tree

Q: What do you get when you plant kisses?

A: Tulips!

Q: What has no fingers, but many rings?

A: A tree

Q: What is the strongest creature in the ocean?

A: A mussel (muscle - geddit?!)

Q: Where do fish keep their money?

A: In a riverbank

Q: And where do they sleep?

A: On a seabed



Q: Why do oysters never give to charity?

A: Because they're shellfish



Q: Why are mountains the funniest place to have a holiday?

A: They are hill-arious!

Q: Why does the sun need to go to school?

A: To make it brighter

Q: And what does the sun drink out of?

A: Sunglasses!

The Safe – a story about riches ...

Once upon a time, a greedy, rich man hired Professor Sumz, a brilliant mathematician.

The rich man lived on his own in an enormous mansion, with servants, chefs, gardeners and secretaries to see to his every whim. He wanted the mathematician to work out the best way for him to make the biggest, vastest, most gigantic profit in everything he did.



In anticipation, the rich man – whose name was (rather appropriately!) Mr Cash – was having a huge safe built in the basement of his mansion, and his greatest dream was to fill it with gold, jewels and lots and lots of lovely money!

Professor Sumz was shut away for months and months in his study, before finally believing he had found the solution. But, just as he thought he had it all worked out, he discovered some errors in his calculations, and he had to start all over again.

One night he appeared at Mr Cash's mansion, with a big smile on his face: "I found it!" he said, "My calculations are perfect."

Mr Cash was going on a long business journey the next day and simply did *not* have time to listen.

He promised the mathematician he would pay him double his wages if he would just take charge of the business while he was away and put the new formulas into practice. Excited by his new discovery (and the thought of the extra money!), Professor Sumz was delighted to accept.

When Mr Cash returned, months later, he drove himself from the airport to his home.

But the front door would not open – his key did not seem to fit. He decided to put the car away, and enter the house through the back door, but, in his garages – where once had been his fleet of ten shiny top-of-the-range luxury cars – he could see flashy sports cars and motorbikes. And the back door was locked, too.

Muttering under his breath, he marched around to the front door again and rang the bell. Well! The butler who answered his ring on the doorbell not only didn't know who he was – but was positively rude and dismissive and told him that he must be mistaken as this was the home of the Fortescue-Smyth family!

"What is happening?" wondered Mr Cash. "Am I having a nightmare? Am I asleep? How can it possibly be that all my possessions have gone – disappeared, vanished?!"



Furious, he jumped back into his car and sped down the road to find Professor Sumz and demand an explanation. The mathematician calmly told him what he had done.

He had given **everything** away to other people.

The rich man could not believe his ears, but the Professor explained it further.

"For months I analysed how a rich man could gain maximum benefit, but what I could do was always limited. There is a limit to how much one man can do by himself. Then I understood the key was that many people could help us to achieve the aim. Thus, my conclusion was that helping others was the best way to get more and more people to benefit us."

Disappointed and furious, Mr Cash stormed off, desperate at having lost everything to the crazy schemes of a madman.

However, while he was walking away disconsolately, several neighbours ran over, worried about him. All of them had been helped when the mathematician shared out the rich man's fortune. They felt so grateful to him that they offered him the hospitality of their houses, and anything such a special man might need. The neighbours even argued over who would get to help him.



Over the next few days, he saw the full results of what Professor Sumz had calculated.

Wherever he went he was received with great honour, and everyone was willing to help him in whatever way they could. He realised that his not having anything had given him much, much more.



In the weeks that followed, Mr Cash quickly set up more flourishing businesses, but this time he followed the brilliant mathematician's advice.

No longer did he keep his riches in a safe, or anything like it.

Instead, he shared out his fortune among a hundred friends, whose hearts he had converted into the most rewarding and safest of safes.

* * * * *

Jesus delivers the Easter promise
that we may ever after
be safe in God's hands.



BOREDOM BUSTERS... WHY DON'T YOU TRY...

... Making 3-D Easter cards to send – or a poster to hang in the kitchen?



You will need:

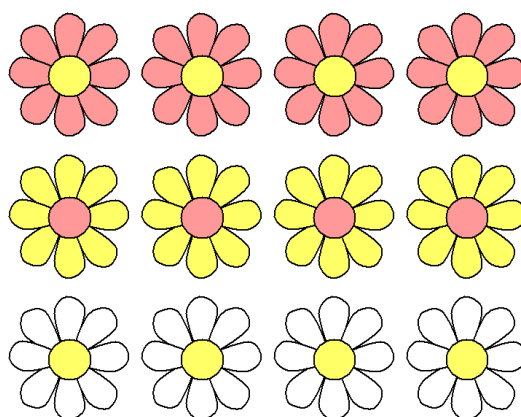
White (or a pretty pastel) thin-ish cardboard for the background.

Felt tips or crayons in at least four colours for the flowers, plus brown and black to draw and colour in the tree trunk.

Scissors and glue!

First, decide whether you are making one poster or one or more greetings cards and cut your background cardboard accordingly. You might need the help of an adult or older sibling for this bit – and if you elect to make cards to send by post – please remember to make sure they will fit into envelopes!

Now draw the flower shape – you can either do that over and over, or if you have access to a photocopier printer, draw one line of flowers and then photocopy them – either before (or, if you are feeling lazy, you have a colour photocopier and want this craft to happen quickly, after!) colouring them in.



Once you have the flowers all coloured in, draw the tree trunk (it might be a good idea to use light pencil lines first, just to make sure you get it positioned right) and a sort of “blob” shape for where you would like the blossoms to go.

Now you can start sticking your flowers all over the tree – it will look prettiest if you have them overlapping and really becoming 3-D.

Depending on the adhesive that you are using, it might be a good idea to set a heavy weight (like a thick book) over your design as you complete each layer. This will allow the glue to set and dry before continuing.

Now all you need is the finishing touch of writing a “*Happy Easter!*” or “*Yay for Springtime!*” message on the inside. Then – if you have made cards – you can pop the address on the envelope and take a walk to the postbox, or – if you have made a poster – find a good spot to hang it for everyone to enjoy! Well done!

How about ... Making Peanut Butter Jelly Bites?

If you are a fan of PJ and jam like I am, you will really enjoy making and eating these easy-to-make teatime treats!



The ingredients below make 12 "Bites".
Only three ingredients, too!

100g ground almonds – 200g raspberry jam – 350g smooth peanut butter

- Cover a small chopping board with greaseproof paper.
- Put 140g of the jam into a bowl and use a teaspoon to spoon out 12 small blobs, well-spaced, on the board.
- Put these in the freezer for 20 minutes to harden up – try and find a nice flat space!
- Mix the peanut butter and the ground almonds in another, clean, bowl and stir in the remaining 60g of jam.
- Shape the mixture into 12 balls – roughly the size of a ping-pong ball
- Take the frozen jam out of the freezer.
- Flatten each ball in turn and put one of the frozen jam blobs into the centre, then sealing the edges by rolling the ball in your palms.
- Put the "Bites" into the fridge until you want to serve them.
- Enjoy the yumminess!



Peanut butter and jam really do make
a perfect combination!

How about ... Making one of these frozen yoghurt recipes?

Frozen yoghurt is a great alternative to ice cream!

This first recipe, for frozen banana yoghurt, makes 8 portions.



INGREDIENTS:

- 4 over-ripe bananas
- 500g pot of full-fat Greek yoghurt
- 175g condensed milk
- Large handful of banana chips

METHOD:

- Whizz the peeled bananas, the yoghurt and the condensed milk in a food processor or blender until smooth. Now scrape the mixture into individual pots (or a loaf tin or ice-cream container if you prefer).
- Crush the banana chips by tipping them into a food bag and bashing with a rolling pin and swirl the resultant chips through the yoghurt mix, cover the containers with cling film and freeze overnight until solid.

The second recipe is for frozen fruit and granola yoghurt bites, and the recipe will make 15 bites.

INGREDIENTS:

- 160g frozen mixed fruit.
- 40g granola, mixed with a teaspoon of either water or runny honey.
- 350g full-fat Greek yoghurt.

METHOD:

- Wash and dry a silicone ice-cube tray (a hard plastic one will not work!)
- Spoon a layer of granola into each hole of the tray and press down well. Top with yoghurt, filling each hole almost to the top.
- Finally, add a few bits of frozen fruit – you may need to chop larger pieces in half!
- Freeze for 2-3 hours until solid.
- Remove from the freezer for 15-20 minutes before popping them from the tray – but eat while still frozen, or it will just be a melting goo!
- You can store them in the freezer, either in the ice cube tray or in an airtight container, for up to a month.



You could even go crazy and use a silicone ice-cube tray with holes in the shapes of butterflies, puppies or whatever tickles your fancy!



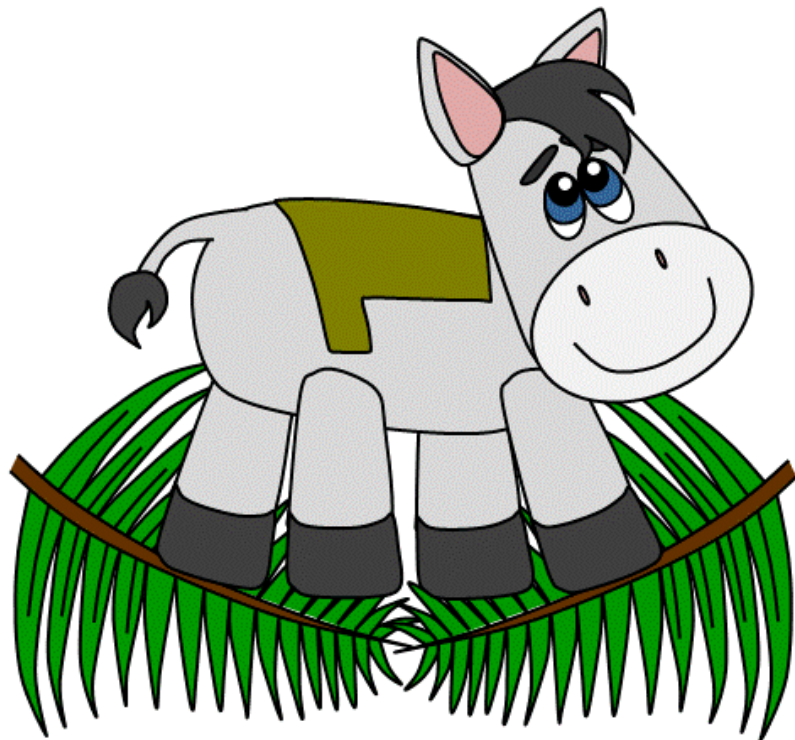
Puzzles

As there will be no Kippington Cat on Easter Sunday, I have included a mix of Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday puzzles for you to enjoy.

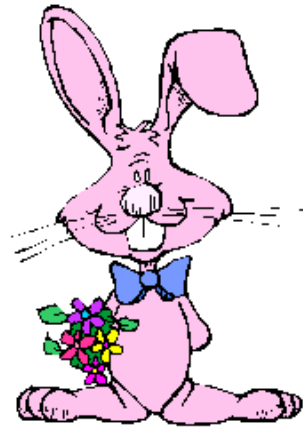
People Wave Palms to Jesus

S D A N Y C O W Q D R S I B C V
B E M R X O M R E E D K M R A A
Y R H F A A C F G S J O O L N Y
J T G C H T G J L S Q W N N A R
Z H N J N S I G V E D U A K E P
X V I L L A G E T L W S U S E J
M E L A S U R E J B O Q P M H Y
T C N V J U E B Z H B Q D V P C

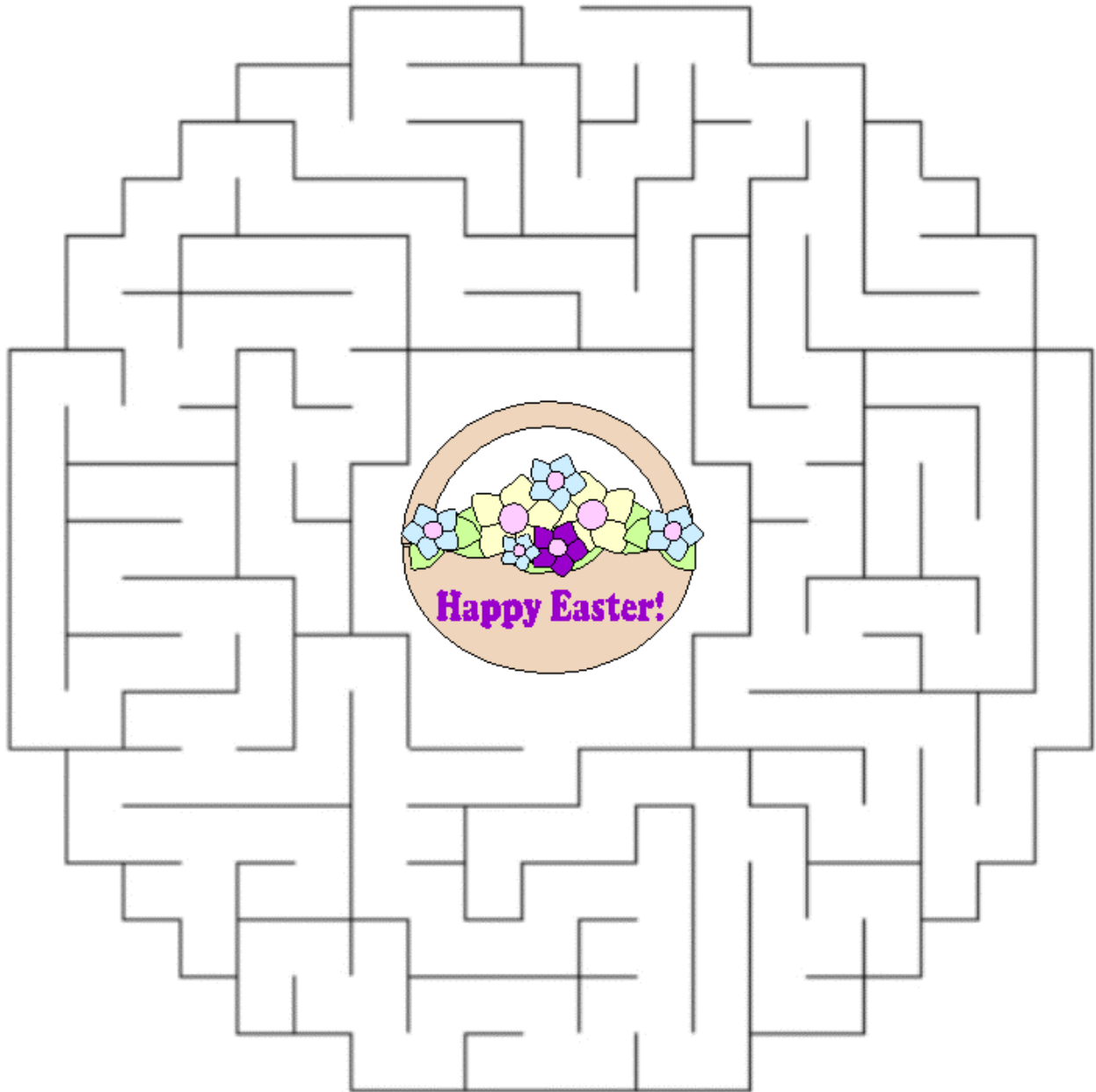
blessed
branches
coats
crowd
donkey
Hosanna
Jerusalem
Jesus
palms
village



Happy Easter!



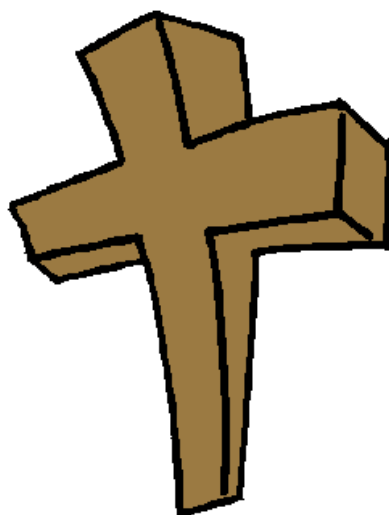
Help the Easter Bunny
find his basket.



Easter Word Search

B M A L M H B B K I N G R N R
N O I T C E R R U S E R E O O
A P O S T L E S E Y S C D I O
S E C I F I R C A S H J E T S
N S N A M O R O O R R E M A T
R C D S G T T R I I K S P V E
O Y R A M B C S S V Z U T L R
H L O V E L T E M M A S I A Y
T C R O W N N Y L O H S O S Z
X C R U C I F I X I O N N K Q

APOSTLES
CHRIST
CROSS
CROWN
CRUCIFIXION
HOLY
JESUS
KING
LAMB
LOVE



MARY
REDEMPTION
RESURRECTION
RISEN
ROMANS
ROOSTER
SACRIFICE
SALVATION
SAVIOR
THORNS

*This puzzle is included along with my sincere apologies
for the inclusion of the American spelling of the word saviour ...*

Can you spot the difference?

Easter Word Ladder

Make your way from HIDE to FIND by changing just one letter on each step to make a new word!



H I D E

Conceal.

--	--	--	--

Large distance from side to side.

--	--	--	--

Grown-up drink.

--	--	--	--

Blowing air.

F I N D

Discover.

Answers at the foot of the back page.

Hosanna! Save us Lord!

Thank You, Lord, for Palm Sunday and Holy Week.
Thank You that the crowds greeted You with cheers.
Thank You that You suffered for our sins.
Thank You for the greatness of Your love.

Hallelujah! Praise the Lord!

Thank You, Lord, for Easter Sunday.
Thank You that we know that You rose from the dead.
Thank You for the promise Easter brings.
Thank You for the power of Your love.

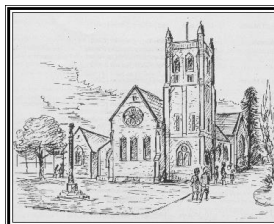
We give thanks, dear Jesus, for Your love.
And we pray we will share with You
in the eternal Kingdom.

He is risen indeed!!
Amen.

HE IS RISEN
Forgiven
For God so Loved the World
LAMB of God
love
He is Risen Indeed
CHRIST THE LORD IS RISEN TODAY
HALLELUJAH
Eternal Life
Redeemer



*Some joys are physical - like a cuddle from someone you love.
Others are intellectual - like finally solving a tricky maths problem.
But the best joy is knowing that Jesus loves us!*



Created by Kippington Cat
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Issue 38 / 28th March 2021

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Word Ladder: Hide – Wide – Wine – Wind – Find.