

## A DEVOTION FOR EASTER MORNING 2020

We will livestream this devotion at 9:45 Easter morning on All Saints' Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/All-Saints-EpiscopalAnglican-Church-Millington-NJ-146828251990/>.

What you will need:

- A copy of this text printed out.
- A bell to ring or something else that will make a joyful noise.

This devotion will last less than 15 minutes. After that please join the diocesan livestreamed service with Bishop Hughes preaching and presiding at worship: <https://dioceseofnewark.org/>.

At 11:30 am, join us for Bonnets, Bow-Ties and Bells: Virtual Coffee Hour. Dress up (if you want. Bring your coffee or brunch beverage. Have a bell to ring. And greet your fellow Saints! The Zoom link is in the e-mail.

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*All Saints' tower bell is rung.*

### An Easter Play

*(a medieval tradition from England. It was enacted before the opening hymn at the Easter sepulcher which was set up inside the church. The scene is the garden where Jesus had been buried on Good Friday. Some of the women had come to the tomb to mourn and to finish placing the spices for burial that they had not completed on the Sabbath. Sometimes in the play the fair linen for the altar was waiting in the sepulcher and placed on the altar after the play – a reminder of the linen burial cloths the Risen Christ left behind.)*

*Please say the words in bold.*

*Angel* Whom do you seek?

*Visitors* **Jesus of Nazareth.**

*Angel* Why do you seek the living among the dead?

*Visitors* **We are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified.**

*Angel* He is not here; he has risen, as he promised.

*Visitors* **If you have taken the body, tell us where it is.**

*Angel* He is not here. Come, see the place where he lay.

*Visitors* **He is not here. He has risen, as he promised.**

*Angel* Go quickly, and tell his disciples that he is risen from the dead.

*Visitors* **Christ is risen from the dead:**

*Angel* Trampling down death by death,

*Visitors* **And giving life to those in the tomb.**

*Angel* Alleluia. Christ is risen.

*All* **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

*Ring bells at home.*

**A Reading from Paul's First Letter to the Church in Corinth 15:19-26**

If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied. But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died. For since death came through a human being, the resurrection of the dead has also come through a human being; for as all die in Adam, so all will be made alive in Christ. But each in his own order: Christ the first fruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. Then comes the end, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father, after he has destroyed every ruler and every authority and power. For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. The last enemy to be destroyed is death.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm 148** *respond with the verses in bold*

- 1 Hallelujah! Praise the LORD from the heavens; \*  
praise him in the heights.
- 2 **Praise him, all you angels of his; \***  
**praise him, all his host.**
- 3 Praise him, sun and moon; \*  
praise him, all you shining stars.
- 4 **Praise him, heaven of heavens, \***  
**and you waters above the heavens.**
- 5 Let them praise the Name of the LORD; \*  
for he commanded, and they were created.
- 6 **He made them stand fast for ever and ever; \***  
**he gave them a law which shall not pass away.**
- 7 Praise the LORD from the earth, \*  
you sea-monsters and all deeps;
- 8 **Fire and hail, snow and fog, \***  
**tempestuous wind, doing his will;**
- 9 Mountains and all hills, \*  
fruit trees and all cedars;
- 10 **Wild beasts and all cattle, \***  
**creeping things and winged birds;**
- 11 Kings of the earth and all peoples, \*  
princes and all rulers of the world;
- 12 **Young men and maidens, \***  
**old and young together.**
- 13 Let them praise the Name of the LORD, \*  
for his Name only is exalted, his splendor is over earth and heaven.
- 14 **He has raised up strength for his people and praise for all his loyal servants, \***  
**the children of Israel, a people who are near him. Hallelujah!**

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \***  
**as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

### **The Collect**

Almighty God, who through your only-begotten Son Jesus Christ overcame death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life: Grant that we, who celebrate with joy the day of the Lord's resurrection, may be raised from the death of sin by your life-giving Spirit; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

### **The Blessing and Dismissal**

Let us go forth into the world rejoicing in the power of Christ's resurrection. Alleluia, alleluia. **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.** *Ring bells.*