Dear friend
I am pleased to enclose this week's service, prepared by Judith.

Today's hymn is The day of Resurrection, from the resourceful Chet Valley churches
https://youtu.be/49hPB6NTVEE

This joyful Eastertide sung expertly by Gesualdo 6
https://youtu.be/QxGwrNGyyWg

Taizé a virtual rendition of In resurrectione tua from a truly international group of young musicians
https://youtu.be/M-hybuhxJg8

A joyful version of Christus resurrexit by Franz Liszt from his Oratorio Christus
https://youtu.be/jJs2AVSQY7s

And finally, I am grateful to Martin for these worship songs.

Zach Williams - No Longer Slaves - Composed by Jonathan Helser, Joel Case and Brian Johnson,
"I am no longer a slave to fear; I am a child of God. From my mother's womb, you have chosen me, Love has called my name. I've been born again into Your family, Your blood flows through my veins" This remarkable clip of worship at Harding Prison, Nashville, Tennessee.
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bDnA_coA168

Rend Collective - My Lighthouse (Church Online)
Irish band with their worship song that is a hit with Junior Churches worldwide
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wwfylqWo4Rs

Boldly I Approach - Rend Collective (OFFICIAL LYRIC VIDEO)
Often used as a communion song
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4QDnVD7gu5Y&list=PLZMnj0r2P0r12WOcUm5Ae2o0LVZpynhkS&index=11

Enjoy!
Chris

Service sheet for 18th April;
the third Sunday of Easter.

'The Lord, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you with his love; he will exult over you with loud singing as on a day of festival.' *Zephaniah 3:17,18*

CONFESSION

Jesus Christ, risen Master and triumphant Lord, we come to you in sorrow for our sins, and confess to you our weakness and unbelief. We have lived by the light of our own eyes, as faithless and not believing. In your mercy, forgive us.

May the God of love bring us back to himself, forgive us our sins, and assure us of his eternal love in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (CW)

COLLECT

Almighty Father, who in your great mercy gladdened the disciples with the sight of the risen Lord: give us such knowledge of his presence with us, that we may be strengthened and sustained by his risen life and serve you continually in righteousness and truth; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

READINGS

Acts 3: 12-19; Psalm 4; 1 John 3: 1-7; Luke 24: 36b-48.

REFLECTION

Chapter 24 of Luke's gospel is a celebration of the resurrection, and what is to come next. Today's gospel tells of the aftermath of the experience of the travellers on the road to Emmaus, meeting with the risen Christ in the breaking of bread. Now, Jesus is among the disciples in the upper room. We see them 'startled and terrified', and no wonder. Their reaction is perfectly summed up in the words, 'While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering…' Then Jesus asks for something to eat. He *is* truly alive, and is sharing, as so often before, in a simple meal of broiled (we might say grilled or baked) fish – the staple diet of the group. The secret sign adopted by the first Christians, the Greek *ichthys,* reminds us of the importance of fish and fishermen in the story of Christ on earth. Then comes the promise of 'power from on high' as the disciples, and we, continue on the promised journey.

PRAYERS

O God, food of the poor; Christ, our bread, give us a taste of the tender bread from your creation's table; bread newly taken from your heart's oven, food that comforts and nourishes us. A fraternal loaf that makes us human; joined hand in hand, working and sharing. A warm loaf that makes us a family; sacrament of your body, your wounded people. (Community soup-kitchen workers, Peru)

We pray for the world; for all who suffer, especially from hunger and thirst. We give thanks for the aid agencies, helping to make it possible for people to enjoy and share in meals together.

We pray for the sick; for those suffering from Covid, as well as all who have other illnesses. We name before you those we love who are in need of prayer…….

We give thanks for the life and witness of Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, praying for his family, and for all others who are bereaved.

We pray for the words in which we can share the knowledge of your love and mercy.

Lord in your mercy; Hear our prayer.

We say THE LORD'S PRAYER

We share THE GRACE

FINALPRAYER

O Spirit, grant us a calm lake, little wind, little rain, so that the canoes may proceed well, so that they may proceed speedily.

(Fishermen's prayer, Tanzania)

