

APRIL 21, 2019  
EASTER SUNDAY



*Christ is risen!*

## DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>John 20:1-18</b>	<b>The resurrection of Jesus</b>
<b>Monday</b>	<b>Acts 10:34-43</b>	<b>Peter speaks of faith in Jesus</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>1 Corinthians 15:19-26</b>	<b>Confidence in the resurrection</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Luke 24:1-12</b>	<b>Jesus is alive</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Deuteronomy 11:13-21</b>	<b>Teach the children</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>2 Corinthians 4:7-15</b>	<b>Apostles speak the faith</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>Psalms 118:1-2, 14-24</b>	<b>The Lord is always merciful</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>John 20:19-31</b>	<b>Seeing Christ's wounds</b>

## SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord." **John 20:18a (NRSV)**

## PRAYERS AND BLESSING

### **A Prayer for the Week:**

Gracious and Living God, give us ears to hear the message of the resurrection and the voice to speak to others of God's victory over death. Amen.

### **Mealtime Prayer:**

Dear God, we thank you for this food as "This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it." Amen. (Psalm 118:24)

### **A Blessing to Give:**

May you know the steadfast love of the Lord; may you trust and believe, "Christ is risen."



© 2018 Milestones Ministry, LLC. All rights reserved.

APRIL 21, 2019

## HYMN OF THE WEEK

*Christ Has Arisen,  
Alleluia*



## CARING CONVERSATIONS



Discuss in your home, small group, or use for personal reflections:

- What is something you like to talk about?
- What keeps Christians from talking about their faith in the risen Lord?
- What helps you speak about your faith to others? What makes it difficult?

## DEVOTIONS



*Read:* John 20:1-18.

Mary Magdalene makes a confession of faith: "I have seen the Lord." All Easter Sunday texts have a common theme that emphasizes telling about our faith. In Psalm 118 it is in the form of praise to God. In 1 Corinthians 15 it is Paul affirming the message that Christ rose from the dead and we have the promise of Christ destroying death, the last enemy. In Acts 10 it is Peter speaking the faith in the home of Cornelius, a new gentile believer. Peter states that the message has already spread throughout Judea, a message that announces that Jesus Christ "is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead" (v. 42). Finally in John 20, Mary, Peter, and the beloved disciple [John] all have a unique way of responding to the news of Jesus' resurrection. However followers of Jesus respond, it is to speak the faith out loud that Jesus has been raised from the dead and will ascend to "my God and your God" (v. 17). How do you speak the faith out loud? Is it through a conversation with friends, by using a table grace, by offering a blessing? What works for you? How might you speak your faith to another today?

*Pray:* **Dear Lord Jesus, you who rose from the dead and have promised to destroy death, give us a living faith to gladly speak our faith out loud with confidence. Amen.**

## SERVICE



Many who are ill, homebound, or going through a crisis feel isolated and alone. During the Easter season, reach out to those who are lonely so that they may feel included in the faith community. Take spring flowers such as lilies that symbolize new life to a shut in and take time to talk and pray with them. Rejoice and be glad for what the Lord has given you and share this joy with others, for this is the day the Lord has made (Psalm 118:24).

## RITUALS AND TRADITIONS



Celebrate Easter by making "Resurrection Rolls." Ingredients: One can of crescent rolls, 8 large marshmallows, 1/2 cup melted butter, 1/4 cup granulated sugar, and 2 Tbsp. of cinnamon. The white marshmallow symbolizes the purity of Jesus. Dip the marshmallow into butter and roll in the mixture of butter, sugar, and cinnamon as a reminder of the spices placed on Jesus' body. Then place the marshmallow in a crescent roll and cover it with the dough. This represents Jesus being wrapped in linen and being placed into the tomb. Bake at 350 degrees for 11 minutes. After they have cooled, cut the rolls open and reveal the "empty tomb." Before eating the rolls, repeat two times: **Christ is risen! He is risen indeed. Alleluia!**



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