

## EASTER MORNING AT SUNRISE

***Bold italics indicate that everyone should read or sing.***

### Prologue

Mark 15: 33 -34, 37

And when the sixth hour had come,  
there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour.  
And at the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice,  
"My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?"  
And some of the bystanders hearing it said, "Behold, he is calling  
Eli'jah."  
And one ran and, filling a sponge full of vinegar,  
put it on a reed and gave it to him to drink, saying,  
"Wait, let us see whether Eli'jah will come to take him down."  
And Jesus uttered a loud cry, and breathed his last.  
And the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom.

### A Canticle from Isaiah

In distress, O Lord, we sought you out,  
chastised by the whisper of your rebuke.

***As a woman cries out when her time is near,  
so were we because of you, O God.***

We have been with child, we have been in labor,  
but we have given birth to wind.

***We have won no victories for the land,  
and have given birth to no one to inhabit it.***

But your dead shall live, their bodies rise again.

***O dwellers in the dust, awake and sing for joy!***

God will swallow up death forever.

***Then the Lord God will wipe away the tears from every  
face.***

### The Resurrection

Mark 16: 1-8

And when the sabbath was past, Mary Mag'dalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salo'me, bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him.

And very early on the first day of the week they went to the tomb when the sun had risen. And they were saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the door of the tomb?" And looking up, they saw that the stone was rolled back; -- it was very large.

And entering the tomb, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, dressed in a white robe; and they were amazed. And he said to them, "Do not be amazed; you seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has risen, he is not here; see the place where they laid him.

But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going before you to Galilee; there you will see him, as he told you."

And they went out and fled from the tomb; for trembling and astonishment had come upon them;

and they said nothing to any one, for they were afraid.

John 20:1-11

### A Song

"Morning has Broken"

***Morning has broken, like the first Morning.  
Blackbird has spoken, like the first bird.  
Praise for the singing! Praise for the morning!  
Praise for them springing, fresh from the Word!***

***Sweet the rain's new fall, sunlit from heaven,  
Like the first dewfall on the first grass.  
Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden,  
Sprung in completeness where His feet pass.***

***Mine is the sunlight! Mine is the morning!  
Born of the one light, Eden saw play.  
Praise with elation, praise every morning.  
God's re-creation of the new day.***

### A Prayer

It was as if time had grown too tired to hold back the tide of eternity. The rock that guarded the day against the dark split open and disgorged the dead to walk among the living. The veil that guarded the day against the light was torn in two, but no avenging angel stepped forth. There was only that three day silent dark

***Amen!***

And then the women who went to try to give some smell and semblance of life to death saw that death had only killed what death can kill and were afraid. They, like we, knew what to do with death, but here was life, all new, lying out before them. And they were afraid.

We would have that that the great unmaking and making all things new would be more a matter of strobes and trumpets and crashing cymbals than this teasing of weeping women in the garden, and men on the road, and breakfast on the beach.

But of course it is you who are risen and not some creation of our wildest wishing. We were fooled for a moment by the donkey, but now we see . . .and we don't see . . .and yet give you thanks, and sing Alleluias. Amen.

**A Song**

“Amazing Grace”

***Amazing Grace, how sweet the sound  
That save a wretch like me  
I once was lost but now I'm found,  
Was blind but now I see.***

***Through many dangers, toils and snares  
I have already come;  
Tis Grace has brought me safe this far,  
And grace will lead me home.***

***Amazing Grace, how sweet the sound  
That save a wretch like me  
I once was lost but now I'm found,  
Was blind but now I see.***

**A Blessing from Isaiah**

Hear the promises of God:

You shall go out in joy, and be lead forth in peace.

***And the mountains and hills before you shall burst into  
song.***

And all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.