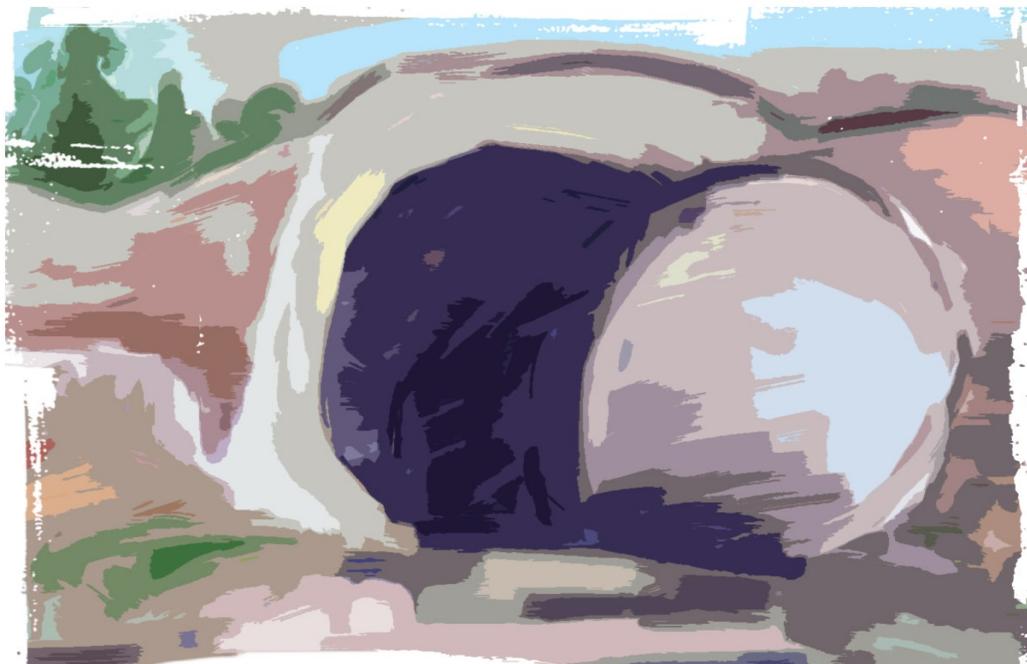


Easter Dawn: Meditation & Song / April 12, 2020



Early on the
first day of the week ...
Mary Magdalene came to
the tomb and saw that the
stone had been removed
from the tomb.

John 20:1, NRSV

WORDS OF WELCOME

READING

Matthew 27:57 – 61

As evening approached, there came a rich man from Arimathea, named Joseph, who had himself become a disciple of Jesus. Going to Pilate, he asked for Jesus' body, and Pilate ordered that it be given to him. Joseph took the body, wrapped it in a clean linen cloth, and placed it in his own new tomb that he had cut out of the rock. He rolled a big stone in front of the entrance to the tomb and went away. Mary Magdalene and the other Mary were sitting there opposite the tomb.

ANTHEM

“How Deep the Father’s Love for Us!”

Vocalists

*How deep the Father's love for us
How vast beyond all measure
That He should give His only Son
To make a wretch His treasure*

*How great the pain of searing loss
The Father turns His face away
As wounds which mar the Chosen One
Bring many sons to glory*

*Behold the man upon a cross
My sin upon His shoulders
Ashamed, I hear my mocking voice
Call out among the scoffers*

*It was my sin that held Him there
Until it was accomplished
His dying breath has brought me life
I know that it is finished*

*I will not boast in anything
No gifts, no power, no wisdom
But I will boast in Jesus Christ
His death and resurrection*

*Why should I gain from His reward?
I cannot give an answer
But this I know with all my heart
His wounds have paid my ransom*

*Why should I gain from His reward?
I cannot give an answer
But this I know with all my heart
His wounds have paid my ransom*

READING

John 20:1 – 2

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene went to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the entrance. So she came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved, and said, “They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we don’t know where they have put him!”

HYMN “Christ Jesus Lay in Death’s Strong Bands” Christian Worship #161

- 1 Christ Jesus lay in death’s strong bands
For our offenses given;
But now at God’s right hand he stands
And brings us life from heaven.
Therefore let us joyful be
And sing to God right thankfully
Loud songs of hallelujah. Hallelujah!**

- 2 It was a strange and dreadful strife
When life and death contended.
The victory remained with life;
The reign of death was ended.
Holy Scripture plainly says
That death is swallowed up by death,
Its sting is lost forever. Hallelujah!**

- 3 Here the true Paschal Lamb we see,
Whom God so freely gave us;
He died on the accursed tree—
So strong his love—to save us.
See, his blood now marks our door;
Faith points to it; death passes o’er,
And Satan cannot harm us. Hallelujah!**

- 4 So let us keep the festival
To which the Lord invites us;
Christ is himself the joy of all,
The sun that warms and lights us.
Now his grace to us imparts
Eternal sunshine to our hearts;
The night of sin is ended. Hallelujah!**

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546, abr.; tr. Richard Massie, 1800–87, alt.

READING

John 20:3 – 9

So Peter and the other disciple started for the tomb. Both were running, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent over and looked in at the strips of linen lying there but did not go in. Then Simon Peter came along behind him and went straight into the tomb. He saw the strips of linen lying there, as well as the cloth that had been wrapped around Jesus' head. The cloth was still lying in its place, separate from the linen. Finally the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went inside. He saw and believed. (They still did not understand from Scripture that Jesus had to rise from the dead.)

HYMN

“Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain”

Christian Worship #142

- 1 Come, you faithful, raise the strain Of triumphant gladness!
God has brought his Israel Into joy from sadness.
See the spring of souls today: Christ has burst his prison
And from three days' sleep in death As a sun has risen.**
- 2 All the winter of our sins, Long and dark, is flying
From his light, to whom we give Laud and praise undying.
Neither could the gates of death Nor the tomb's dark portal
Nor the watchers nor the seal Hold him as a mortal.**
- 3 But today among his own Christ appeared, bestowing
Blessed peace, which evermore Passes human knowing.
Come, you faithful, raise the strain Of triumphant gladness!
God has brought his Israel Into joy from sadness.**

Text: John of Damascus, c. 696–c. 754; tr. John M. Neale, 1818–66, adapt.

READING

John 20:10 - 16

Now Mary stood outside the tomb crying. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb and saw two angels in white, seated where Jesus' body had been, one at the head and the other at the foot.

They asked her, “Woman, why are you crying?”
“They have taken my Lord away,” she said, “and I don't know where they have put him.” At this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not realize that it was Jesus.

He asked her, “Woman, why are you crying? Who is it you are looking for?”
Thinking he was the gardener, she said, “Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have put him, and I will get him.”

Jesus said to her, “Mary.”
She turned toward him and cried out in Aramaic, “Rabboni!” (which means “Teacher”).

HYMN

“Alleluia, Alleluia, Give Thanks”

Christian Worship #154

*Refrain: Alleluia, alleluia, give thanks to the risen Lord.
Alleluia, alleluia, give praise to his name.*

**Jesus is Lord of all the earth;
He is the King of creation.**

Refrain

**Spread the good news o'er all the earth:
Jesus has died and has risen.**

Refrain

**We have been crucified with Christ;
Now we shall live forever.**

Refrain

**God has proclaimed his gracious gift:
Life eternal for all who believe.**

Refrain

**Come, let us praise the living God;
Joyfully sing to our Savior.**

Refrain

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READING

John 20:17 – 18

Jesus said, “Do not hold on to me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father. Go instead to my brothers and tell them, ‘I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.’”

Mary Magdalene went to the disciples with the news: “I have seen the Lord!” And she told them that he had said these things to her.

- 1 Christ has arisen, alleluia.
Rejoice and praise him, alleluia.
For our Redeemer burst from the tomb,
Even from death, dispelling its gloom.

Refrain:

Let us sing praise to him with endless joy.
Death’s fearful sting he has come to destroy.
Our sin forgiving, alleluia! Jesus is living, alleluia!

- 2 For three long days the grave did its worst
Until its strength by God was dispersed.
He who gives life did death undergo.
And in its conquest his might did show.

Refrain

- 3 The angel said to them, “Do not fear.
You look for Jesus who is not here.
See for yourselves the tomb is all bare.
Only the grave cloths are lying there.”

Refrain

- 4 “Go spread the news: he’s not in the grave.
He has arisen this world to save.
Jesus’ redeeming labors are done.
Even the battle with sin is won.”

Refrain

- 5 Christ has arisen; he sets us free.
Alleluia, to him praises be.
Jesus is living! Let us all sing;
He reigns triumphant, heavenly King.

Refrain

Text: Bernard Kyamanywa, b. 1938; tr. Howard S. Olson, b. 1922 © 1977 Howard S. Olson; admin. Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

READING

1 Corinthians 15:51 – 57

Listen, I tell you a mystery: We will not all sleep, but we will all be changed—in a flash, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed. For the perishable must clothe itself with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality. When the perishable has been clothed with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality, then the saying that is written will come true: “Death has been swallowed up in victory.”

“Where, O death, is your victory?

Where, O death, is your sting?”

The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

HYMN

“In Christ Alone”

Christian Worship Supplement #752

- 1 In Christ alone my hope is found. He is my light, my strength, my song;
This cornerstone, this solid ground,
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
What heights of love, what depths of peace,
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease!
My Comforter, my all in all, Here in the love of Christ I stand.**
- 2 In Christ alone—who took on flesh, Fullness of God in helpless babe.
This gift of love and righteousness, Scorned by the ones he came to save.
Till on that cross, as Jesus died, The wrath of God was satisfied;
For ev’ry sin on him was laid. Here in the death of Christ I live.**
- 3 There in the ground his body lay, Light of the world by darkness slain;
Then bursting forth in glorious day Up from the grave he rose again!
And as he stands in victory, Sin’s curse has lost its grip on me.
For I am his and he is mine—Bought with the precious blood of Christ.**
- 4 No guilt in life, no fear in death, This is the pow’r of Christ in me;
From life’s first cry to final breath, Jesus commands my destiny.
No pow’r of hell, no scheme of man Can ever pluck me from his hand;
Till he returns or calls me home, Here in the pow’r of Christ I’ll stand.**

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READING

Revelation 5:11 - 14

Then I looked and heard the voice of many angels, numbering thousands upon thousands, and ten thousand times ten thousand. They encircled the throne and the living creatures and the elders. In a loud voice they were saying:

“Worthy is the Lamb, who was slain,
to receive power and wealth and wisdom and strength
and honor and glory and praise!”

Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and on the sea, and all that is in them, saying:

“To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb
be praise and honor and glory and power,
for ever and ever!”

The four living creatures said, “Amen,” and the elders fell down and worshiped.

PRAYER

LORD’S PRAYER

(Traditional)

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory
forever and ever. Amen.**

BLESSING

*There's a peace I've come to know
Though my heart and flesh may fail
There's an anchor for my soul
I can say "It is well"
Jesus has overcome
And the grave is overwhelmed
The victory is won
He is risen from the dead
And I will rise when He calls my name
No more sorrow, no more pain
I will rise on eagles' wings
Before my God fall on my knees And rise I will rise*

*There's a day that's drawing near
When this darkness breaks to light
And the shadows disappear
And my faith shall be my eyes
Jesus has overcome
And the grave is overwhelmed
The victory is won
He is risen from the dead
And I will rise when He calls my name
No more sorrow, no more pain
I will rise on eagles' wings
Before my God fall on my knees And rise I will rise*

*And I hear the voice of many angels sing,
"Worthy is the Lamb"
And I hear the cry of every longing heart,
"Worthy is the Lamb"
And I hear the voice of many angels sing,
"Worthy is the Lamb"
And I hear the cry of every longing heart,
"Worthy is the Lamb"
And I will rise when He calls my name
No more sorrow, no more pain*

*I will rise on eagles' wings
Before my God fall on my knees
And rise I will rise*

SOLI DEO GLORIA
Glory to God Alone

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