

## Christ the Lord Has Risen Today Worksheet

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### *Verse 1*

Christ, the Lord, is risen today, Alleluia!  
Sons of men and angels say, Alleluia!  
Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia!  
Sing, ye heavens, and earth, reply, Alleluia!

### *Verse 2*

Love's redeeming work is done, Alleluia!  
Fought the fight, the battle won, Alleluia!  
Lo! the Sun's eclipse is over, Alleluia!  
Lo! He sets in blood no more, Alleluia!

### *Verse 3*

Vain the stone, the watch, the seal, Alleluia!  
Christ hath burst the gates of hell, Alleluia!  
Death in vain forbids His rise, Alleluia!  
Christ hath opened paradise, Alleluia!

### *Verse 4*

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!

### *Verse 5*

Soar we now where Christ hath led, Alleluia!  
Following our exalted Head, Alleluia!  
Made like Him, like Him we rise, Alleluia!  
Ours the cross, the grave, the skies, Alleluia!

### *Verse 6*

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 day, Alleluia!

### *Verse 7*

King of glory, Soul of bliss, Alleluia!  
Everlasting life is this, Alleluia!  
Thee to know, Thy power to prove, Alleluia!  
Thus to sing and thus to love, Alleluia!

### *Verse 8*

Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluia!  
Unto Christ, our heavenly King, Alleluia!  
Who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia!  
Sinners to redeem and save. Alleluia!

### *Verse 9*

But the pains that He endured, Alleluia!  
Our salvation have procured, Alleluia!  
Now above the sky He's King, Alleluia!  
Where the angels ever sing. Alleluia!

### *Verse 10*

Jesus Christ is risen today, Alleluia!  
Our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!  
Who did once upon the cross, Alleluia!  
Suffer to redeem our loss. Alleluia!

**Vocabulary** In one or two words define the following terms from the poem.

*Verse 1:* Alleluia, triumphs, ye

*Verse 2:* redeeming, eclipse

*Verse 3:* Vain, hath, vain, forbids, paradise

*Verse 4:* glorious, thy

*Verse 5:* Soar, exalted

*Verse 6:* Hail, Thee, triumphant, resurrection

*Verse 7:* bliss, Thee

*Verse 8:* Hymns, endured, sinners, redeem

*Verse 9:* endured, salvation, procured

*Verse 10:* holy, suffer

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**Word Pictures** Word pictures is another way of saying *imagery*. *Imagery* or *figurative language* helps us form a picture of what the author is trying to present. Discuss what these word pictures mean and, perhaps, without drawing a picture of Christ, draw your idea of the *imagery* or *figurative language* the author uses!

*Verse 1:* Raise your joys and triumphs high, Sing ye heavens,  
*Verse 2:* Fought the fight, the battle won, Sun's eclipse is over  
*Verse 3:* Vain the stone the watch the seal  
*Verse 4:* Where, O death, is now thy sting? Alleluia!  
*Verse 5:* Ours the cross the grave the skies  
*Verse 6:* Hail the resurrection day  
*Verse 7:* to sing  
*Verse 8:* Hymns of praise, let us sing  
*Verse 9:* Where the angels ever sing  
*Verse 10:* triumphant holy day

**Mechanics** Verbally discuss

***Who is the speaker?*** (Does the speaker have a specific personality or has the author remained in the background so the message of the poem will be more clear?)

***What does the poem reveal about the speaker's character?*** (Sometimes, poems reveal nothing about the speaker's personal thoughts, feelings, or attitudes. Yet, the poem may demonstrate those character traits that are important to the author like courage, loyalty, perseverance, etc.)

***Is the speaker addressing someone in particular or is it to anyone?*** (Sometimes poems are not directed to anyone in particular, but to anyone that may read it.)

***Does the poem have a setting?*** (Does the author tell where the poem occurs? Is the poem about a specific event?)

***Is the poem about a particular event?*** (Is the event past or present? If it is about a past event, does the remembrance of the event have a particular meaning to the speaker?)

***Is the theme of the poem stated directly or indirectly?*** (Some poems are straightforward and are meant to be taken literally. In songs, the theme may be presented in the refrain or in the last few lines. Sometimes the theme is a little bit more difficult to discern as it is made with figurative language or symbols.)

How did you respond to the poem when you read it the first time?

***What point of view or perspective is the speaker?*** (What meaning do you think the poem has for the author?)

***How did you respond to the poem when you read it the first time?*** (Did your thoughts and feelings change after you took time to study it?)

### **Comprehension Questions** Verbally discuss

*Verse 1:* What is meant by the term “Alleluia” and why would there be an exclamation point behind it? Who has risen and why would this be important? What should men and angels say? Why? Explain and discuss: “Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia!” Did you notice the author’s use of the term “ye”? Why do you think the author used this term? What is the heavens to do? What is the earth to do?

*Verse 2:* What work is done? Did you notice the terms “hath” and “Lo”? Why do you think the author used these terms? Explain and discuss: “Fought the fight, the battle won, Alleluia!” Explain and discuss lines three and four. Why are they important?

*Verse 3:* What was vain? Why? What gates were broken? Why would this be important? What does death vainly forbid? Who opened paradise?

*Verse 4:* Who lives again? Why is this important? What does the author ask death? Why would this be important? What does the author ask the grave? Why would this be important? What was saved? How?

*Verse 5:* Who are we to follow? Why? Explain and discuss: “Made like Him, like Him we rise, Alleluia! Ours the cross, the grave, the skies, Alleluia!” Why would this be important?

*Verse 6:* What is meant by the term “hail”? Why do you think the author used this term? Why should the inhabitants of the earth and skies praise Him. Why do you think the author used the term “Thee”? Explain what is meant by resurrection day. Why would this be important?

*Verse 7:* Who is the “King of glory” and the “Soul of bliss”? Why do you think the author used these titles to describe this Person? Explain and discuss: “Thee to know, Thy power to prove, Alleluia! Thus to sing and thus to love, Alleluia!”

*Verse 8:* What does the author tell us to sing? Why? Do you agree or disagree? Why? Who is King? Who endured the cross and the grave? Why?

*Verse 9:* What was procured? How? Who is King?

*Verse 10:* What is the triumphant holy day? Why? What makes it so? What was redeemed?

After reading this poem, what character traits did you think of? What does the Bible have to say about these character traits?

### **What Does the Bible Say?**

Find Scripture proofs for each of the assertions or statements made for each of the ten verses.

Discuss this poem in light of ...

Matthew 22:37 " ... Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind."

Luke 10:27 "... Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy strength, and with all thy mind."

Deuteronomy 6:5 "And thou shalt love the LORD thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might."

Mark 12:30 "And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength ..."

How does the Bible define love? For Scripture verses help, check out this internet web page at <http://www.lovetolearnplace.com/SpecialDays/Valentines/Bible.html>

For more Scripture verses on Prophecies Fulfilled in Christ, review the internet web page at <http://www.lovetolearnplace.com/SpecialDays/Christmas/Promise.html>

What does the Bible have to say about joy? What does the Bible have to say about being cheerful? Give older and newer testament examples of those that experienced joy and were cheerful. Site historical examples of joy and cheerful individuals. Give current examples of joy and cheerfulness. How is joy related to being cheerful? What will you tell your grandchildren about being joyful and cheerful? How will you encourage your grandchildren in these character traits? Would you rather be around someone that has joy and is cheerful or around someone that chronically says “I can’t” or complains, etc.?

What does the Bible say about complainers, murmurers and those that say “I can’t”? What will you tell your grandchildren about being complainers, murmurers and those that say “I can’t”? How will you encourage your grandchildren not to have these non-God honoring character traits?

Discuss this poem in relationship to alternative education (i.e., homeschooling and private schooling). Specifically, 2 Corinthians 10:5 ...

Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and brining into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ ... 2 Corinthians 10:5

### **The Author/Poet**

Based on what you have studied about this poem so far, would you guess that the author was a Christian or humanist? How did you arrive at your decision?

The author’s name for this poem or lyric is Charles Wesley (1707-1788). He was born on 28 December 1707 in Epworth, Lincolnshire, England. He died on 29 March 1788, London, England, and was buried at Marylebone Parish Church, London. It is estimated that he wrote over 6000 Christian songs or hymns in his lifetime (possibly more). *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing* first appeared in *Hymns and Sacred Poems*, 1739.

### **Geography**

Locate Bethlehem, London, and England on a globe, map and atlas.

*Challenge* Can you find Epworth or Lincolnshire on a map or in an atlas?

Compare/contrast the weather with these areas and your own for one week.

Make a meal from England or Bethlehem for your family.

### **Activities**

1) Make your own book! Without making an image of Christ, draw pictures representing each verse. (Note: that will be ten different illustrations). With construction paper and other items readily available at home, make a title page with the name of the song and the author’s name which will be your book’s cover. You may want to illustrate your cover and include this poem in your book.

2) Make your own play! Re-enact with your siblings or friends the message discussed in this poem. Keep it lively, simple, and short. You may want to end your play with singing a rousing chorus of this poem or reading Scripture verses. Videotape your creation.

3) Radio Drama! With a handheld tape recorder, create your own radio show dramatizing the message of this poem.

4) Be a Reporter! Either with your family camcorder or with a handheld tape recorder, “interview” various individuals this poem could illustrate (e.g., family members, Isaac Watts, Capt. John Smith, C.D. Baker, C.S. Lewis, Charlemagne, etc.). In order to have the fast paced style of a reporter, watch and/or listen to the news with your parents’ permission. Keep the interviews lively, quick, and to the point.

Remain objective! Being objective means just reporting the facts and not giving your opinion of the situation.

5) What is one of the things you most enjoy? Is it literature? math? science? sports? cooking? Take that area of interest and relate that to this poem. If you enjoy dance, for example, develop a dance routine that physically expresses the sentiments of this poem. If you enjoy shop, create something out of wood that helps to clarify this poem. Do you enjoy creating stories? Write a story based on any time period you desire that expresses the sentiments of this poem. Do you enjoy creating things in the kitchen? Make an ancient meal from this time or develop your own meal that symbolizes the many different points this poem makes.

6) Poster. Create a poster illustrating the the author’s view of the impact of *Christ the Lord has Risen Today*.

7) Scavenger Hunt. Go to the library to learn what you can about Charles Wesley (1707-1788) and share it with your family. If possible, discover the story behind this poem.