

Act of Worship
NEW LIFE - Key Stage 2

**Gathering
together**

Focal point: Easter candle
flowers
green buds
any pictures / signs of new life
Bible

Leader:

Easter is not just one day. It is a whole season, just as Lent is a season. In fact, Easter is even longer than Lent! Lent lasts for 40 days, but Eastertime is 50 days long. The readings in church during Eastertime are filled with good news. They remind Christians that Jesus is risen from the dead.

In our world there are many signs of resurrection. New grass, green buds, eggs and flowers remind us of the resurrection of nature after the death of winter. We have some of these symbols on our focal point to brighten our classroom. They can help us celebrate the joy of our new life in the risen Christ.

Reader 1: You have given us this lovely Easter season,
Lord have mercy.

Lord have mercy.

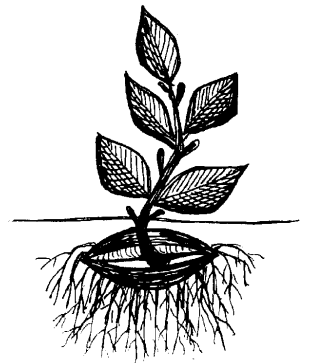
You have risen to a new and wonderful life,
Christ have mercy.

Christ have mercy.

May we too rise to a new life of love,
Lord have mercy.

Lord have mercy.

May God be good to us, forgive us all that we have done wrong, and one day make us happy with him in our home in heaven.



Reader 2: Let us pray:

God our Father, you raised Jesus from the dead to a new life. Help us to rise to a new life of love. We ask this through Jesus, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever.

Amen.

**The Word
of God**

Reader 3:

This reading is from one of the letters of St Paul [Eph.1:20-22]. It tells us that Jesus died but is alive again now.

Dear Friends,

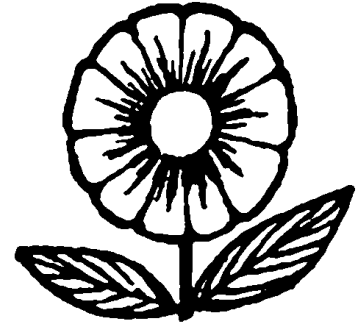
Jesus died - he was killed! But God the Father has raised him to life again.

*He has made Jesus the king of the world,
and put him in charge of everything.*

He has made him greater than everybody else.

This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.



**Response
to the
Word**

Leader:

God the Father raised Jesus to new life. All around us we see signs of the new life of Spring. How does that make me feel?

[Pause for reflection]

Leader: God our Father, you have given us everything good and beautiful, especially in the springtime. Listen to us as we pray.

We believe that Jesus rose to new and better life.

Help us to live a new and better life. Lord hear us.

Lord graciously hear us.

Help all of us to show real love to each other. Lord hear us.

Lord graciously hear us.

Help all of us to live as your brothers and sisters. Lord hear us.

Lord graciously hear us.

Help all of us to be kind to those who have no friends.

Lord hear us. **Lord graciously hear us.**

Help all of us to say thanks for the good things you give us.

Lord hear us. **Lord graciously hear us.**

[you may invite the children to add their own prayers]

**Going
forth**

Leader:

Loving God, we thank you for this lovely Easter season. Help us to appreciate all the signs of new life around us. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Let us end our celebration by singing together 'This is the day' *[or any appropriate song]*