

Alleluia! Jesus is risen!

He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

How many times have you said that recently?

After the careful, prayerful, reflective and rather subdued days of Lent, Easter dawns with 'Alleluia's' everywhere! And it's right that we are joyful; that we celebrate together in worship all that God has done for us in and through the rising of and risen Jesus.... He is risen indeed! ALLELUIA! (Oh, there I go again!)

But it made me wonder – we say these words, perhaps all too easily when they were hard won; they trip off our tongues, sometimes almost without a thought – almost a knee-jerk reaction perhaps?

We say them but do we mean them?

We say them but do we live them?

As people of faith, followers of Jesus, disciples 'on the way' we are called, encouraged and equipped to live as people of resurrection hope and for that to really mean something in our lives.

Maybe first we need to discern where we need God's resurrection touch in our lives, our hearts, our minds, our souls and then, out of that inner resurrection reality, strive to inhabit that truth in our day to day dealings with those around us – our neighbours, family, friends, work colleagues.

I suppose in essence, I'm saying that: if we truly believe that Jesus is alive - here and now; that God loves us beyond all measure, and the Holy Spirit is with us always – what difference does that make to our lives?

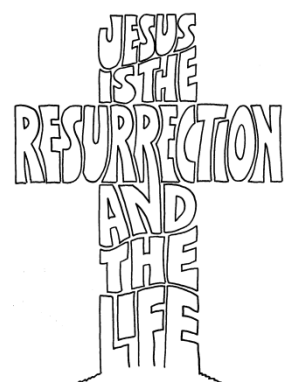
Will anyone notice?

And if they notice and ask us why... What will we say?

Think on that.....for.... **Jesus is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

Every blessing for this Easter week!

Sam.



Cliff Festival 2023

Cliff Festival 2023 runs from 26 to 29 May at Cliff College in Derbyshire. Expect morning and evening worship and Bible teaching, seminars, games and activities for people of all ages, opportunities to be reenergised and resourced for mission – and all in the stunning surrounds of the Peak District. Come for the day or bring your tent and come for the weekend. Groups of 10 adults or more people receive a discount on all tickets and camping plots – so gather a group of friends or church family and come and be equipped together at Cliff Festival 2023.

Visit www.cliffcollege.ac.uk/cliff-festival to find out more and book now.

The Coronation Big Lunch

The Coronation Big Lunch (6 to 8 May) will bring neighbours and communities together to share friendship, food and fun. Be part of history and join millions across the UK with a Coronation Big Lunch celebration in your community!

One of many organisations offering free packs is the Eden Project Communities at

<https://www.edenprojectcommunities.com/the-big-lunch>