

Focus April 2021



Northhall Baptist Church – 200 years and still going.

A little Church with strong local *links*.

He is risen, Hallelujah!

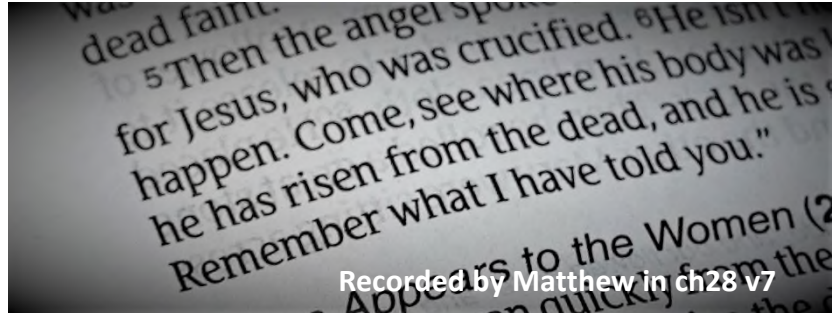
Easter is here. What do you celebrate at Easter?

Easter eggs, unlimited chocolate, school holidays, this year, a relaxation of Covid-19 restrictions?

The last year has been very difficult for everyone. We have all faced things we have never had to before. Who would have thought at the beginning of last March that the government would have had to close down most of the enterprising businesses, shops and restaurants and even seeing our loved ones?

And most of all, who would have thought of so many deaths? Of the elderly, some young and fit. So much fear.

Easter is the time when Christians remember the specific events of 2,000 years ago. The real meaning of Easter. Jesus death was a triumph for some and a disaster for others. Some religious leaders at that time may have thought his presence and the effect of his teachings were now at an end! Jesus followers were perplexed, despite he'd tried to explain these things to them several times. In Mark 8 Jesus first began to explain to the disciples that he would be killed and after 3 days rise again. They didn't understand what he was trying to tell them and Peter tried to rebuke Jesus. We often blame Peter for his impetuous nature. But rebuking Jesus! – goodness me! But in our actions we probably do the same.



Only 3 days after the crucifixion on what we call 'Good Friday' Jesus did indeed rise from the dead. If that hadn't happened, the world would have no hope. This world has been lacking hope during the last 12 months but a hymn we regularly sing, written by Gloria and William Gaither has the chorus:-

*'Because he lives, I can face tomorrow;
Because he lives all fear is gone;
because I know he holds the future,
and life is worth the living just because he lives'*

This is the hope we have and then all fear of the future has gone.

We are all human and it's so easy to be scared about what might happen. The constant reminders that we should be worried, don't help. Not seeing friends and relatives who might help soothe our worries, doesn't help. The one that does help, is the Jesus that died and rose again to secure our eternal futures. He is risen, hallelujah!

We are continuing our Sunday services on Zoom for the foreseeable future at 11 am. If you would like to join in the worship, music and song, you'll get a very warm welcome. Please ring the number below or contact us via our website.

For those interested in the history of Northhall Baptist Church, a free copy of the booklet, *Rebels in Green Pastures* can be supplied or downloaded from our website: <http://northhallbaptistchurch.org/>