

Everyday FAITH Family Page

New Testament 4

Law/Gospel

Because of sin, I deserve eternal death and separation from God, and I am filled with fear. **The Father has accepted His Son's sacrifice for sin, making me an heir of eternal life. He works through His Word to comfort me, replacing my fear with joy and empowering me to tell others about the Lord's resurrection.**

Bible Words

[God] has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. 1 Peter 1:3

Fun Facts

This account of the resurrection records an earthquake occurring on Easter morning. There was also an earthquake on Good Friday. John describes earthquakes during his vision of Jesus' return. But no matter how shaky the ground gets, we have a firm foundation in Jesus Christ, the rock of our salvation!

The Resurrection of Jesus

Matthew 28:1–10

Angels often proclaim important events in salvation history. In the events surrounding the first Christmas, angels appeared to Zechariah, Mary, Joseph, and the shepherds. Now at the resurrection, the angel proclaims that Christ has risen.

The guards watching the tomb, and later the women, were afraid of the angel. However, the women had no need to fear, for the angel's message was one of good news. The resurrection Gospel is ultimately what alleviates all fear as our Lord promises to forgive and help us, now and forever.

When Jesus met the women, they worshiped Him. Worship is reserved for God alone. By bowing down before Him, these women revealed their faith in Jesus as the Son of God. Worship is also our response as, in the Divine Service, we hear the Easter message and respond with our praise and adoration.

"If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins" (1 Corinthians 15:17). The resurrection shows that Jesus is the Son of God and that His Word is true.

It is just "as He said" (Matthew 28:6). The resurrection also reveals that the Father accepted the Son's sacrifice for our sins. The resurrection fills us with hope, for we know that as Christ has been raised from the dead, we, too, will rise to eternal life. In Baptism, we were joined to the death and resurrection of Christ, and since we have been united with Him in a death like His, we will certainly be united with Him in a resurrection like His (Romans 6:3–11).

Sing

Have an in-home hymn sing! Ask everyone to name their favorite Easter song, and sing it together. If you need help with the words, grab your hymnal (ebook version or otherwise) and read along. For another fun activity, have an alleluia scavenger hunt: search for all the *alleluias* in the Easter portion of your hymnal. This also works well with exclamation points!

Prayer

Say the Lord's Prayer together today.

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