



Anglican Church of Australia

Primate: The Most Reverend Geoffrey Smith

Primate's Easter Message

14 April 2025

I think it's fair to say that over the past couple of months, the world has felt even more chaotic than usual. The global economy is being quickly destabilised, and stock markets are reacting dramatically to the instability.

We were already anxious, but now we are even more so.

Add an election in early May with politicians now flinging themselves from one corner of the country to another, haphazardly promising the world, to ongoing intractable and complex conflicts in many places, and the world feels like it's just holding on.

Thankfully, Easter has nearly arrived.

Easter, that is, Good Friday and Easter Day, bring us not only important messages, but also important facts that impact our daily lives and offer an alternative vision of life to that which is mostly evident in our community.

On Good Friday, we see both love and reconciliation. Jesus's offering of his life on the cross demonstrates a rare love and self-giving. This is what God is like—a God who gives rather than takes. Jesus's death on the cross also accomplishes something. It brings reconciliation between God and humanity, the foundation for all other reconciliation. Greatness isn't found in self-absorption, self-interest or power. Greatness is found in giving.

On Easter Day, we celebrate again Jesus' resurrection. His resurrection is not some supernatural magic trick, great for a display but that's about all. The resurrection is the defeat of death and the opening of a new reality for the world. The future now is not death and destruction but life and new creation. Jesus' resurrection has changed the trajectory of the history of the world. This reality offers hope. Not hope in the future but hope today from the future.

Our world desperately needs hope. But we also need a reason to have different attitudes and to live in a loving, generous, forgiving, gracious, and peace-filled way today. The reason is what happened at Easter: the self-offering of Jesus, through which peace with God is possible, and the resurrection of Jesus, to prove that reconciliation is real and to begin the invasion of darkness by light and life.

The celebration of Easter comes every year. This year it is particularly important. We have the opportunity to make the most of it. May we do just that.

Every blessing
+Geoff

The Most Reverend Geoff Smith
Archbishop of Adelaide and Primate of the Anglican Church of Australia.