

+WEEKLY REFLECTION

communicate@blackburn.anglican.org



He is Risen

I have had several conversations over the years with clergy who were in the midst of planning a sermon for Easter Sunday.

In response to their question 'I have preached so many times on Easter Sunday, what shall I say?'

I would tell them to simply say 'Jesus is risen, Amen' because that is the truth and all that is necessary. Now that I find myself in a similar position and have the same challenge I can appreciate their angst.

After careful thought I have decided to follow my own advice and say, 'He is Risen, Amen'. That is the truth. It was the truth then and it is still the truth today. People needed to be told the news of that truth then and they still need to be told that truth today.

Jesus Christ, the Son of God, was crucified, died, and was placed in a sealed tomb. Three days later he was alive, risen from death, triumphant! Why? Because he was God incarnate and he came to earth to save us, to save all of God's children. Why? Because God loved his people then and he loves his people now. Save us from what? He came to save us from a life devoid of a relationship with God.

This is the truth that needs to be proclaimed on Easter Sunday and every day. God so loved the world that he gave his only Son. Jesus took the weight of the sin of the world on his shoulders and died in agony on the cross so that we may be forgiven of our sin, be made right with God and live forever with him in our hearts on earth and then for eternity in heaven.

That was the truth then and it is still the truth today. The message of Easter Sunday doesn't change and in a world that is always changing it is a source of joy and hope that Jesus is the same yesterday, today and forever.

He is Risen! Alleluia. Let us not just say that because that is what we say on Easter Sunday and we say it every year. Let us proclaim it loudly and boldly because it is the truth today and every day. It is the only truth that has remained constant throughout the ages, and it is the only truth that will transform lives completely.

He is Risen indeed, Amen.

Lisa Fenton, Adviser to Primary Schools and Academies and SIAMS Lead