

A REFLECTION FOR THIS WEEK:

The Magdalene's Blessing

For Easter Day
You hardly imagined
standing here,
everything you ever loved
suddenly returned to you,
looking you in the eye
and calling your name.

And now
you do not know
how to abide this hole
in the center
of your chest,
where a door
slams shut
and swings open
at the same time,
turning on the hinge
of your aching
and hopeful heart.

I tell you,
this is not a banishment
from the garden.

This is an invitation,
a choice,
a threshold,
a gate.

This is your life
calling to you

from a place
you could never
have dreamed,
but now that you
have glimpsed its edge,
you cannot imagine
choosing any other way.

So let the tears come
as anointing,
as consecration,
and then
let them go.

Let this blessing
gather itself around you.

Let it give you
what you will need
for this journey.

You will not remember
the words—
they do not matter.

All you need to remember
is how it sounded
when you stood
in the place of death
and heard the living
call your name.

—Jan Richardson
from *Circle of Grace: A Book of
Blessings for the Seasons*

Worship through Giving // Online at fbcjc.org/give-online or mail your check into the church office at 301 E. Capitol Ave. / Jefferson City, MO 65101. Our sincere thanks for your faithful giving during this season. We are better, and stronger, together.

Daily Devotions // If you are not receiving our daily devotions please email kris@fbcjc.org to sign up now.



HE IS RISEN

Easter
2020

WHY HEAVEN
MAKES A
DIFFERENCE
IN THIS LIFE

welcome

Join worship at
fbj.c.org, **facebook.com/fbcjc** or
YouTube - you.tu.be/L_VowpbcTOU

Halleluiah! Christ is Risen! He is Risen Indeed! Join us for virtual worship on our fbj.c.org website, our First Baptist Church—FBCJC Facebook Page, or our FBCJC YouTube channel. Today's worship guide provides a brief service outline and activities for individuals and families to try this week. May you experience resurrection hope this Easter Sunday.

SCRIPTURE — LUKE 24:1-12

Read by Carolyn, Titus, Andrew, Josh, and Todd Pridemore

SONG — Low in the Grave He Lay (Christ Arose)
(Robert Lowry, 18-26-1899)

Low in the grave He lay, Jesus; my Savior!
Waiting the coming day, Jesus, my Lord!
Vainly they watch His bed, Jesus, my Savior!
Vainly they seal the dead, Jesus, my Lord!
Death cannot keep his prey, Jesus, my Savior!
He tore the bars away, Jesus, my Lord!
Up from the grave He arose,
With a mighty triumph o'er His foes;
He arose a victor from the dark domain,
And He lives forever with His saints to reign.
He arose! He arose! Hallelujah! Christ arose!

CHILDREN'S TIME

VIDEO — Jesus Makes a Difference In My Life

SONG — Is He Worthy? (Peterson/Shive; CCLI #784796)

Do you feel the world is broken? *We do.*
Do you feel the shadows deepen? *We do.*
But do you know that all the dark won't stop the light from getting through? *We do*
Do you wish that you could see it all made new? *We do.*

Is all creation groaning? *It is.*
Is a new creation coming? *It is.*
Is the glory of the Lord to be the light within our midst? *It is.*
Is it good that we remind ourselves of this? *It is.*
Is anyone worthy? Is anyone whole?
Is anyone able to break the seal and open the scroll?

The Lion of Judah who conquered the grave!
He is David's Root and the Lamb who died to ransom the slave.
From ev'ry people and tribe, every nation and tongue,
He has made us a kingdom and priests to God to reign with the Son.
Is He worthy of all blessing and honor and glory?
Is He worthy? Is He worthy of this? He is!

PASTORAL PRAYER

SONG — I Can Only Imagine

SCRIPTURE — 1 Peter 1:3-9

MESSAGE — Why Heaven Makes a Difference in This Life
The resurrection provides a lens through which we see daily struggles.

CLOSING PRAYER

VIDEO — Praise You

Adult choir, orchestra, and drumline recorded Easter 2019



INDIVIDUAL AND FAMILY ACTIVITIES

New Life - Easter reminds each of us that God absorbs and transforms. God holds our grief, sin, loss, and trauma. God transforms by making a way where, before, there was no way. In our darkest hours, we may struggle to believe that acceptance, new opportunities, gratitude, or hope are a possibility for us. Although we are in these dark days of pandemic, on this Easter day we smell the budding plants, feel the quiet early-morning stillness, and see the resurrected Christ walking in the burial garden. We remember that, through Christ, we have the opportunity to begin again.

Write or Talk about New Life.

On your own, or with your family, reflect on these questions:

How is life different now than it was four weeks ago?
What is one difference you are enjoying, that is bringing you light, life, or love?
What is one change that is depleting you, diminishing light, life, or love?
What is one gratitude you'd like to express to God?

Create A Flower Cross: using materials available to you, create a cross covered with flowers. As you place or color each flower, reflect on your responses to the questions above. You might write or draw on each flower a response from the questions above. The cross will hold the high's and low's you or your family are experiencing during this time of physical distancing. Ideas for making a flower cross:

- Gather sticks and flowers from your yard. Using those items, create the shape of a cross on the ground.
- Find two pieces of wood or sticks around the house. Put them together in the shape of a cross. Decorate them with real, fake, or paper flowers. Put the stick upright in the ground in your front yard or on your front door.
- Draw a cross on a piece of paper. Draw flowers inside the cross. Color the flowers and cross.
- Draw a cross on a piece of paper. Cut sticky notes into flowers. Write one response to the questions above on each sticky note. Decorate the cross with the sticky notes.