

# Easter - The Empty Tomb

Matthew 27:62-31, 28: 1-10, Mark 16:1-8, Luke 24:1-12 & John 19 & 20.

After Jesus was crucified and laid in the tomb, the priests and Jewish leaders were still worried. They knew **Jesus had said He would come alive again after He had been dead for 3 days**. 'What if Jesus' disciples move the dead body and try to deceive people into thinking He had risen? We need soldiers guarding the grave so that no one comes and steals the body!' they thought.



They quickly ran to Pilate and asked if soldiers could guard the tomb. Pilate decided that some of his soldiers would guard it.



The Jewish leaders and priests were now happy that the tomb was guarded. No one would be allowed to roll away the big stone and remove the body of Jesus.



Jesus' disciples were now very afraid that they too would be killed. They locked the doors, and no-one dared to go out.



The soldiers stood guarding the grave. They had to keep watch both day and night and were not allowed to fall asleep. If they fell asleep, they would receive harsh punishments.



But suddenly, early on Sunday morning, a mighty angel of God came down from heaven and removed the heavy stone in front of the entrance. There was a great earthquake and all the soldiers fell to the ground in absolute terror.



The soldiers quickly fled from the grave. They could see that the dead body was gone and that the angel was now sitting on the large stone!



The soldiers quickly ran to the priests and Jewish leaders to tell them what had happened. The priests were both surprised and alarmed. What would they do now?



They decided to pay the soldiers a lot of money to say that the disciples had removed Jesus' body while they were asleep. The soldiers were happy to tell lies and keep the money!



Mary Magdalene had been weeping all the time since Jesus was crucified. Early that morning she set off to go to the grave with expensive perfumes and spices to wrap around Jesus' body so it would smell good inside the tomb. But she wondered, 'How would she get inside the tomb as there was large heavy stone covering the entrance and soldiers guarding it?'



When she got close to the tomb, she saw, to her great surprise, that the large stone had been rolled away from the entrance and that the soldiers were gone!



When she then looked into the tomb, she saw that Jesus' dead body was gone too. Only the bandages that Jesus' body was wrapped in were there along with the cloth for Jesus' face which was neatly folded. Mary quickly ran to tell Peter and John.

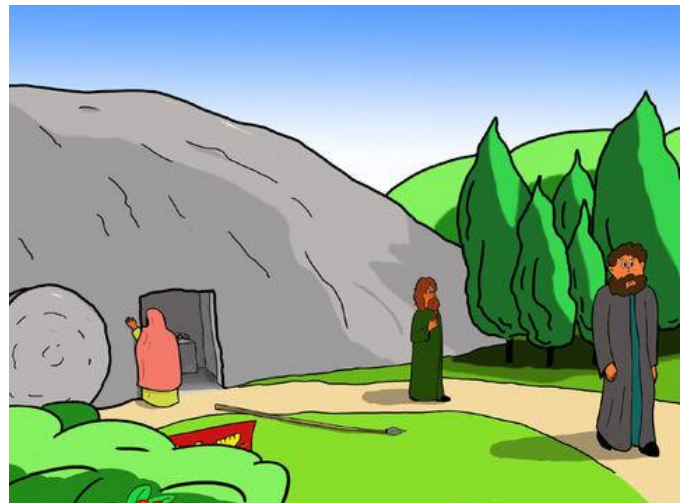


When Peter and John heard what Mary said, they ran to the tomb. They went into the tomb and were very surprised. What had happened to Jesus?



Then Peter and John went outside, but Mary remained inside.

Mary Magdalene continued to cry and mourn then suddenly ...



... an angel stood in the tomb and told her. 'Mary! I know you're looking for Jesus, the crucified One. He's not here! He has risen from the dead. Go immediately and tell His disciples about this!'



Now Jesus came and stood behind Mary. She thought it was the gardener and asked, without turning around, if He knew where Jesus' dead body had been placed.



Jesus only needed to say one word for Mary to understand who was standing there. Jesus said her name, 'Mary'. She quickly turned around and fell down before Jesus. The most amazing thing had happened! Jesus had risen from the dead!

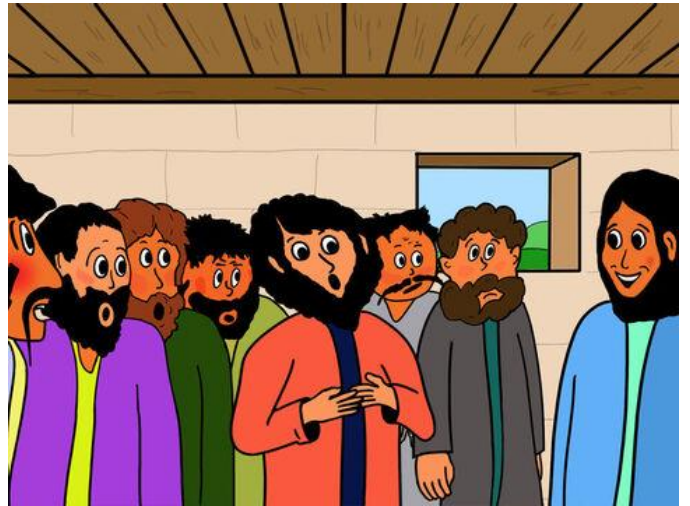


Mary quickly went to the disciples and told them what she had experienced. But they did not believe her and thought she must be imagining things.



A few hours later, suddenly, even though the doors were locked, Jesus stood in the midst of the disciples. Jesus showed His wounds in His hands and feet from the nails on the cross.

**Jesus was alive!**



**Easter is good news!**

Because God raised Jesus to life after he died, Jesus promised that death is not the end for anyone who trusts in Jesus. We can live with Jesus in heaven.

**HAPPY EASTER EVERYONE!**

## **Verse of the Week**

*Jesus said, "I am the resurrection and the life.*

*He who believes in me will have life even if he dies."*

*John 11:25*

## **Prayer**

**Dear God,**

**Thank you for Easter. Thank you, Jesus that you died for us and rose again. Thank you, Jesus, that you are alive for ever more. Help us to follow you and tell others that you are alive.**

**Amen**

## YouTube Video Links

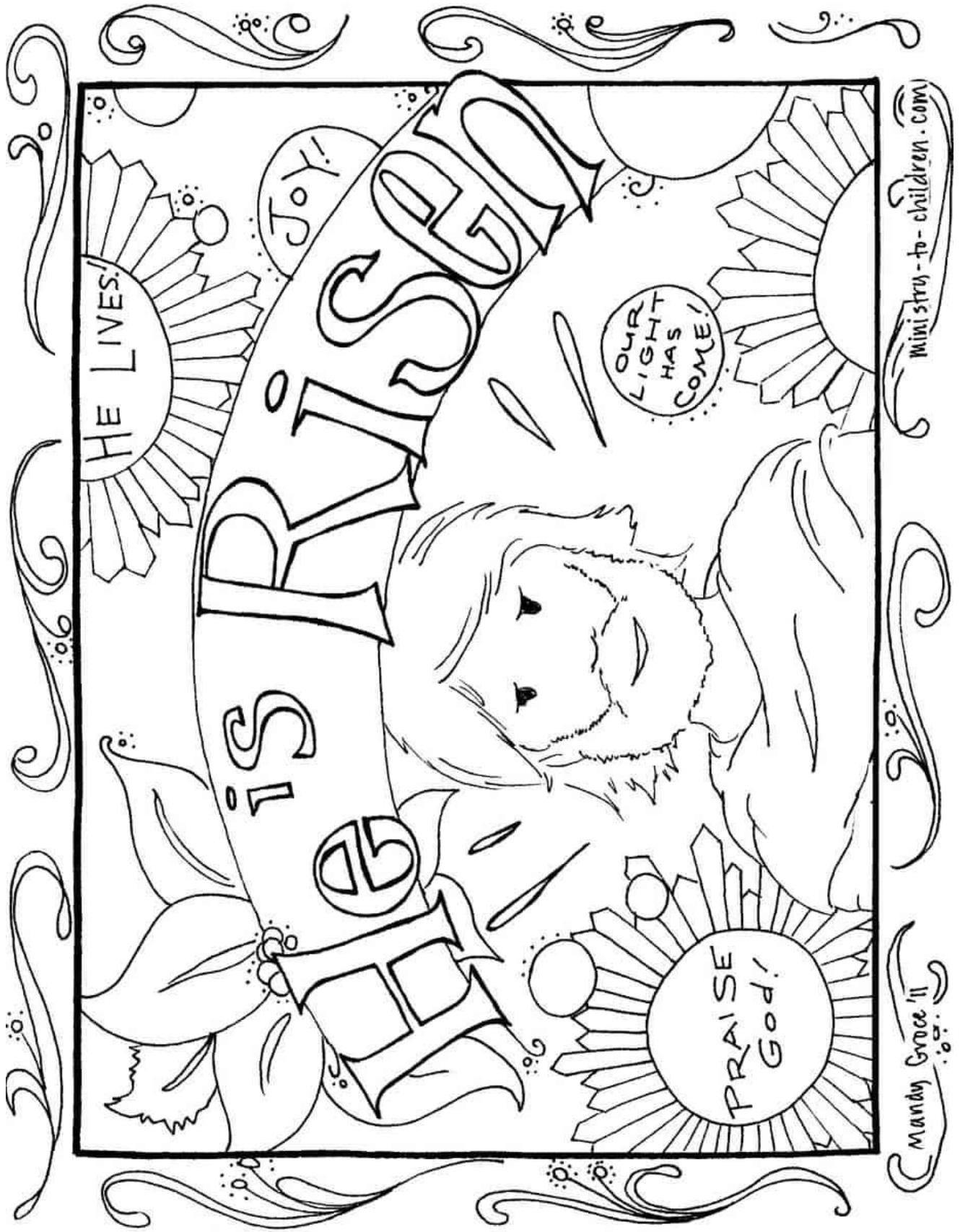
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cZ4gQniUVO8&ab\\_channel=CrossroadsKids%27Club](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cZ4gQniUVO8&ab_channel=CrossroadsKids%27Club) Crossroads Kids Club - God's Story: Easter (4½mins)

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1HcreK5TczY&ab\\_channel=SSPM](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1HcreK5TczY&ab_channel=SSPM)  
He's alive! Gracelink (4 mins)



*Christ is Risen!*





HE LIVES!

JOY!

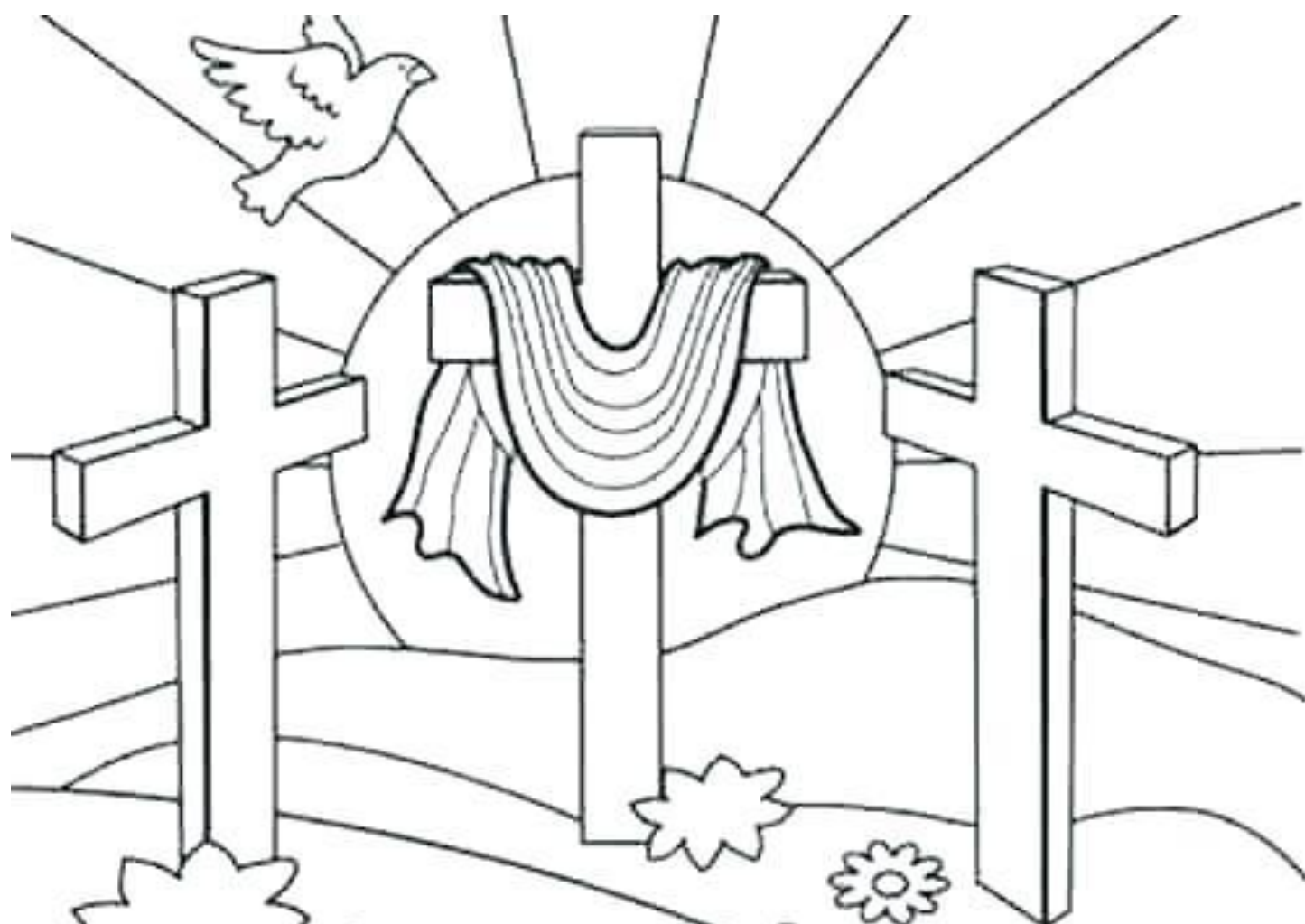
OUR LIGHT HAS COME!

PRAISE God!

HE IS RISEN

ministry-to-children.com

Mandy Grace '11



I am the  
Resurrection  
and the Life

Jesus appears to Mary at the empty tomb



# EASTER

## WORD SEARCH

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