

APRIL 16, 2017
EASTER SUNDAY
RESURRECTION OF
OUR LORD



Christ is risen!

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

These passages are related to the Lectionary texts for this Sunday.

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| Sunday | Matthew 28:1-10 | He is risen! |
| Monday | John 20:1-18 | Mary Magdalene sees the Lord |
| Tuesday | 1 Corinthians 15:1-26 | Christ has been raised |
| Wednesday | Mark 16:1-8 | Women go to the tomb |
| Thursday | Colossians 3:1-4 | Raised with Christ |
| Friday | Acts 10:34-43 | God shows no partiality |
| Saturday | Psalms 118 | The Lord is merciful |
| Sunday | John 20:19-31 | Thomas sees and believes |

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

The angel said to the women, “Don’t be afraid! I know you are looking for Jesus, who was nailed to a cross. He isn’t here! God has raised him to life, just as Jesus said he would.” **Matthew 28:5-6 (CEV)**

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Risen Lord Jesus, please take away our fears. Help us to go wherever you send us. Amen.
(Matthew 28:10)

Mealtime Prayer:

Risen Lord Jesus, we praise you for the gifts of this table and our celebration of Easter joy. Fill us with your love and life. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May the risen Lord Jesus replace your fears with joy, and raise you to new life with him.
(Matthew 28:10; Colossians 3:1)



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HYMN OF THE WEEK

*Jesus Christ is Risen
Today*



CARING CONVERSATIONS

Discuss in your home or small group:

- Tell about an experience that changed your life.
- Christ’s death and resurrection is an earth-shaking experience (Matthew 28:2-4). How does this unique moment in history make a difference in your life?
- How does the resurrection impact your relationship to those around you?

DEVOTIONS



Read: John 20:1-18.

Mary Magdalene’s life is changed by her encounter with the resurrected Jesus. She is known by Jesus and called by name. He speaks to her and she recognizes him. Mary is sent to the other disciples to tell them what she has seen and heard. She now says, “I have seen the Lord.” Her own life as a disciple of the resurrected Jesus has begun. Reflect on how you have seen the Lord in your life and how you have been known, named, and sent as a disciple of Jesus. Conclude the reflections and conversations with the Lord’s Prayer. If you are with others, use “A Blessing to Give” found in this *Taking Faith Home*.

SERVICE



God’s beauty in creation, especially colorful flowers are a sign of new life and a symbol of the resurrection. Gather some flowers together and give them to someone with the words, “Christ is risen. Alleluia.”

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS



Have an Easter egg hunt. Begin with the following words.

Leader: This is the day the Lord has made.

Leader: Christ is risen!

Leader: Lord, you give us new life.

Leader: Lord, you give us your creation and all that is in it.

Leader: Lord, you give us each other.

Leader: Christ is risen!

All: Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

All: He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

All: Alleluia!

All: Alleluia!

All: Alleluia!

All: He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Leader: Let us pray. Dear God, we thank you for this day and for these Easter eggs, a sign of new life and a symbol of the resurrection. May our joy and laughter reflect the power of new life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.



In addition to *Taking Faith Home*, celebrate milestones in your daily life as an effective faith formation tool. Go to: www.milestonesministry.org