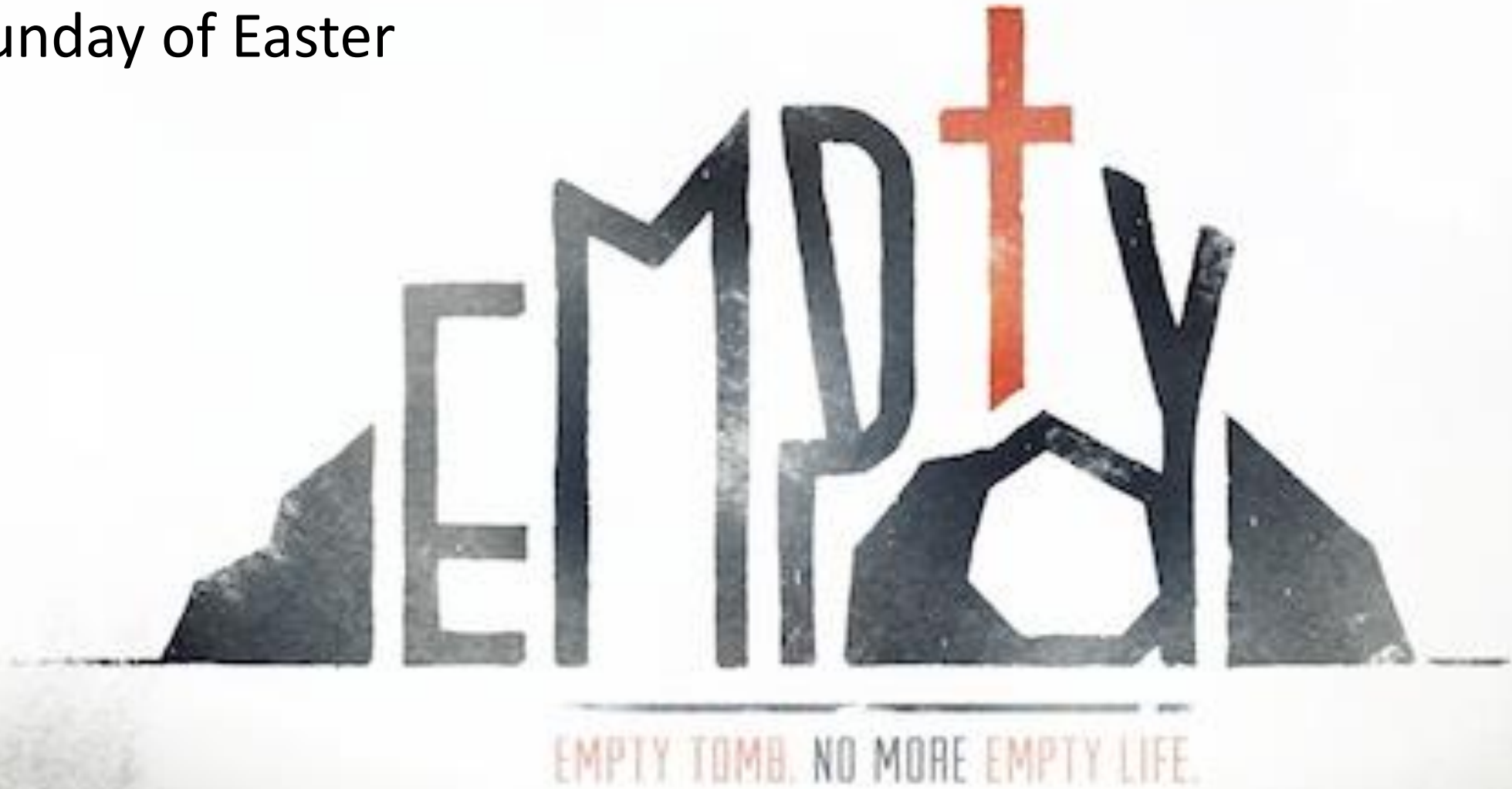
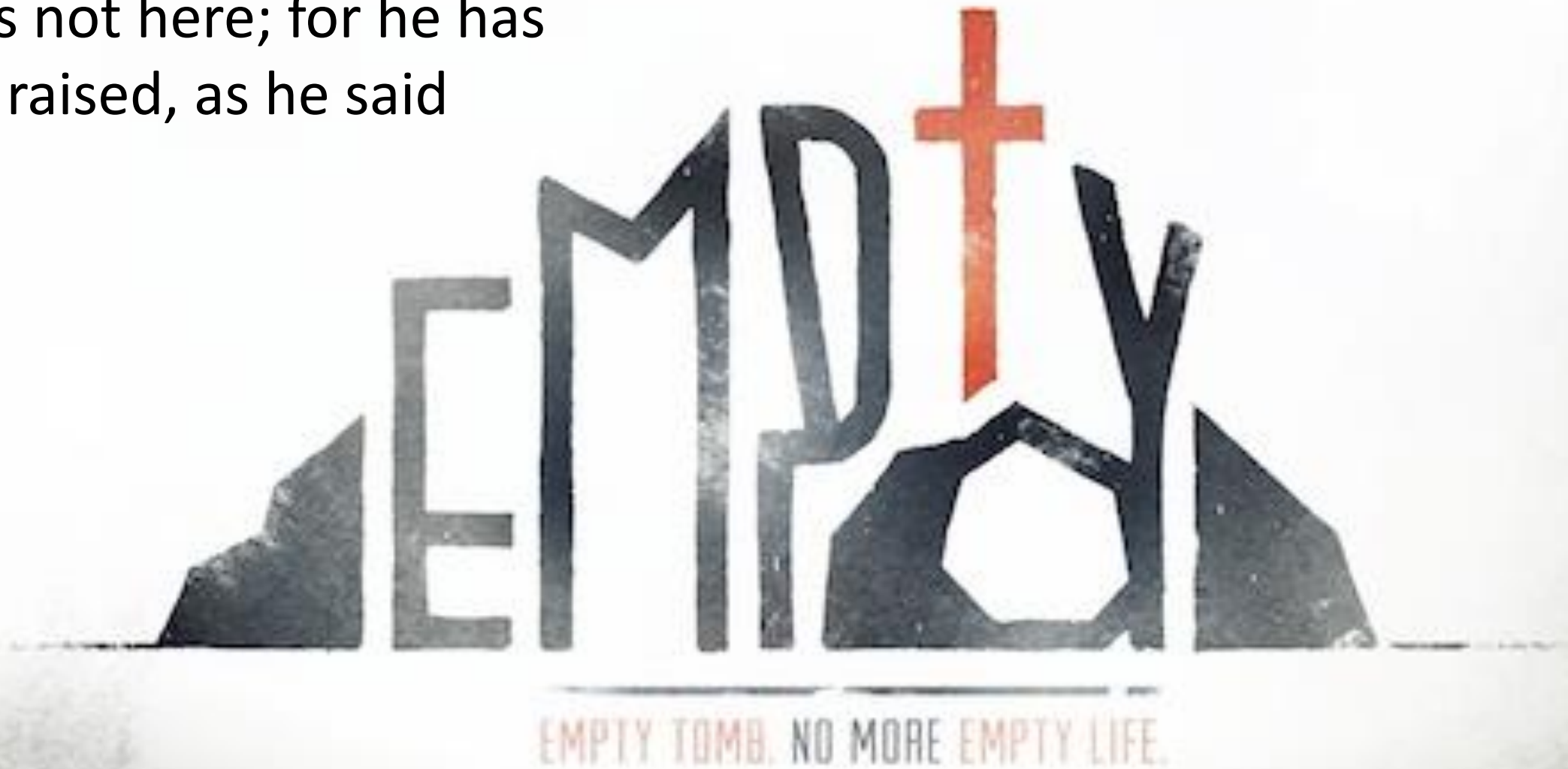


A service of the Word:
2nd Sunday of Easter



Matthew 28:6 (NRSV)

⁶ He is not here; for he has
been raised, as he said



The Greeting

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

All He is risen indeed. Alleluia.

Praise the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

All He has given us new life and hope.

He has raised Jesus from the dead.

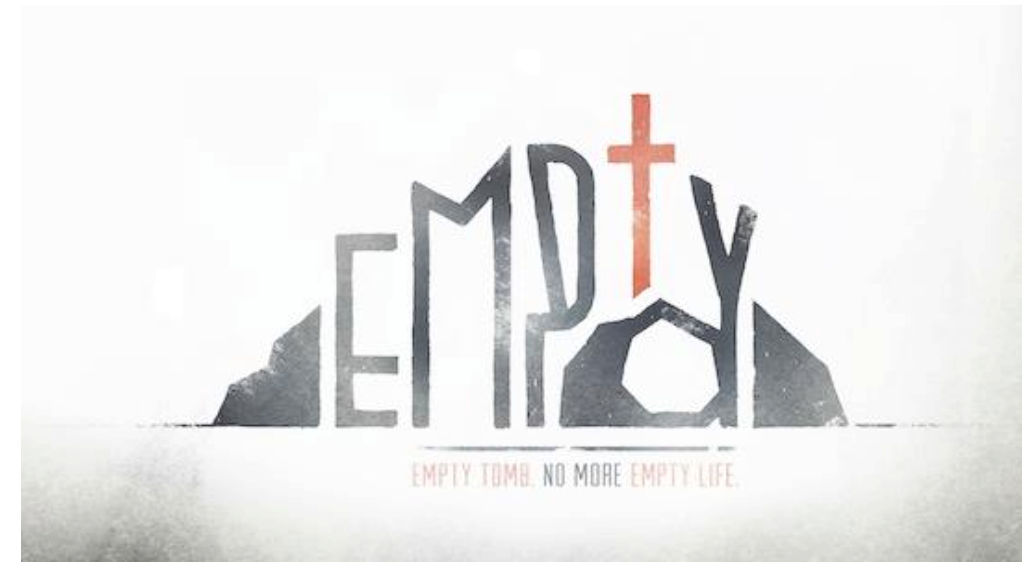
Alleluia. Christ is risen.

All He is risen indeed. Alleluia.



Opening Prayer

**All Faithful one, whose word is life:
come with saving power
to free our praise,
inspire our prayer
and shape our lives
for the kingdom of your Son,
Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

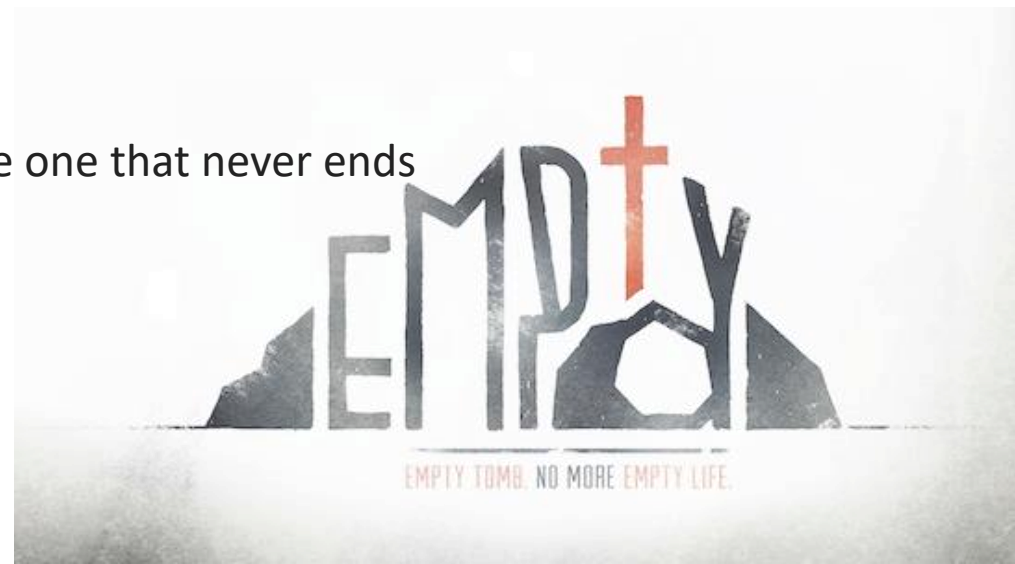


Play: Because he lives (Matt Maher) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PBvU7arNhQs>

I believe in the Son
I believe in the risen One
I believe I overcome
By the power of His blood
Amen, Amen
I'm alive, I'm alive
Because He lives
Amen, Amen
Let my song join the one that never ends
Because He lives

I was dead in the grave
I was covered in sin and shame
I heard mercy call my name
He rolled the stone away
Amen, Amen
I'm alive, I'm alive
Because He lives
Amen, Amen
Let my song join the one that never ends

Because He lives
I can face tomorrow
Because He lives
Every fear is gone
I know He holds my life my future in His hands
Amen, Amen
I'm alive, I'm alive
Because He lives
Amen, Amen
Let my song join the one that never ends
Amen, Amen
I'm alive, I'm alive
Because He lives
Amen, Amen
Let my song join the one that never ends
Because He lives
Because He lives

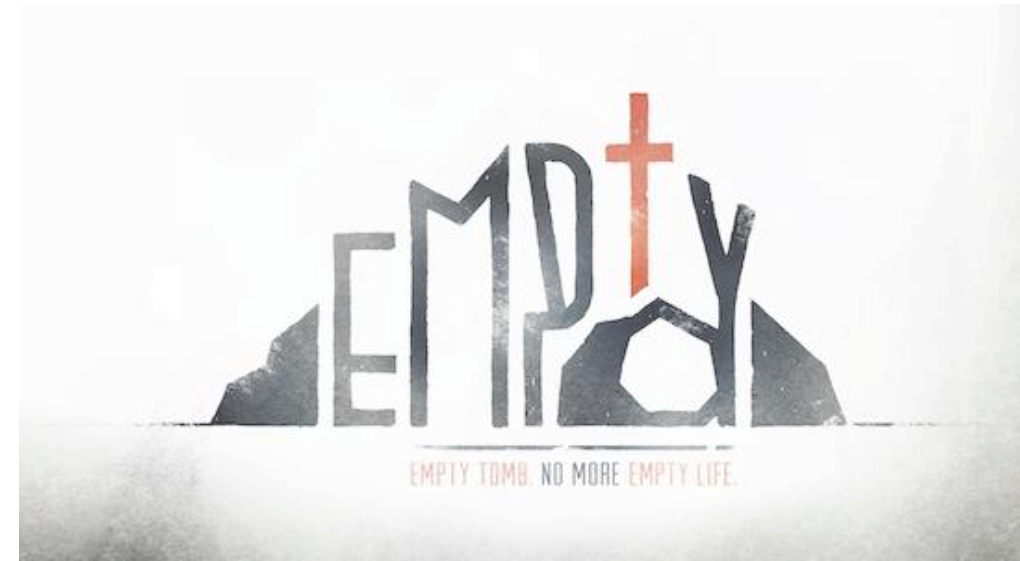


Prayers of Penitence

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 our own strength,
and not by the power of your resurrection.
In your mercy, forgive us.

All Lord, hear us and help us.



We have lived by the light of our own eyes,
as faithless and not believing.

In your mercy, forgive us.

All Lord, hear us and help us.

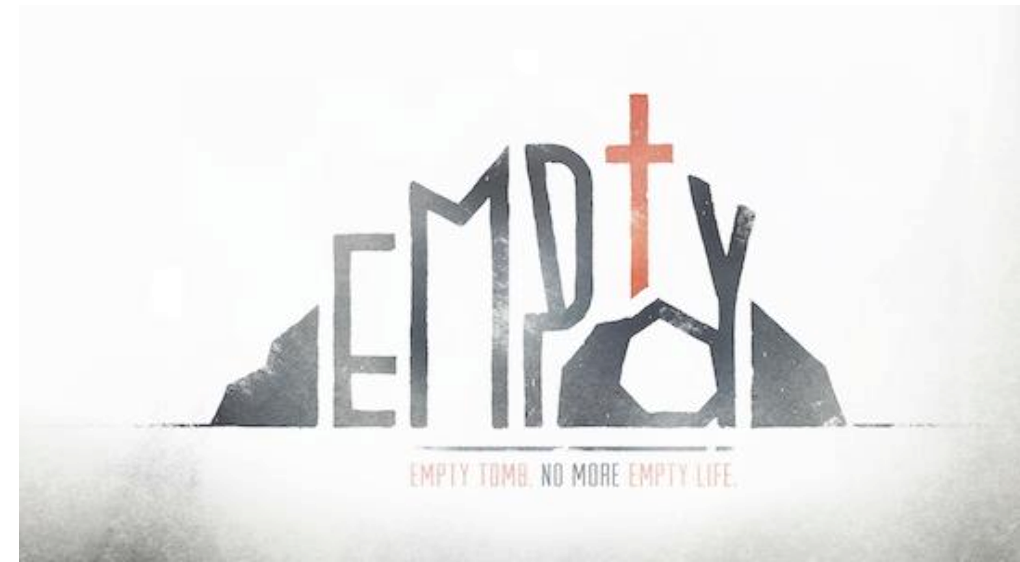
We have lived for this world alone,
and doubted our home in heaven.

In your mercy, forgive us.

All Lord, hear us and help us.

May the God of love and power
forgive *you* and free *you* from *your* sins,
heal and strengthen *you* by his Spirit,
and raise *you* to new life in Christ our Lord.

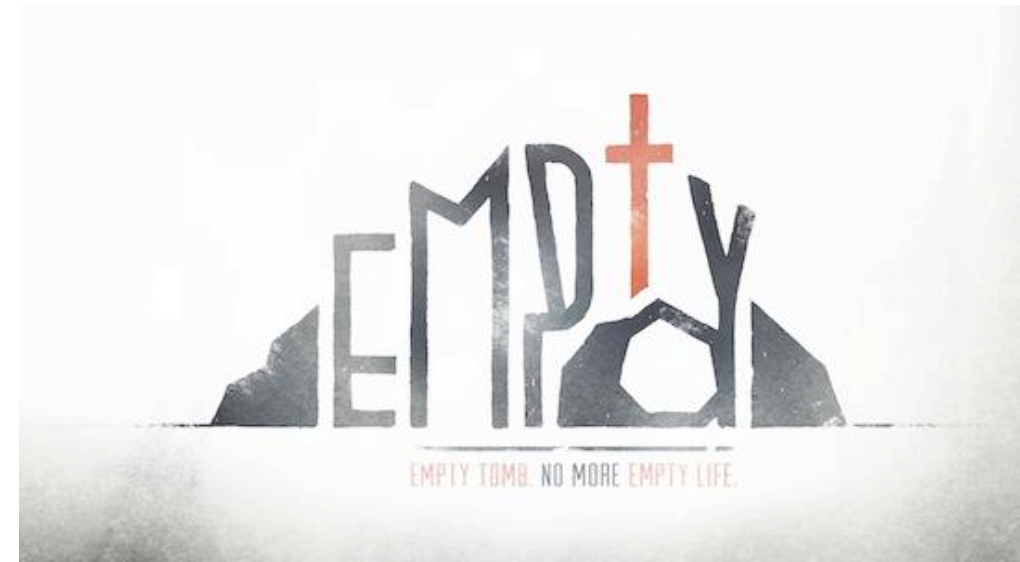
All Amen.



The Collect

Risen Christ,
for whom no door is locked, no entrance barred:
open the doors of our hearts,
that we may seek the good of others
and walk the joyful road of sacrifice and peace,
to the praise of God the Father.

Amen



Gospel Reading: John 20. 19-end (NRSV)

Jesus and Thomas

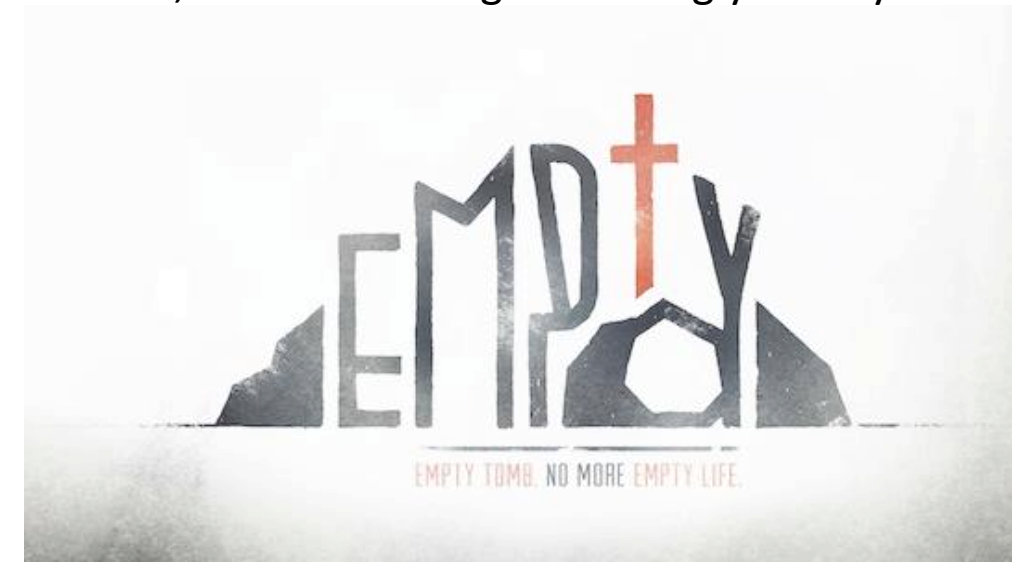
²⁴ But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵ So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord.” But he said to them, “Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.”

²⁶ A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” ²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.” ²⁸ Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!” ²⁹ Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.”

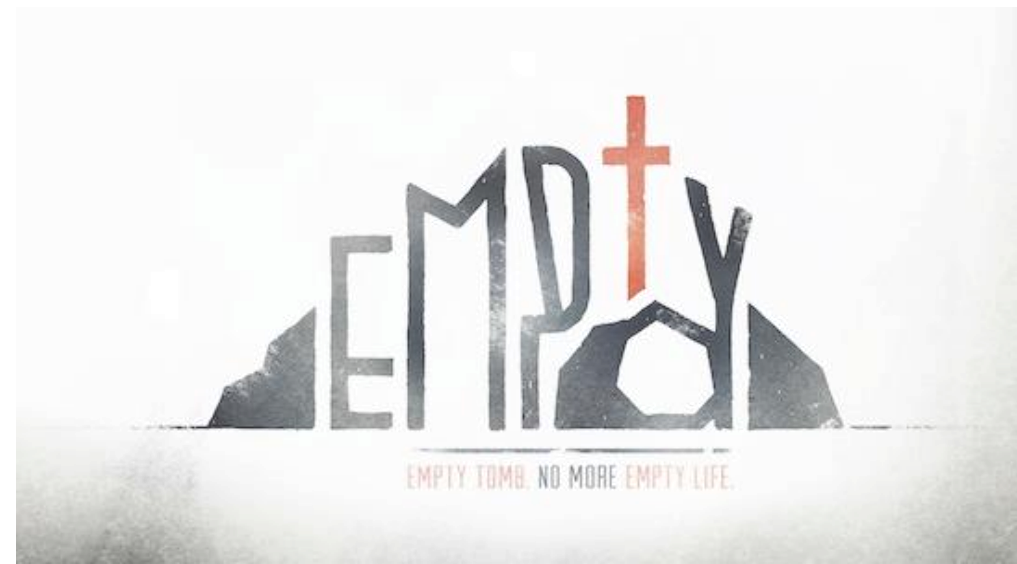
³⁰ Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. ³¹ But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

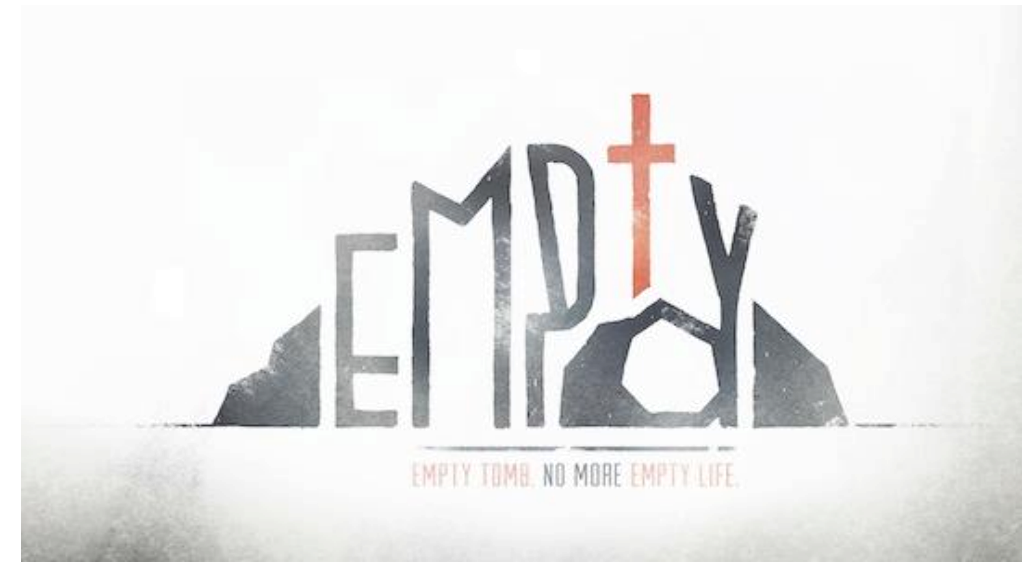


Some words from Rev. Joachim



Let us declare our faith
in the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**All Christ died for our sins
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he was buried;
he was raised to life on the third day
in accordance with the Scriptures;
afterwards he appeared to his followers,
and to all the apostles:
this we have received,
and this we believe.
Amen**

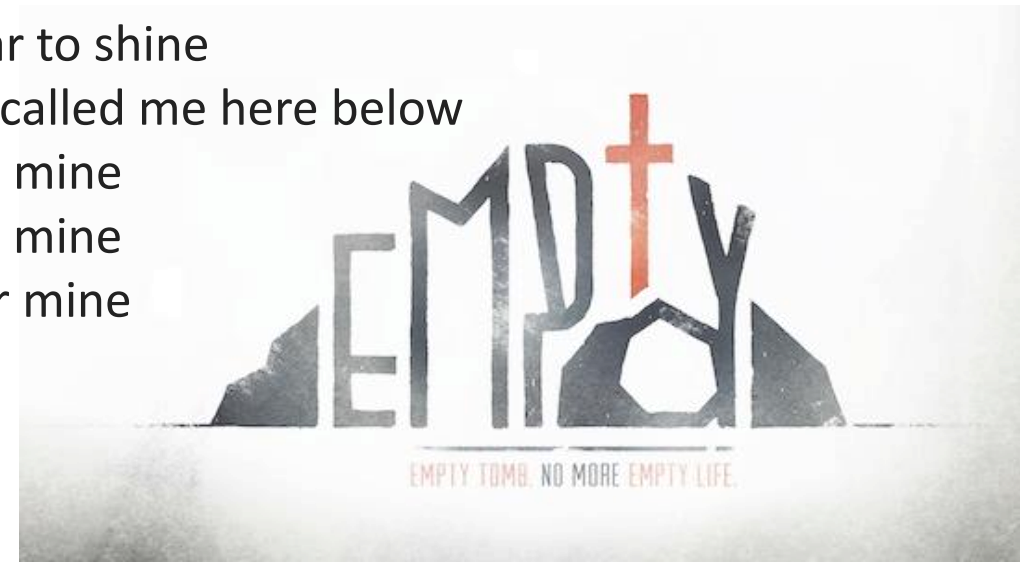


Play/Sing: Amazing Grace (My chains have gone) (Chris Tomlin)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3MZgXXUW08Q>

Amazing grace
How sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me
I once was lost, but now I'm found
Was blind, but now I see
'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear
And grace my fears relieved
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed
My chains are gone
I've been set free
My God, my Saviour has ransomed me
And like a flood His mercy rains
Unending love, Amazing grace
The Lord has promised good to me
His word my hope secures
He will my shield and portion be
As long as life endures

My chains are gone
I've been set free
My God, my Saviour has ransomed me
And like a flood His mercy rains
Unending love, Amazing grace
My chains are gone
I've been set free
My God, my Saviour has ransomed me
And like a flood His mercy rains
Unending love, Amazing grace
The Earth shall soon dissolve like snow
The sun forbear to shine
But God, Who called me here below
Will be forever mine
Will be forever mine
You are forever mine



Prayers of Intercession *(with thanks to Pam D for these)*

Lord God, you have given us the imaginable gift of your risen Son. We thank you with full hearts for all you have given us and all the blessings that are to come, through Him

Jesus, Lord of life:

All in your mercy, hear us.

Though we have not seen Him with our eyes, we see Him all around us in humankind and the natural world opening in Spring. Keep our eyes open, give us clear vision to see your risen Son in all things and at all times and may we feel Him lifting us to you.

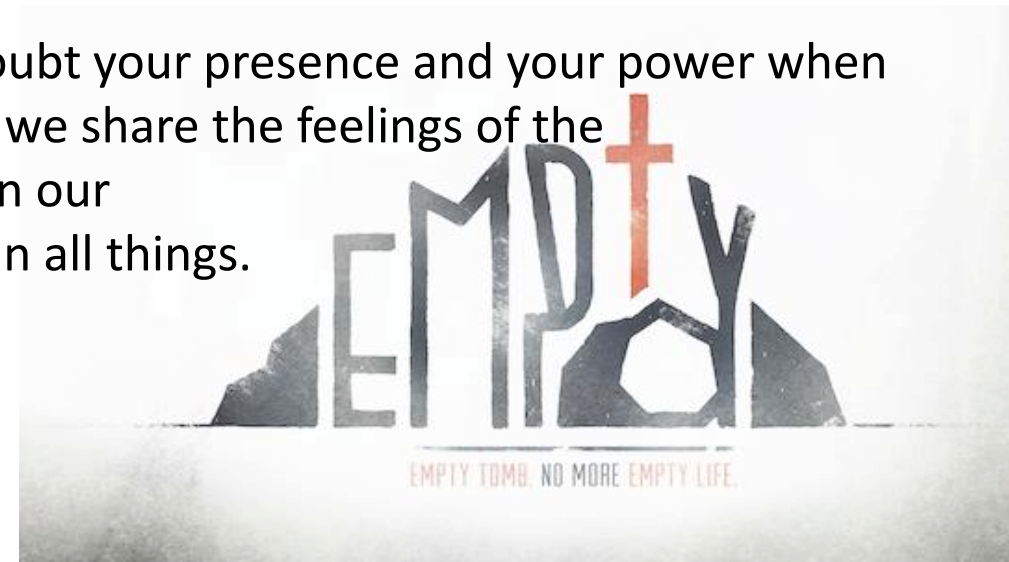
Jesus, Lord of life:

All in your mercy, hear us.

Lord we live in troubling and unknown times. It is easy for us to doubt your presence and your power when we are surrounded by uncertainty, bad news and fear. Sometimes we share the feelings of the disciples in that locked room. May we feel your presence with us in our closed rooms. Dispel any doubt in our minds that you are with us in all things.

Jesus, Lord of life:

All in your mercy, hear us.



Lord God, to whom no door is locked, no entrance barred, come among us in this time of trouble, in our homes and in our workplaces. Protect our communities, great and small, our families, friends and neighbours. Show us ways in which we can help one another and to reflect your work amongst the outcasts of society. We thank you for the goodwill which people are showing to one another and for the work of charities finding ways to support their clients during the lock-down. Make us generous towards them whilst fundraising events are suspended.

Jesus, Lord of life:

All in your mercy, hear us.

We pray today for healing, for comfort and reassurance for those who are sick in body, mind or spirit and for those who cannot be with them. We remember all who are ill and suffer. We remember Andrew Skinnard recovering from coronavirus in hospital in London, and in a moment of silence we pray for those both known and unknown to us.

Jesus, Lord of life:

All in your mercy, hear us.

Jesus, in this glorious Easter season, you stand among us in the shadows of this time. May the brilliant light of your Resurrection dispel the shadows and give us hope, so that we may see your full risen glory.

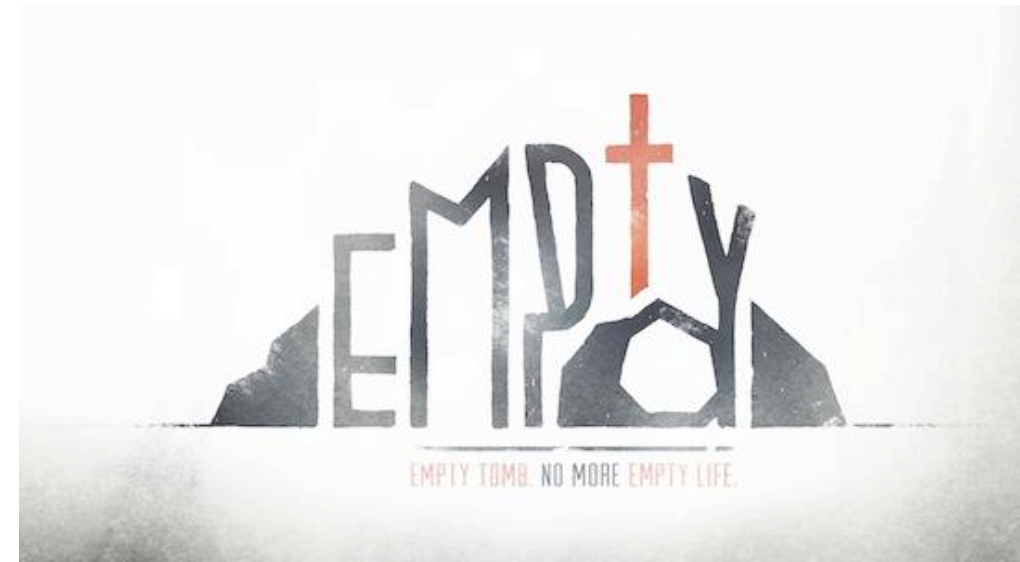
All Merciful Father, accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen



The Lord's Prayer

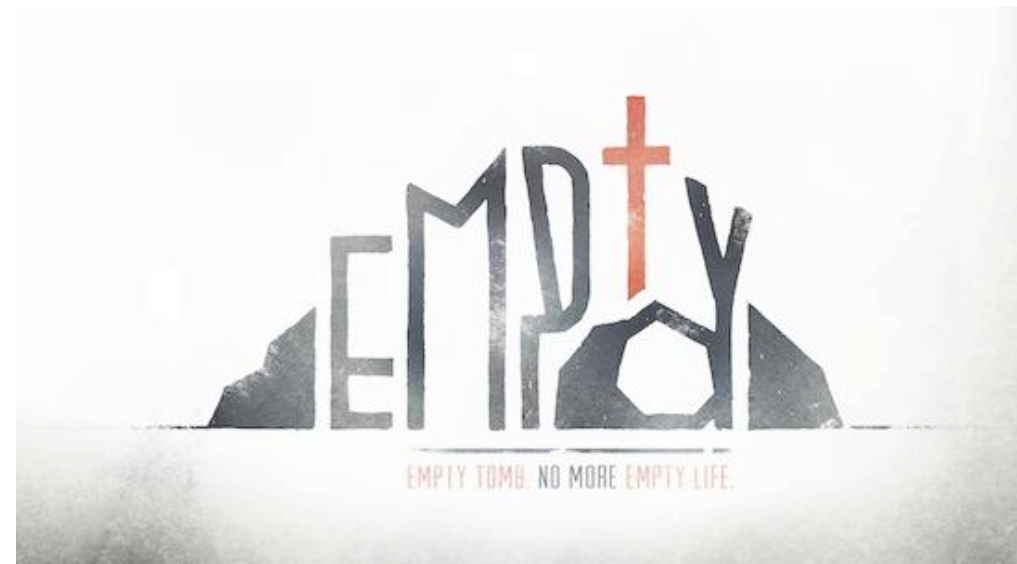
Gathering our prayers and praise into one, let us pray as our Saviour taught us

**All Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever.
Amen.**



Gloria in Excelsis

All Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.
For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father.
Amen.



Alleluia. Christ is risen.

All He is risen indeed. Alleluia.

Praise the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

All He has given us new life and hope.

He has raised Jesus from the dead.

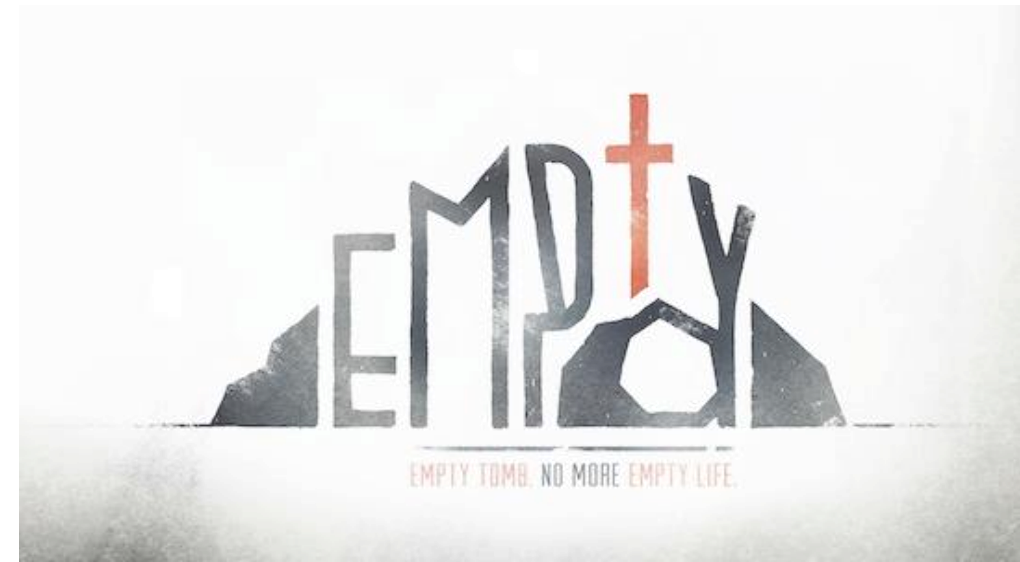
God has claimed us as his own.

All He has brought us out of darkness.

He has made us light to the world.

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

All He is risen indeed. Alleluia.



The Peace

The risen Christ came and stood among his disciples and said, 'Peace be with you.'

Then were they glad when they saw the Lord. Alleluia.

The peace of the Lord be always with you

All and also with you.

Play: Happy Day (Tim Hughes & Ben Cantelon)

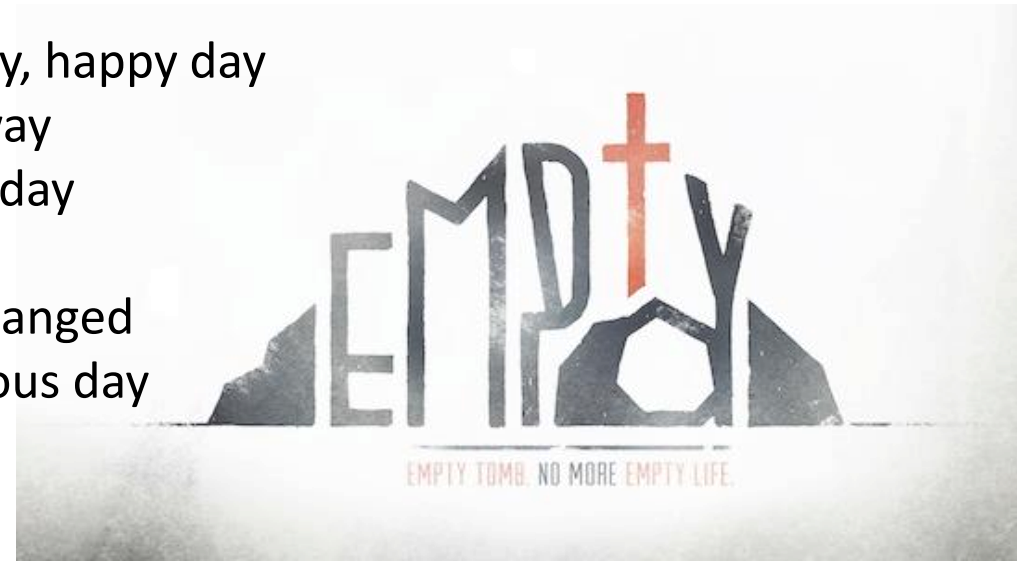
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gRSOLhFqWh0>



Play: Happy Day (Tim Hughes & Ben Cantelon) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gRSOLhFqWh0>

The greatest day in history
Death is beaten, You have rescued me
Sing it out, Jesus is alive
The empty cross, the empty grave
Life eternal, You have won the day
Shout it out, Jesus is alive
He's alive
Oh, happy day, happy day
You washed my sin away
Oh, happy day, happy day
I'll never be the same
Forever I am changed
When I stand in that place
Free at last, meeting face to face
I am yours, Jesus, You are mine
Endless joy, perfect peace
Earthly pain finally will cease
Celebrate, Jesus is alive

He's alive
And oh, happy day, happy day
You washed my sin away
Oh, happy day, happy day
I'll never be the same
Oh no, forever I am changed
Oh, what a glorious day
What a glorious way
That You have saved me
And oh, what a glorious day
What a glorious name
Hey, and oh, happy day, happy day
You washed my sin away
Oh, happy day, happy day
I'll never be the same
Oh no, forever I am changed
What a glorious, glorious day
I'll never be the same





The word "EMPTY" is rendered in a large, dark, textured, blocky font. A red cross is positioned over the letter 'Y'. The letters 'E' and 'M' are partially enclosed by a dark, jagged silhouette that resembles a tomb or a mountain range. The entire graphic is set against a light, hazy background.

EMPTY TOMB. NO MORE EMPTY LIFE.