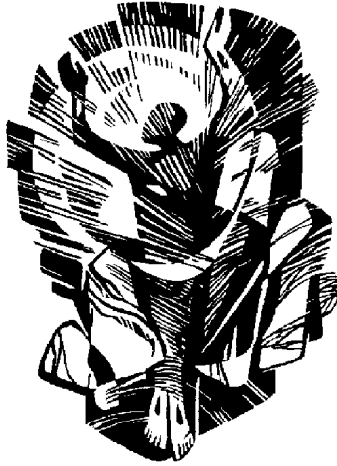


**LIVING EASTER  
CELEBRATING EASTER**



**This is the day the Lord had made,  
Let us rejoice and be glad!  
Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**Leader: Christ, the Glory of spring,  
is risen and present.  
In prayer and song  
we echo the ALLELUIA  
of Easter and Eternal Life.**

**All: We give You thanks  
We believe that as You raised Jesus  
God of Promise and hope  
from the bondage of death  
to new and everlasting life,  
You will do the same for us.  
Thus we cling, O God of Easter morning,  
to Your gracious promise  
that we will share in Christ's Resurrection.**

**HYMN**

**Joy to all creatures, honor, feasting, delight.  
Dark death is destroyed and life is restored everywhere.  
The gates of heaven are opened.  
God has shown Himself human,  
Humanity has gone up to Him in God.  
The gates of hell God has shattered  
The bars of Adam's prison broken.  
The people of the world below have risen from the dead,  
Bringing Good News:  
What was promised was fulfilled  
From the earth has come singing and dancing.  
Raise now the Sign of Victory, over us, O Christ  
For Yours are victory and power  
Hippolytus – Third Century**

**On the first day of the week, Mary of Magdala came to the tomb early in the morning, while it was still dark, and saw the stone removed from the tomb.**

**So she ran and went to Simon Peter and to the other disciple whom Jesus loved, and told them, "They have taken the Lord from the tomb, and we don't know where they put Him."**

**So Peter and the other disciple went out and came to the tomb.**

**They both ran, but the other disciple ran faster than Peter and arrived at the tomb first;**

**he bent down and saw the burial cloths there, but did not go in.**

**When Simon Peter arrived after him, he went into the tomb and saw the burial cloths there, and the cloth that had covered His head, not with the burial cloths but rolled up in a separate place.**

**Then the other disciple also went in, the one who had arrived at the tomb first, and he saw and believed.**

**For they did not yet understand the scripture that He had to rise from the dead. Then the disciples returned home.**

**But Mary stayed outside the tomb weeping. And as she wept, she bent over into the tomb and saw two angels in white sitting there, one at the head and one at the feet where the body of Jesus had been.**

**And they said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "They have taken my Lord, and I don't know where they laid Him."**

**When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus there, but did not know it was Jesus.**

**Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?" She thought it was the gardener and said to him, "Sir, if you carried Him away, tell me where you laid Him, and I will take Him."**

**Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned and said to Him in Hebrew, "Rabbouni," which means Teacher.**

**Jesus said to her, "Stop holding on to Me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and tell them, 'I am going to My Father and your Father, to My God and your God.'"**

**Mary of Magdala went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord," and what He told her. John 20: 1-18**

***ALLELUIA! ALLELUIA! ALLELUIA!***

#### **OUR RESPONSE**

**God, our Liberator,**

**You sent the Anointed One, Who died our death,  
and then You raised Jesus from the prison of the tomb.**

**Bring us new life**

**by the eternal strength**

**that comes through our Redeemer.**

**We rejoice in Your compassionate presence with us.**

**Our hearts thrill to the ancient words:**

**Christ is Risen!**

**Indeed the Anointed One is risen,  
and lives in our hearts and lives.  
We desire to be your people of spring,  
of freedom, fresh hope, and resurrection.**

***ALLELUIA! ALLELUIA! ALLELUIA!***

**We pray, "Give us our daily bread."  
This bread freely given, costs greatly –  
our spirit, mind, energy,  
our feelings, soul, entire person,  
all we have and are.**

**May we who participate and share  
in the Resurrected Life of Jesus  
seek the lost,  
strengthen the weak,  
and defend the poor.**

**Like Micah, like Jesus, may we  
act justly,  
love tenderly,  
and walk humbly with God.**

**BY LIVING YOUR EASTER RESURRECTION,  
RISEN JESUS, YOU SET US FREE.**



**HYMN: YE SONS AND DAUGHTERS**

**Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**1. Ye sons and daughters of the King, Whom heavenly hosts in glory  
sing, Today the grave hath lost its sting: Alleluia!**

**2. On that first morning of the week, Before the day began to break,  
The Marys went their Lord to seek: Alleluia!**

**3. An angel bade their sorrow flee, For thus he spoke unto the three:  
"Your Lord is gone to Galilee": Alleluia!**

**4. That night the Apostles met in fear, Amidst them came their Lord  
most dear And said: "Peace be unto you here": Alleluia!**

**5. On this most holy day of days To God your hearts and voices raise  
In laud and jubilee and praise: Alleluia!**

## **OUR EASTER INTERCESSIONS**

**We who call ourselves Your faithful followers,  
Help us to be real believers in your Resurrection.**

**Fill us, O Risen Lord, with Your peace and joy,  
As we more fully realize what You have done for us.**

**Remember us, O Savior of us all, when You come into Your Kingdom,  
Make us reflect once more on Your eternal promise and  
raise up the souls of the faithful departed.**

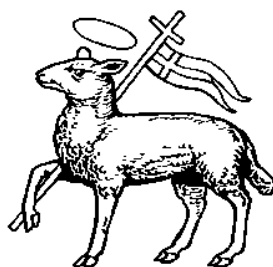
**Merciful Risen Lord, be with those who doubt and cannot believe in  
You,**

**May Your Spirit open their eyes and hearts to You.**

**We rejoice with those who have recently entered the Church,  
May they grow in wisdom and knowledge of You as they  
grow in the faith.**

**During this festive Easter season,  
May we be an "Alleluia People" from head to toe.**

**Lord, You are not to be found in the emptiness of the tomb.  
Instead, You are risen from the dead  
and present with us now  
as You promised to be.  
Loving Lord, let us feel the Eastering  
as You come to meet and greet us.**



**To Jesus Christ, our Sovereign King,  
Who is the world's Salvation,  
All praise and homage do we bring,  
And thanks and adoration.  
Christ Jesus Victor, Christ Jesus Ruler!  
Christ Jesus, Lord and Redeemer!**

