



THE  
EMPTY  
GRAVE



*The Choir of  
S. Thomas' College,  
Bandaravela*

*present an*

*Easter Musical Worship*

*Sunday, 8th May, 2022 at 5.00 pm*

## ORDER OF SERVICE

<i>Congregational Hymn</i>	- <i>Christ the Lord is risen today</i>
<i>Call to worship &amp; Opening Prayer</i>	- <i>Revd. Joel Jackson, Chaplain</i>
<i>Meditation 1</i>	- <i>How true is it? (Mecmillan Dilon)</i>
<i>Special song</i>	- <i>Living Hope</i>
<i>First Lesson</i>	- <i>Shavon John</i>
<i>Special song (Primary choir )</i>	- <i>Risen</i>
<i>Meditation 2</i>	- <i>Opens a home beyond the skies</i>
<i>Special song</i>	- <i>Cornerstone</i>
<i>Second Lesson</i>	- <i>S. Abisharman</i>
<i>Special song (Staff choir)</i>	- <i>මා නේනා හුස්මක් පාසා</i>
<i>Special song</i>	- <i>யெகோவாயீரே</i>
<i>Meditation 3</i>	- <i>Opens a home beyond the skies</i>
<i>Congregational Hymn</i>	- <i>When the roll is called up yonder</i>
<i>Third Lesson</i>	- <i>Easwaren Delishan Nilesch</i>
<i>Special song</i>	- <i>ස්වර්ගයේ</i>
<i>Meditation 4</i>	- <i>A strong assurance through life's journey</i>
<i>Offertory Hymn</i>	- <i>It is well (When peace like a river)</i>
<i>Offertory Prayer</i>	- <i>Revd. Christopher Balraj</i>
<i>The Gospel</i>	- <i>Sharon Amirthanayagam</i>
<i>Easter Message</i>	- <i>Revd. Lakshman Daniel (Area Dean - UVA)</i>
<i>Special song</i>	- <i>The empty grave</i>
<i>Closing Prayer &amp; Final Blessing</i>	- <i>Revd. Lakshman Daniel</i>
<i>Congregational Hymn</i>	- <i>All hail the power of Jesus' name</i>

## **CHRIST, THE LORD IS RISEN TODAY**

*(Congregational carol; please stand and join in singing)*

1. Christ, the Lord is ris'n today, Alleluia!  
Sons of men and angels say, Alleluia!  
Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia!  
Sing, ye heav'ns, and earth, reply, Alleluia!
2. Lives again our glorious King, Alleluia!  
Where, O death, is now thy sting? Alleluia!  
Once He died our souls to save, Alleluia!  
Where thy victory, O grave? Alleluia!
3. Love's redeeming work is done, Alleluia!  
Fought the fight, the battle won, Alleluia!  
Death in vain forbids His rise, Alleluia!  
Christ hath opened paradise, Alleluia!
4. Soar we now where Christ hath led, Alleluia!  
Foll'wing our exalted Head, Alleluia!  
Made like Him, like Him we rise, Alleluia!  
Ours the cross, the grave, the skies, Alleluia!
5. Hail the Lord of earth and heaven, Alleluia!  
Praise to Thee by both be given, Alleluia!  
Thee we greet triumphant now, Alleluia!  
Hail the Resurrection, thou, Alleluia!
6. King of glory, Soul of bliss, Alleluia!  
Everlasting life is this, Alleluia!  
Thee to know, Thy pow'r to prove, Alleluia!  
Thus to sing, and thus to love, Alleluia!

**CALL TO WORSHIP** *Please respond (Rev. Joel Jackson, Chaplain)*

- L: Out of the darkness of grief and despair comes a message of hope. Christ is risen.
- A: Christ is risen, indeed.**

L: We run to the tomb to see for ourselves that it is empty. And it is true.  
Christ is risen.

**A: Christ is risen, indeed.**

L: We hear a voice call our name, and we know our risen Lord is with us now  
and always. Christ is risen.

**A: Christ is risen, indeed. Thanks be to God!**

### **OPENING PRAYER**

O God of all our days, we come this evening with eager anticipation. We seek to know you, to see you, to touch you. Open our hearts, that we might experience you anew. Open our lives, that we may be faithful witnesses to your resurrection. Through our times of struggles, and darkest days help us to remember the empty grave! **Amen.**

#### **Meditation 1: THE EMPTY TOMB – DID JESUS REALLY DIE?**

*Please be seated (Read by: J.Mecmillan Dillon)*

The “swoon theory” is the theory that Jesus never really died on the cross but that He was crucified and came very close to death. It further states that He was taken down from the cross and laid in the tomb. After three days the coolness of the tomb revived Him and He managed to roll away the stone, come out of the tomb and appear to the disciples making them think He’d risen from the dead.

This would require us to believe that the Roman military guard not only failed in their orders to execute Jesus but then also failed to determine if he was in fact dead. Either of these acts of incompetence would have guaranteed their execution as well. If the crucified victim still lingered on the cross, the guards would simply take a rod and break their legs. The Roman soldier saw that Jesus was dead already. To make sure that Jesus was really dead, one of the soldiers pierced Jesus’ side with a spear, bringing a sudden flow of blood and water confirming that Jesus was dead by then for sure.

#### **LIVING HOPE (Choir only)**

*(Congregation please remain seated)*

How great the chasm that lay between us  
How high the mountain I could not climb  
In desperation, I turned to heaven

And spoke Your name into the night.  
Then through the darkness,  
Your loving-kindness  
Tore through the shadows of my soul  
The work is finished, the end is written  
Jesus Christ, my living hope!

Who could imagine so great a mercy?  
What heart could fathom such boundless grace?  
The God of ages stepped down from glory  
To wear my sin and bear my shame  
The cross has spoken, I am forgiven  
The King of kings calls me His own  
Beautiful Savior, I'm Yours forever  
Jesus Christ, my living hope

*Hallelujah, praise the One who set me free  
Hallelujah, death has lost its grip on me  
You have broken every chain  
There's salvation in Your name  
Jesus Christ, my living hope! (Repeat)*

Then came the morning that sealed the promise  
Your buried body began to breathe  
Out of the silence, the Roaring Lion  
Declared the grave has no claim on me. (repeat)  
Jesus, Yours is the victory, whoa!

Hallelujah, praise the One . . . .(twice)

Jesus Christ, my living hope  
Oh God, You are my living hope.

**FIRST LESSON:** Acts 5:27 - 32 The fearless apostles (Please remain seated)  
{Read by Shavon John - Music coordinator}

**RISEN** (*Primary choir*)  
(*Congregation please remain seated*)

Risen He's risen forever glorified  
Risen He's risen King Jesus  
King Jesus is alive

Oh, oh, Hallelujah  
Oh, oh Hallelujah  
Oh, oh, Hallelujah  
Oh, oh Hallelujah

Oh, oh, Hallelujah  
Oh, oh Hallelujah

Grave where are you now  
You've been overpowered  
Death where is your sting  
Conquered by the King  
Resurrected One

Shining like the sun  
Breaking through the fear  
Victory is here, victory is here now

Oh, oh hallelujah  
Oh, oh hallelujah

Jesus be lifted higher  
We serve a risen savior  
Risen He's risen forever glorified  
Risen He's risen King Jesus  
King Jesus is alive  
Oh, oh, Hallelujah

Resurrected One  
Shining like the sun  
Breaking through the fear  
Victory is here, victory is here now

## **Meditation 2: THE EMPTY GRAVE – A PROOF OUR SAVIOUR LIVES**

Our previous meditation pointed out how certainly Jesus was confirmed as dead. Jesus's body was buried in Jerusalem. So what? How does that prove the resurrection?

Think about where Christianity started: Jerusalem. The disciples went out and preached the message of the risen Jesus in the same city where Jesus was publicly crucified and buried. It would have been easy to crush this movement of unruly fishermen by simply going to Jesus's tomb, pulling out the body, and exposing the followers of Jesus as liars....had the tomb not been empty.

On the other hand, if the disciples stole the body they obviously knew that Jesus didn't rise again. And if they knew the resurrection was a myth that they themselves had concocted, why did they so willingly and joyfully endure such persecution and eventual martyrdom? Stealing the body cannot account for the sudden radical change in the lives of disciples, who were hiding themselves behind closed doors just the previous week. Yes, my friends, Jesus died and Jesus rose back to life. He is here with us now, right here in this place. Our life and our hope is built on Jesus Christ - the Cornerstone.

### **CORNERSTONE** *(Choir only)*

*(Congregation please remain seated)*

My hope is built on nothing less  
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness  
I dare not trust the sweetest frame  
But wholly trust is Jesus' name (repeat)

*Christ alone, Cornerstone  
Weak made strong in the Savior's love  
Through the storm  
He is Lord, Lord of all*

When darkness seems to hide His face  
I rest on His unchanging grace  
In every high and stormy gale

My anchor holds within the veil  
My anchor holds within the veil.

When he shall come with trumpet sound  
Oh, may I then in Him be found  
Dressed in His righteousness alone  
Faultless, stand before the throne

Christ alone . . . . *(repeat twice)*

**SECOND LESSON:** 1 Corinthians 15:26—27, 54–57 Death is defeated  
(Please remain seated) {Read by S. Abisharman - Head Prefect}

මා ගන්නා හුස්මක් පාසා *(Staff choir)*  
*(Congregation please remain seated)*

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யெகோவாயீரே (Choir only)  
(Congregation please remain seated)

யெகோவாயீரே தந்தையாம் தெய்வம்  
நீர் மாத்ரம் போதும் எனக்கு  
யெகோவா ரா.பா சுகம் தரும் தெய்வம்  
உம் தழும்புகளால் சுகமானோம்  
யெகோவா ஷம்மா என் கூட இருப்பீர்  
என் தேவையெல்லாம் சந்திப்பீர்

நீர் மாத்ரம் போதும் (3) எனக்கு  
நீர் மாத்ரம் போதும் (3) எனக்கு

யெகோவா எலோஹிம் சிருஷ்டிப்பின் தேவனே  
உம் வார்த்தையால் உருவாக்கினீர்  
யெகோவா பரிசுத்தர் உன்னதர் நீரே  
உம்மைபோல் வேறுதேவன் இல்லை  
யெகோவா ஷாலோம் உம் சமாதானம்  
தந்தீர் என் உள்ளத்திலே

இயேசுவே நீரே என் ஆத்ம நேசர்  
என்னில் எவ்வளவன்பு கூர்ந்தீர்  
என்னையே மீட்க உம்மையே தந்தீர்  
உம் அன்பிற்கு இணையில்லையே  
என் வாழ்நாள் முழுதும் உமக்காக வாழ்வேன்  
நீரே என்றென்றும் போதும்

யெஹோவா ரீரே நன்யேயாமி டேயிவமி  
கிரீலாதுமி யோடூமி ல்லக்ஷ  
யெஹோவா ராபா ஸுஹமி நரூமி டேயிவமி  
ஈமி நலூமிஹலாஈ ஸுஹலானோமி  
யெஹோவா ஸுமிலா ல்லக்ஷமி ஓரூசீகிரீ  
ல்லக்ஷமி ஸுமிலாமி ஸுமிலாமி

கிரீ லாதுமி யோடூமி /// ல்லக்ஷ  
கிரீ லாதுமி யோடூமி /// ல்லக்ஷ

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### **Meditation 3: THE EMPTY GRAVE – OPENS A HOME BEYOND THE SKIES**

The empty grave of Christ shows us that not death, but life, reigns.

Self-sacrifice is the secret of goodness, success, and joy. The way of the cross always leads us to heaven.

When the Roll Is Called Up Yonder” is an 1893 hymn. This hymn’s central theme is being in heaven when our time has come and not missing out on the eternal salvation of God.

Since God has a register in heaven, how may our names be enrolled therein? One must be “born again” in order to be enrolled in the family register in heaven.

One final admonition concerning “the roll up yonder:” it is quite possible that our names be on the “church roll down here” and not on “the roll up yonder.” Many people live under the delusion that if their names are on some church roll, then all is well. But let none of us labor under this notion; but let us be sure that our names are in the book of life; that “roll up yonder,” and that we live in such a manner that our names will not be blotted out.

What a joy and consolation derived from singing this grand old hymn-if we can truthfully sing, “when the roll is called up yonder I’ll be there.”

**WHEN THE ROLL IS CALLED**  
*(Congregational; Please stand)*

When the trumpet of the Lord shall sound,  
and time shall be no more,  
And the morning breaks, eternal, bright and fair  
When the saved of earth shall gather over on the other  
shore,  
And the roll is called up yonder, I'll be there

*When the roll, is called up yon-der, (I'll be there)*  
*When the roll, is called up yon-der, (I'll be there)*  
*When the roll, is called up yon-der,*  
*When the roll is called up yonder I'll be there*

On that bright and cloudless morning  
when the dead in Christ shall rise,  
And the glory of His resurrection share  
When His chosen ones shall gather to their  
home beyond the skies,  
And the roll is called up yonder, I'll be there.

*When the roll . . . . .*

Let us labor for the Master  
from the dawn till setting sun,  
Let us talk of all His wondrous love and care  
Then when all of life is over,  
and our work on earth is done,  
And the roll is called up yonder, I'll be there

*When the roll . . . . .*

**THIRD LESSON:** Acts 1:3-11 The hope of Jesus' second coming  
*(Please remain seated) {Read by Easwaren Delishan Nilesh- SCM President}*

ස්වර්ගයේ (Choir only)  
(Congregation please be seated)

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සවර්ගයේ කෙළඟු විවරවී  
ඉල කන්කාවන් කෙත්තා  
පාපයත් මුලු පොළොව තලෙන්  
සියතින් අතුකා තෙමුවා  
තමිටුකම පාපයෙන් මුදවා  
නව ජීවය තුන් සමිතා ඉපය් //

සමිතානුකේ සියලු කුරුණා වෙත්  
අනුකිරාණය මෙලොවට කෙත්තා  
පාපයේ තණ්ඩුවම මරණය  
කුරුසියේ යාගය මට පිදුවා  
ජේසුතුමන් අදහා පිළිගන්නා  
සදා කල් ජීවනයේ මහිමය දකී //

පලවත් ඉෙහෙච්චා සමිතා ඉපය්  
r j h f y ; x g u l f k ; f u a  
කිවිසුම් රක්ෂා කරනා සමිතා ඉපය්  
ඉපේ විනිශ්චයන් සදා සත්යය්

ආමෙන්නා සමිතා ඉපය්  
සදා කල් ඉප රඉ කම් කරය්  
මරණය පරදා නැගිටු සමිතා ඉපය්  
ජීවනයේ නාමය දරනා යේසුති //

ඉෙහෙච්චා සමිතා ඉපය්

**Meditation 4: THE EMPTY GRAVE – A STRONG ASSURANCE THROUGH LIFE’S JOURNEY - Story behind the hymn “It is well with my soul”**

Horatio Spafford was a well-known 43 year old lawyer and businessman in the 1870s. He lived in a north side suburb of Chicago, with his wife Anna and 5 children. In 1871 his only son died of scarlet fever. A few months later, the Great Chicago Fire of 1871 consumed Horatio’s real estate investments. He lost his entire life savings. Two years later, Horatio and his family decided to take a vacation to Europe. However, Horatio was delayed by last minute business. He sent his wife and 4 daughter on the S.S. Ville Du Havre as scheduled promising to follow in a few days. On November 22, 1873 the ship was struck by an iron sailing vessel and it sank in 12 minutes. 226 people were killed. When the survivors of the shipwreck landed in Europe, Anna Spafford cabled her husband, “Saved alone. What shall I do?” After hearing the terrible news, Horatio boarded the next ship to join his bereaved wife. During the voyage, the captain of the ship called him to the bridge. “A careful reckoning has been made” he said “and I believe we are now passing the very place where the Ville Du Havre sank. And it was there, while staring into the watery grave of his beloved daughters....that Horatio penned the words to the great hymn – It is well, with my soul.

Let us all stand and sing this hymn together; and just as Horatio Spafford kept his soul unharmed by all the turmoil he faced, may we too most assuredly say - “All is well with my soul”.

**IT IS WELL WITH MY SOUL**

*(Congregational; please stand)*

*{An offertory will be taken during the singing of this hymn}*

When peace like a river, attendeth my way,  
When sorrows like sea billows roll  
Whatever my lot, thou hast taught me to know  
It is well, it is well, with my soul

*It is well, with my soul*

*It is well, it is well with my soul*

My sin, oh, the bliss of this glorious thought  
My sin, not in part but the whole,  
Is nailed to His cross, and I bear it no more,  
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, o my soul

For me, be it Christ, be it Christ hence to live:  
If Jordan above me shall roll,  
No pang shall be mine, for in death as in life  
Thou wilt whisper Thy peace to my soul.

But, Lord, 'tis for Thee, for Thy coming we wait,  
The sky, not the grave, is our goal;  
Oh, trump of the angel! Oh, voice of the Lord!  
Blessed hope, blessed rest of my soul!

**OFFERTORY PRAYER** (*Revd. Christopher Balraj - Headmaster*)

God of great gifts, this evening we give you praise, we give you glory, we give you thanks! With resurrection humming in our hearts, our minds are tuned to your song of peace! We joyfully present these gifts to you, a tangible chorus of thanksgiving, a harmony of hope for your kingdom come! **Amen.**

**GOSPEL PROCESSION - (All remain standing and sing together)**

Sing halleluiah to the Lord (2)  
Sing halleluiah (2)  
Sing halleluiah to the Lord

Jesus is risen from the dead . . . .

Jesus is coming for his own . . . .

**FOURTH LESSON:** St. Luke 24: 40 - 53 Jesus is taken up to heaven.  
(*Please remain standing*) - {*Read by Sharon Amirthanayagam - Choir Leader*}

*Listen to the Good News . . . . .*

*Response at the beginning* : **Glory to Christ our Saviour**

*Response at the end:*                    **Praise to Christ our Lord**

**EASTER MESSAGE** {*Revd. Lakshman Daniel - Area Dean, UVA*}  
*Congregation please be seated*

**REMEMBER THE EMPTY GRAVE** (Choir only)  
(Congregation please remain seated)

My heart hangs on every word that you speak  
I need you Lord, come find me  
Holy spirit, breathe.  
I've been walking through deserts,  
I need more of your presence  
I'm weak savior be my strength

*Down in the valley when waters rise  
I'm still believing hope is alive  
All through the struggle, and darkest days  
I'll remember the empty grave!*  
Your touch bringing me closer  
Your hand healing what's broken  
My prayer, "Father meet me here"  
My life for all of your glory  
Your grace let it surround me  
Let faith change the atmosphere

*Down in the valley . . . .*

Hallelujah death is done  
All of hell is overcome  
(O my) Jesus, you are alive (repeat)

*Down in the valley . . . .*

The empty grave  
I'll remember, yes I'll remember  
The empty grave!

**CLOSING PRAYER & FINAL BLESSING** (*Please stand*) *Revd. Lakshman Daniel*  
Through our hymns and songs, our prayer and meditation, the joining of our  
lives in fellowship we continue to worship you. Enfold us in your love, and

empower our lives. Thank you Lord for you have promised never to leave us nor forsake us. As we head home, not as people weeping outside your tomb, but with the assurance of what the empty grave points to, we want to ask you to protect and guide us all. May your name be glorified now and forever more, for we have asked through the name of our Lord Jesus. **Amen**

### **ALL HAIL THE POWER OF JESUS' NAME**

*(Congregational; please stand)*

All hail the power of Jesus' Name!  
Let angels prostrate fall;  
Bring forth the royal diadem, and crown Him!  
crown Him, crown Him, crown Him and  
Crown Him Lord of all.

Let highborn seraphs tune the lyre,  
and as they tune it, fall  
Before His face Who tunes their choir,  
and crown Him! . . . .

Crown Him, ye morning stars of light,  
who fixed this floating ball;  
Now hail the strength of Israel's might,  
and crown Him! . . . .

Sinners, whose love can never forget the  
wormwood and the gall,  
Go spread your trophies at His feet,  
and crown Him! . . . .

Let every tribe and every tongue  
before Him prostrate fall  
And shout in universal song  
and crown Him! . . . .





We take this moment to thank all choristers for their hard work, the choir trainers, the administrative staff, the decoration team and the support staff who worked hard to make this program a success.

A very special thanks to our guest preacher Revd. Lakshman Daniel for his inspiring message.

We thank all parents, friends and visitors for your kind participation and it is our prayer that it was a blessing to all of you.

Above all, we thank and praise God Almighty for giving us this opportunity to honour and worship him.

*Please join us for refreshments after this service*

## PRIMARY CHOIR 2022

Rheya Perera	3A1
Nikita Dasan	3A1
Dinula Gurusinha	3A1
Sasmitha sandaru	3A2
Danidu Sesath	4A1
Kemidu Pethmika	4A1
Resandi Mahakumarage	4A1
Lithuli	4A2
Chenitha	4A2
Adrian Wanniarachchi	4A3
Sasen Sasanka	4A3
Thinuka .T	4A3
Reshin Upekshana	4A3
Praveen D. J	4A3
A Adrian Manish	4B
p. Luke Lemuel	4B
K. Sashwin	4B
R. Prathishhari	4B
p. Jevon	4B
Okitha Gunathilaka	5A1
Stallone Lawrene Ariyawansa	5A1
Shalom Goforth	5A1
Sithma Gayen	5A1
Sethun Lakkana	5A1
Vihanga Hirshan	5A2
Minul Lakshitha	5A2
Ayon Akash	5A2
Ahamed Shohaib	5A2
Jerome Weerasekara	5A2
Hasiru Methunija	5A2
Shenoli Rthnayaka	5A2
Koshadhi Himayangana	5A2
F.D. Mark Jerose	5B
Sachithanandham Aadhithyah	5B

## SENIOR CHOIR 2022

### CHOIR LEADER

Sharon Amirthanayagam 13B COM

### MUSIC COORDINATORS

Shavon Dennis John (Drums) 13A MATHS  
Heshal Dissanayaka (Bass Guitar) 13A MATHS

### SOPRANOS

Dillon Rajiah 6A1  
Anbalagen Aaron 7B  
Dilhan Tharuka 8A1  
Geneth Augustine 8A1  
Ramiru Porage 8A2  
Sanuka Perera 8A3  
Janidu Chamathka 8A3

### MUSICIANS

Shane John (Keyboard) AL 2021  
Jerome Christopher (Keyboard) AL 2021  
Sheron Abishek (Box Guitar) OL 2019

### SOPRANO DESCANTS

Nidhokk Ravieenradhan 7B  
Tharun Sithsuka Wanasinghe 7A1  
Aaron Pawan Kothandan 8A1  
Irusha Niyomal 8A3  
Andrew Rajiah 8B2  
Calvin Jonathan David 9B

### ALTOS

Yoganathan Jeshan 7B  
M.I.Musharrif 7A1  
Sahiru Nuhan Abeykoon 7A3  
Oshwin Vindun Kumara 8A1  
Visal Sandira 8A3  
Ayush Perera 8A3  
Shadrach Jason 8B1  
Vinodhan Dinoshiyan 8B1  
C.Ninad Nikihil 8B2  
Shawon Jonarththan 8B2

### BASS

Dilukshan Wijayakumar 9A1  
Jehan Rajkumar 9A1  
Hirosh Akash 10A1  
Rahul Parami 10A1  
Malinda Narangoda 10A1  
Beno Jacob 10A1  
Rajeewan Rajiah 10B  
Caleb John 11B  
Habilash Kulasekaran 12B COM  
John Franklin Victor 12B COM  
Surexit Mangala 13A MATH

### TENORS

Thasun Mendis 10A1  
Amrith Adithya 10A1  
Shahan Harris John 10A1  
Harikesh Pradabasimmer 12B COM  
J.M. Lakshan Joseph 13B BIO  
E.D. Nilesh 13B COM  
S. Abisharman 13B MATH

## STAFF CHOIR 2022

Mr. John Gnananesan  
Mrs. Naleen Amirthanayagam  
Mrs. Beatrice Dezousa  
Miss. Rashmi Samarakoon  
Mrs. Nirmala Cooray  
Mr. Shannon Dason  
Miss. Mihirani Rebecca  
Mr. Dominion Mark  
Mrs. Sumi Gnananesan  
Mrs. Vathsala Gnanamalar  
Miss. Sachini Thamara  
Miss. Madushani Karunarathne  
Mrs. Kokila Surendrakumar  
Mrs. Melaniya Wijeyaraja  
Mrs. Sewwandhi Gunarathna  
Miss. Jennifer Rachel  
Mrs. Ruckshila S.J.M.  
Miss. Sumithra Madurangani  
Mrs. Tanya Raymond  
Mrs. Ishanka Dason  
Miss. Esther Peumal  
Mr. Roshan Jacob  
Mrs. Nisha Seneviratne  
Mrs. Shamalee D. Galagedera  
Mrs. Chandra David  
Miss. Jessica Seneviratne  
Mr. Anton Jackson  
Miss. Urshala George  
Miss. Sandya Vithanage  
Miss. Keshini Francis  
Mr. M.D. Harisudhan

## THE EMPTY GRAVE

Would we be counted  
among the doubters  
hiding in the shadow  
cast by that cruel cross?  
Or, when challenged,  
like Peter openly deny you?

There are times, Lord  
when doubts assail  
and the distance between us  
seems to increase.

There are times, Lord  
when sin has its hold,  
like a barrier between us  
that will not move.

Who is there we can turn to  
when we feel so overwhelmed?

Who can roll away the stone  
and reveal the empty grave?

No-one but you, Jesus, no-one but you!