

MARCH 27, 2016
EASTER SUNDAY

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Jesus is not here! He has risen!

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

These readings are related to the Lectionary readings for this Sunday.

Sunday	Luke 24:1-12	He is risen!
Monday	John 20:1-18	Seeing the risen Christ
Tuesday	Isaiah 65:17-25	New heavens and a new earth
Wednesday	Luke 24:13-49	The risen Christ is revealed
Thursday	Acts 13:26-39	Paul tells of Jesus' resurrection
Friday	1 Peter 3:18-22	Saved through the resurrection
Saturday	Psalms 98	Marvelous things!
Sunday	John 20:19-31	Seeing Christ's wounds

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

The women were afraid and bowed to the ground. But the men said, "Why are you looking in the place of the dead for someone who is alive? Jesus isn't here! He has been raised from death." **Luke 24:5-6a (CEV)**

SAY, PRAY, AND BLESS:

A Prayer for the Week:

O God, replace our fears with boldness, our doubts with certainty, and our unbelief with faith. Amen. (Luke 24:4-12)

Mealtime Prayer:

Lord of the empty tomb, as you fill our bodies with food, fill our lives with hope, and our hearts with love. Alleluia!

A Blessing to Give:

May the resurrection of Jesus give you joy and hope. May he live within you, this day and always. Amen.



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CARING CONVERSATIONS

Discuss in your home or small group:

- Share about a time when you received some amazing news. How did you react?
- Jesus' followers reacted in different ways to the news that he had risen from the dead (read Luke 24:4-12). How do you think you would have reacted?
- How is the resurrection of Jesus important to you?

DEVOTIONS

During the seven weeks of Easter, many churches light paschal candles to remind us that the risen Jesus is in our midst. Choose a candle to serve as your resurrection candle for the Easter season (you may wish to use a brightly colored one). Light the candle when you have your devotion times. As it is lit, say these words:

Christ is risen. He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Christ's resurrection means that God is alive and at work in our world. Invite others to share where and how they have seen God at work in the past day. For example, "I saw God at work in the beautiful sunrise" or "I saw God at work in my mother's cooking" or "I saw God at work in the fun we had together."

SERVICE

Flowers are signs of life and joy, and are often used to symbolize Easter. Make up or purchase a bouquet of "resurrection flowers" to give to someone who is sick, in the hospital, or going through a difficult time.

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

Easter Sunday is the most important day of the church year, but the celebration of Easter does not end there. It continues for a full fifty days until Pentecost. The "Great Fifty Days of Easter" are a wonderful opportunity to explore and celebrate Easter more fully than we can possibly squeeze into a single day.

Make up a large cross out of posterboard, cardboard, or wood. Cut out "flowers" from sheets of colored paper. During the Easter season, ask one person to share something they saw or experienced during the day, which gives cause to say "Alleluia." Then, have that person place a "flower" on the cross. On Pentecost Sunday, you will have a colorful reminder of God's good work in your lives.



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