

The Resurrection of our Lord
April 1, 2018

^{ESV} **Isaiah 25:6** On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wine, of rich food full of marrow, of aged wine well refined. ⁷ And he will swallow up on this mountain the covering that is cast over all peoples, the veil that is spread over all nations. ⁸ **He will swallow up death forever; and the Lord GOD will wipe away tears from all faces, and the reproach of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the LORD has spoken.** ⁹ **It will be said on that day, "Behold, this is our God; we have waited for him, that he might save us. This is the LORD; we have waited for him; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation."**

^{LXT} **Isaiah 25:6** kai. poi h, sei ku, rioj sabawq pa/si toi/j e;qnesin evpi. to. o;roj tou/to pi,ontai euvfrosu, nhn pi,ontai oi=non cri, sontai mu, ron ⁷ evn tw/| o;rei tou, tw| para, doj tau/ta pa, nta toi/j e;qnesin h` ga.r bough. au[th evpi. pa, nta ta. e;qnh ⁸ kate, pien o` qa, natoj ivscu, saj kai. pa, lin avfei/len o` qeo.j pa/n da, kruon avpo. panto.j pros w, pou to. o;neidoj tou/ laou/ avfei/len avpo. pa, shj th/j gh/j to. ga.r sto, ma kuri, ou evla, lhsen ⁹ kai. evrou/sin th/| h`me, ra| evkei, nh| ivdou. o` qeo.j h`mw/n evfV w-| hvlp i, zomen kai. hv galli w, meqa kai. euvfranqhs o, meqa evpi. th/| swthri, a| h`mw/n

hZ<ëh; rh"åB' `~yMi [;h' (-lk'l. tAaøb'c.
hw"hy> •hf' ['w> ^{WTT} **Isaiah 25:6**
~yrIßm'v. ~yIëx'muäm. `~ynIm'v. ~yrI+m'v.
hTeäv.mi ~ynIßm'v. hTeîv.mi
~yMi_ [;h' (-lK'-l [; jALßh; jALih; -ynE)P.
hZ<ëh; rh"åB' `[L;biW' `~yqI)Q'zUm.
hx''m'W xc;n<ël' `tw<M''h; [L;ÛBi⁸
`~yI)AGh; -lK'-l [; hk'ÐWsn>h; hk'îSeM;h;w>
l [;äme `rysiy" AM^a [; tP;är>x,w> ~ynI+P'-
lK' l [;äme h['Ðm.DI hwI±hy> yn"ôdoa]
hNE`hi aWhêh; ~AYæB; `rm;a'w>⁹ p `rBE)DI
hw"ßhy> yKiî #r<a'êh'-lK'
hl'ygiin" Alê WnyWIâqi `hw"hy> hz<Û
Wn[e_yviAy*w> Alà WnyWIîqi hz<± Wnyheîl{a/
`At* ['WvyBi hx'Ðm.f.nIw>

ESV **1 Corinthians 15:1** Now I would remind you, brothers, of the gospel I preached to you, which you received, in which you stand, ² and by which you are being saved, if you hold fast to the word I preached to you- unless you believed in vain. ³ For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, ⁴ that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures, ⁵ and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. ⁶ Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have fallen asleep. ⁷ Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. ⁸ Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. ⁹ For I am the least of the apostles, unworthy to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. ¹⁰ But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me was not in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them, though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. ¹¹ Whether then it was I or they, so we preach and so you believed.

GNT **1 Corinthians 15:1** Gnwri, zw de. u`mi/n(avdelfoi, (to. euvagge, lion o] euvhggelisa, mhn u`mi/n(o] kai. parela, bete(evn w-| kai. e`sth, kate(² diV ou- kai. sw, |zesqe(ti, ni lo, gw| euvhggelisa, mhn u`mi/n eiv kate, cete(evkto.j eiv mh. eivkh/| evpisteu, sateÅ ³ pare, dwka ga.r u`mi/n evn prw, toij(o] kai. pare, labon(o[ti Cristo.j avpe, qanen u`pe.r tw/n a`martiw/n h`mw/n kata. ta.j grafa.j ⁴ kai. o[ti evta, fh kai. o[ti evgh, gertai th/| h`me, ra| th/| tri, th| kata. ta.j grafa.j ⁵ kai. o[ti w;fqh Khfa/| ei=ta toi/j dw, deka\ ⁶ e;peita w;fqh evpa, nw pentakosi, oij avdelfoi/j evfa, pax(evx w-n oi` plei, onej me, nousin e[wj a;rti(tine.j de. evkoimh, qhsan\ ⁷ e;peita w;fqh VIakw, bw| ei=ta toi/j avposto, loij pa/sin\ ⁸ e;scaton de. pa, ntw n w`sperei. tw/| evktrw, mati w;fqh kavmoi, Å ⁹ VEgw. ga, r eivmi o` evla, cistoj tw/n avposto, lwn o]j ouv k eivmi. i`kano.j kalei/sqai avpo, stoloj(dio, ti evdi, wxa th.n evkklhsi, an tou/ qeou/\ ¹⁰ ca, riti de. qeou/ eivmi o[eivmi(kai. h` ca, rij avvtou/ h` eivj evme. ouv kenh. evgenh, qh(avlla. perisso, teron avvtw/n pa, ntw n evkopi, asa(ouv k evgw. de. avlla. h` ca, rij tou/ qeou/ Îh`Ð su.n evmoi, Å ¹¹ ei;te ou=n evgw. ei;te evkei/noi(ou[twj khru, ssomen kai. ou[twj evpisteu, sateÅ

ESV **Mark 16:1** , When the Sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of James and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. ² And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. ³ And they were saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance of the tomb?" ⁴ And looking up, they saw that the stone had been rolled back- it was very large. ⁵ And entering the tomb, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, dressed in a white robe, and they were alarmed. ⁶ And he said to them, "Do not be alarmed. You seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has risen; he is not here. See the place where they laid him. ⁷ But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going before you to Galilee. There you will see him, just as he told you." ⁸ And they went out and fled from the tomb, for trembling and astonishment had seized them, and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

GNT **Mark 16:1** Kai. diagenome, nou tou/ sabba, tou Mari, a h` Magdalnh. kai. Mari, a h` Îtou/Ð VIakw, bou kai. Salw, mh hvgo, rasan avrw, mata i[na evlqou/sai avlei, ywsin auvto, nÅ 2 kai. li, an prwi> th/| mia/| tw/n sabba, tw n e;rcontai evpi. to. mnhmei/on avnatei, lantoj tou/ h`li, ouÅ 3 kai. e;legon pro.j e`auta, j(Ti, j avpokuli, sei h`mi/n to.n li, qon evk th/j qu, raj tou/ mnhmei, ouÈ 4 kai. avnable, yasai qewrou/sin o[ti avpokeku, listai o` li, qoj\ **h=n ga.r me, gaj sfo, draÅ** 5 kai. eivselqou/sai eivj to. mnhmei/on ei=don neani, skon kaqh, menon evn toi/j dexioi/j peribebhlme, non stolh.n leukh, n(kai. evxeqambh, qhsanÅ 6 o` de. le, gei auvtai/j(Mh. evkqambei/sqe\ VIhsou/n zhteite to.n Nazarhno.n to.n evstaurwme, non\ hvge, rqh(ouv k e;stin w-de\ i;de o` to, poj o[pou e;qhkan auvto, nÅ 7 avlla. u`pa, gete ei;pate toi/j maqhtai/j auvtou/ kai. tw/| Pe, trw| o[ti Proa, gei u`ma/j eivj th.n Galilai, an\ evkei/ auvto.n o; yesqe(kaqw.j ei=pen u`mi/nÅ 8 kai. evxelqou/sai e;fugon avpo. tou/ mnhmei, ou(ei=cen ga.r auvta.j tro, moj kai. e;kstasij\ kai. ouvdeni. ouvde.n ei=pan\ evfobou/nto ga, rÅ ÎÎpa, nta de. ta. parhggelme, na toi/j peri. to.n Pe, tron sunto, mwj evxh, ggeilanÅ Meta. de. tau/ta kai. auvto.j o` VIhsou/j avpo. avnatolh/j kai. a;cri du, sewj evxape, steilen diV auvtw/n to. i`ero.n kai. a;fqarton kh, rugma th/j aivwni, ou swthri, ajÅ avmh, nÅÐÐ

ESV **Luke 24:1** But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, they went to the tomb, taking the spices they had prepared. 2 And they found the stone rolled away from the tomb, 3 but when they went in they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. 4 While they were perplexed about this, behold, two men stood by them in dazzling apparel. 5 And as they were frightened and bowed their faces to the ground, the men said to them, "Why do you seek the living among the dead? 6 He is not here, but has risen. Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, 7 that the Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men and be crucified and on the third day rise." 8 And they remembered his words, 9 and returning from the tomb they told all these things to the eleven and to all the rest. 10 **Now it was Mary Magdalene and Joanna and Mary the mother of James and the other women with them who told these things to the apostles,** 11 but these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them. 12 But Peter rose and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; and he went home marveling at what had happened.

ESV **Matthew 28:1** Now after the Sabbath, toward the dawn of the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. 2 And behold, there was a great earthquake, for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven and came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. 3 His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. 4 And for fear of him the guards trembled and became like dead men. 5 But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified. 6 He is not here, for he has risen, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. 7 Then go quickly and tell his disciples that he has risen from

the dead, and behold, he is going before you to Galilee; there you will see him. See, I have told you." ⁸ So they departed quickly from the tomb with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples.

^{GNT} **Matthew 28:1** VOye. de. sabba,twn(th/| evpifwskou,sh| eivj mi,an sabba,twn h=lqen Maria.m h` Magdalnhh. kai. h` a;llh Mari,a qewrh/sai to.n ta,fonÅ ² kai. ivdou. seismo.j evge,neto me,gaj\ a;ggeløj ga.r kuri,ou kataba.j evx ouvranou/ kai. proselqw.n avpeku,lisen to.n li,qon kai. evka,qhto evpa,nw auvtou/Å ³ h=n de. h` eivde,a auvtou/ w`j avstraph. kai. to. e;nduma auvtou/ leuko.n w`j ciw,nÅ ⁴ avpo. de. tou/ fo,bou auvtou/ evsei,sqhsan oi` throu/ntej kai. evgenh,qhsan w`j nekroi,Å ⁵ avpokriqei.j de. o` a;ggeløj ei=pen tai/j gunaixi,n(Mh. fobei/sqe u`mei/j(oi=da ga.r o[ti VIhsou/n to.n evstaurwme,non zhtei/te\ ⁶ ouv k e;stin w-de(hvge,rqh ga.r kaqw.j ei=pen\ deu/te i;dete to.n to,pon o[pou e;keitoÅ ⁷ kai. tacu. poreuqei/sai ei;pate toi/j maqhtai/j auvtou/ o[ti VHge,rqh avpo. tw/n nekrw/n(kai. ivdou. proa,gei u`ma/j eivj th.n Galilai,an(evkei/ auvto.n o;yesqe\ ivdou. ei=pon u`mi/nÅ ⁸ kai. avpelqou/sai tacu. avpo. tou/ mnhmei,ou meta. fo,bou kai. cara/j mega,lhj e;dramon avpaggei/lai toi/j maqhtai/j auvtou/Å

Easter Day (Three-Year, year B)

Introit

I will sing to the LORD, for he has triumphed | gloriously,*
the horse and his rider he has thrown in- | to the sea.
The LORD is my strength | and my song,*
and he has become my sal- | vation.
Your right hand, O LORD, glorious | in power,*
your right hand, O LORD, shatters the | enemy.
You have led in your steadfast love the people whom you | have redeemed;*
you have guided them by your strength to your ho- | ly abode.
You will bring them in and plant them on your own | mountain,*
the place, O LORD, which you have made for | your abode,
the sanctuary, O Lord, which your hands have es- | tablished.*
The LORD will reign forever and | ever.

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

I will sing to the LORD, for he has triumphed | gloriously,*
the horse and his rider he has thrown in- | to the sea.

Collect

Almighty God the Father, through Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, You have overcome death and opened the gate of everlasting life to us. Grant that we, who celebrate with joy the day of our 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 forever.

Gradual

Christ has risen | from the dead.*
[God the Father] has crowned him with glory and | honor,
He has given him dominion over the works | of his hands;*
he has put all things un- | der his feet.

Verse

Alleluia. [Christ Jesus] abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. Alleluia.

Psalm

Psalm 16:1–11

¹Preserve me, | O God,* for in you I take | refuge.
²I say to the LORD, "You | are my Lord;*" I have no good a- | part from you."
³As for the saints | in the land,* they are the excellent ones, in whom is all | my delight.
⁴The sorrows of those who run after another god shall | multiply;* their drink offerings of blood I will not pour out or take their names | on my lips.
⁵The LORD is my chosen portion | and my cup;* you | hold my lot.
⁶The lines have fallen for me in pleasant | places;* indeed, I have a beautiful in- | heritance.
⁷I bless the LORD who gives me | counsel;* in the night also my heart in- | structs me.
⁸I have set the LORD always be- | fore me;* because he is at my right hand, I shall not be | shaken.
⁹Therefore my heart is glad, and my whole being re- | joices;* my flesh also | dwells secure.
¹⁰For you will not abandon my soul | to Sheol,* or let your holy one see cor- | ruption.
¹¹You make known to me the | path of life;* in your presence there is fullness of joy; at your right hand are pleasures for- | evermore.

Old Testament

Isaiah 25:6–9

⁶On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wine, of rich food full of marrow, of aged wine well refined.
⁷And he will swallow up on this mountain the covering that is cast over all peoples, the veil that is spread over all nations.

⁸He will swallow up death forever;
and the Lord GOD will wipe away tears from all faces,
and the reproach of his people he will take away from all the earth,
for the LORD has spoken.

⁹It will be said on that day,
"Behold, this is our God; we have waited for him, that he might save us.
This is the LORD; we have waited for him;
let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation."

Epistle

1 Corinthians 15:1–11

¹Now I would remind you, brothers, of the gospel I preached to you, which you received, in which you stand, ²and by which you are being saved, if you hold fast to the word I preached to you—unless you believed in vain.

³For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, ⁴that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures, ⁵and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. ⁶Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have fallen asleep. ⁷Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. ⁸Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. ⁹For I am the least of the apostles, unworthy to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. ¹⁰But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me was not in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them, though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. ¹¹Whether then it was I or they, so we preach and so you believed.

Gospel

Mark 16:1–8

¹When the Sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of James and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. ²And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. ³And they were saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance of the tomb?" ⁴And looking up, they saw that the stone had been rolled back—it was very large. ⁵And entering the tomb, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, dressed in a white robe, and they were alarmed. ⁶And he said to them, "Do not be alarmed. You seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has risen; he is not here. See the place where they laid him. ⁷But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going before you to Galilee. There you will see him, just as he told you." ⁸And they went out and fled from the tomb, for trembling and astonishment had seized them, and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

Proper Preface

It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God. And most especially are we bound to praise You on this day for the glorious resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, the very Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us and bore the sins of the world. By His dying He has destroyed death, and by His rising again He has restored to us everlasting life. Therefore with Mary Magdalene, Peter and John, and with all the witnesses of the resurrection, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Proper Preface (Jacobean)

It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God. And most especially are we bound to praise You on this day for the glorious resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, the very Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us and bore the sins of the world. By His dying He has destroyed death, and by His rising again He has restored to us everlasting life. Therefore with Mary Magdalene, Peter and John, and with all the witnesses of the resurrection, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Prayer of Thanksgiving

For Christ, our Passover Lamb, has been sacrificed. By His death, He has redeemed us from bondage to sin and death, and by His resurrection, He has delivered us into new life in Him.

Grant us to keep the Feast in sincerity and truth, faithfully eating His body given into death and drinking His life's blood poured out for our salvation until we pass through death to the promised land of life eternal.

Collect

O God, for our redemption You gave Your only-begotten Son to the death of the cross and by His glorious resurrection delivered us from the power of the enemy. Grant that all our sin may be drowned through daily repentance and that day by day we may arise to live before You in righteousness and purity forever; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

^{ESV} **Genesis 28:18** So early in the morning Jacob took the **stone** that he had put under his head and set it up for a pillar and poured oil on the top of it.

^{LXT} **Genesis 28:18** kai. avne,sth Iakwb to. prwi. kai. e;laben to.n li,qon o]n u`pe,qhken evkei/ pro.j kefalh/j avtou/ kai. e;sthsen avto.n sth,lhn kai. evpe,ceen e;laion evpi. to. a;kron avth/j

`!b,a,'h'-ta, xQ:ÜYIw: rq,Bo^aB; bqoø[]y:
~Ke'v.Y:w: ^{WTT} **Genesis 28:18**
`Hv' (aro-l[; !m,v,Ð qcoiYIw: hb'_Cem;
Ht' Ðao ~f,Y"iw: wyt'êvoa]r:(m. ~f'ä-rv,a]

^{ESV} **Genesis 29:10** Now as soon as Jacob saw Rachel the daughter of Laban his mother's brother, and the sheep of Laban his mother's brother, Jacob came near and rolled the **stone** from the well's mouth and watered the flock of Laban his mother's brother.

^{ESV} **Genesis 31:45** So Jacob took a **stone** and set it up as a pillar.

^{ESV} **Exodus 24:12** The LORD said to Moses, "Come up to me on the mountain and wait there, that I may give you the tablets of **stone**, with the law and the commandment, which I have written for their instruction."

^{ESV} **Deuteronomy 28:36** "The LORD will bring you and your king whom you set over you to a nation that neither you nor your fathers have known. And there you shall serve other gods of wood and **stone**."

^{ESV} **Joshua 4:5** And Joshua said to them, "Pass on before the ark of the LORD your God into the midst of the Jordan, and take up each of you a **stone** upon his shoulder, according to the number of the tribes of the people of Israel,

^{ESV} **Judges 9:5** And he went to his father's house at Ophrah and killed his brothers the sons of Jerubbaal, seventy men, on one **stone**. But Jotham the youngest son of Jerubbaal was left, for he hid himself.

^{ESV} **1 Samuel 7:12** Then Samuel took a **stone** and set it up between Mizpah and Shen and called its name Ebenezer; for he said, "Till now the LORD has helped us."

^{ESV} **Isaiah 28:16** therefore thus says the Lord GOD, "Behold, I am the one who has laid as a foundation in Zion, a **stone**, a tested **stone**, a precious cornerstone, of a sure foundation: 'Whoever believes will not be in haste.'

^{ESV} **Ezekiel 11:19** And I will give them one heart, and a new spirit I will put within them. I will remove the heart of **stone** from their flesh and give them a heart of flesh,

^{ESV} **Matthew 21:42** Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the Scriptures: "' The **stone** that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord's doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes'?"

^{GNT} **Matthew 21:42** le,gei auvtoi/j o` VIhsou/j(Ouvde,pote avne,gnwte evn tai/j grafai/j(Li,qon o]n avpedoki,masan oi` oivkodomou/ntej(ou-toj evgenh,qh eivj kefalh.n gwni,aj\ para. kuri,ou evge,neto au[th kai. e;stin qaumasth. evn ovfqalmoi/j h`mw/nE

^{ESV} **Matthew 21:44** And the one who falls on this **stone** will be broken to pieces; and when it falls on anyone, it will crush him."

^{GNT} **Matthew 21:44** ÎKai. o` pesw.n evpi. to.n li,qon tou/ton sunqlasqh,setai\ evfV o]n dV a'n pe,sh| likmh,sei auvto,nAÐ

^{ESV} **Matthew 24:2** But he answered them, "You see all these, do you not? Truly, I say to you, there will not be left here one **stone** upon another that will not be thrown down."

^{GNT} **Matthew 24:2** o` de. avpokriqei.j ei=pen auvtoi/j(Ouv ble,pete tau/ta pa,ntaE avmh.n le,gw u`mi/n(ouv mh. avfeqh/| w-de li,qoj evpi. li,qon o]j ouv kataluqh,setaiA

^{ESV} **Matthew 27:60** and laid it in his own new tomb, which he had cut in the rock. And he rolled a great **stone** to the entrance of the tomb and went away.

^{GNT} **Matthew 27:60** kai. e;qhken auvto. evn tw/| kainw/| auvtou/ mnhmei,w| o] evlato,mhsen evn th/| pe,tra| kai. proskuli,saj li,qon me,gan th/| qu,ra| tou/ mnhmei,ou avph/lqenÅ

^{ESV} **Matthew 27:66** So they went and made the tomb secure by sealing the **stone** and setting a guard.

^{GNT} **Matthew 27:66** oi` de. poreuge,ntej hvsfali,santo to.n ta,fon sfragi,santej to.n li,qon meta. th/j koustwdi,ajÅ

^{ESV} **Matthew 28:2** And behold, there was a great earthquake, for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven and came and rolled back the **stone** and sat on it.

^{GNT} **Matthew 28:2** kai. ivdou. seismo.j evge,neto me,gaj\ a;ggeloj ga.r kuri,ou kataba.j evx ouvranou/ kai. proselqw.n avpeku,lisen to.n li,qon kai. evka,qhto evpa,nw auvtou/Å

^{ESV} **Mark 15:46** And Joseph bought a linen shroud, and taking him down, wrapped him in the linen shroud and laid him in a tomb that had been cut out of the rock. And he rolled a **stone** against the entrance of the tomb.

^{GNT} **Mark 15:46** kai. avgora,saj sindo,na kaqelw.n auvto.n evnei,lhsen th/| sindo,ni kai. e;qhken auvto.n evn mnhmei,w| o] h=n lelatomhme,non evk pe,traj kai. proseku,lisen li,qon evpi. th.n qu,ran tou/ mnhmei,ouÅ

^{ESV} **Mark 16:3** And they were saying to one another, "Who will roll away the **stone** for us from the entrance of the tomb?"

^{GNT} **Mark 16:3** kai. e;legon pro.j e`auta,j(Ti,j avpokuli,sei h`mi/n to.n li,qon evk th/j qu,raj tou/ mnhmei,ouÈ

^{ESV} **Mark 16:4** And looking up, they saw that the **stone** had been rolled back- it was very large.

^{GNT} **Mark 16:4** kai. avnable,yasai qewrou/sin o[ti avpokeku,listai o` li,qoj\ h=n ga.r me,gaj sfo,draÅ

Luke 20:18 pa/j o` pesw.n evpV evkei/non to.n li,qon sunqlasqh,setai\ evfV o]n dV a'n pe,sh|(likmh,sei auvto,nÅ

^{ESV} **Luke 21:6** "As for these things that you see, the days will come when there will not be left here one **stone** upon another that will not be thrown down."

^{GNT} **Luke 21:6** Tau/ta a] qewrei/te evleu,sontai h`me,rai evn ai-j ouv k avfeqh,setai li,qoj evpi. li,qw| o]j ouv kataluqh,setaiÅ

^{ESV} **Luke 23:53** Then he took it down and wrapped it in a linen shroud and laid him in a tomb cut in **stone**, where no one had ever yet been laid.

^{GNT} **Luke 23:53** kai. kaqelw.n evnetu,lixen auvto. sindo,ni kai. e;qhken auvto.n evn mnh,mati laxeutw/| ou- ouvk h=n ouvdei.j ou;pw kei,menojÅ

^{ESV} **Luke 24:2** And they found the **stone** rolled away from the tomb,

^{GNT} **Luke 24:2** eu-ron de. to.n li,qon avpokekulisme,non avpo. tou/ mnhmei,ou(

^{ESV} **John 11:38** Then Jesus, deeply moved again, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a **stone** lay against it.

^{GNT} **John 11:38** VIhsou/j ou=n pa,lin evmbrimw,menoj evn e`autw/| e;rcetai eivj to. mnhmei/on\ h=n de. sph,laion kai. li,qoj evpe,keito evpV auvtw/|Å

^{ESV} **John 11:39** Jesus said, "Take away the **stone.**" Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, "Lord, by this time there will be an odor, for he has been dead four days."

^{GNT} **John 11:39** le,gei o` VIhsou/j(:Arate to.n li,qonÅ le,gei auvtw/| h` avdelfh. tou/ teteleuthko,toj Ma,rqa(Ku,rie(h;dh o;zei(tetartai/oj ga,r evstinÅ

^{ESV} **John 11:41** So they took away the **stone**. And Jesus lifted up his eyes and said, "Father, I thank you that you have heard me.

^{GNT} **John 11:41** h=ran ou=n to.n li,qonÅ o` de. VIhsou/j h=ren tou.j ovfqalmou.j a;nw kai. ei=pen(Pa,ter(euvcaristw/ soi o[ti h;kousa,j mouÅ

^{ESV} **John 20:1** Now on the first day of the week Mary Magdalene came to the tomb early, while it was still dark, and saw that the **stone** had been taken away from the tomb.

^{GNT} **John 20:1** Th/| de. mia/| tw/n sabba,tnw Mari,a h` Magdalnh. e;rcetai prwi> skoti,aj e;ti ou;shj eivj to. mnhmei/on kai. ble,pei to.n li,qon hvrme,non evk tou/ mnhmei,ouÅ

^{ESV} **Acts 4:11** This Jesus is the **stone** that was rejected by you, the builders, which has become the cornerstone.

^{ESV} **Acts 17:29** Being then God's offspring, we ought not to think that the divine being is like gold or silver or **stone**, an image formed by the art and imagination of man.

^{GNT} **Acts 17:29** ge,noj ou=n u`pa,rcontej tou/ qeou/ ouvk ovfei,lomen nomi,zein crusw/| h' avrgu,rw| h' li,qw|(cara,gmati te,cnhj kai. evnqumh,sewj avnqrw,pou(to. qei/on ei=nai o[moionÅ

^{ESV} **Acts 19:35** And when the town clerk had quieted the crowd, he said, "Men of Ephesus, who is there who does not know that the city of the Ephesians is temple keeper of the great Artemis, and of the sacred **stone** that fell from the sky?"

^{GNT} **Acts 19:35** katastei,laj de. o` grammateu.j to.n o;clon fhsi,n(:Andrej VEfe,sioi(ti,j ga,r evstin avnqrw,pwn ojj ouv ginw,skei th.n VEfesi,wn po,lin newko,ron ou=san th/j mega,lhj VArte,midoj kai. tou/ diopetou/jÈ

^{ESV} **2 Corinthians 3:7** Now if the ministry of death, carved in letters on **stone**, came with such glory that the Israelites could not gaze at Moses' face because of its glory, which was being brought to an end,

^{GNT} **2 Corinthians 3:7** Eiv de. h` diakoni,a tou/ qana,tou evn gra,mmasin evntetupwme,nh li,qoij evgenh,qh evn do,xh|(w[ste mh. du,nasqai avteni,sai tou.j ui`ou.j VIsrah.l eivj to. pro,swpon Mwuse,wj dia. th.n do,xan tou/ prosw,pou avttou/ th.n katargoume,nhn(

^{ESV} **1 Peter 2:4** As you come to him, a living **stone** rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious,

^{GNT} **1 Peter 2:4** pro.j o]n proserco,menoi li,qon zw/nta u`po. avnqrw,pwn me.n avpodedokimasma,non para. de. qew/| evklekto.n e;ntimon(

^{ESV} **1 Peter 2:6** For it stands in Scripture: "Behold, I am laying in Zion a **stone**, a cornerstone chosen and precious, and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame."

^{GNT} **1 Peter 2:6** dio,ti perie,cei evn grafh/|(VIdou. ti,qhmi evn Siw.n li,qon avkrogwniai/on evklekto.n e;ntimon kai. o` pisteu,wn evpV avtw/| ouv mh. kataiscunqh/|Å

^{ESV} **1 Peter 2:7** So the honor is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe, "The **stone** that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone,"

^{GNT} **1 Peter 2:7** u`mi/n ou=n h` timh. toi/j pisteu,ousin(avpistou/sin de. li,qoj o]n avpedoki,masan oi` oivkodomou/ntej(ou-toj evgenh,qh eivj kefalh.n gwni,aj

^{ESV} **1 Peter 2:8** and "A **stone** of stumbling, and a rock of offense." They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

^{GNT} **1 Peter 2:8** kai. li,qoj prosko,mmatoj kai. pe,tra skanda,lou\ oi] prosko,ptousin tw/| lo,gw| avpeiou/ntej eivj o] kai. evte,qhsanÅ

^{ESV} **Revelation 2:17** He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To the one who conquers I will give some of the hidden manna, and I will give him a white **stone**, with a new name written on the **stone** that no one knows except the one who receives it.'

^{GNT} **Revelation 2:17** o` e;cwn ou=j avkousa,tw ti, to. pneu/ma le,gei tai/j evkklhsi,aijÅ tw/| nikw/nti dw,sw auvtw/| tou/ ma,nna tou/ kekrumme,nou kai. dw,sw auvtw/| yh/fon leukh,n(kai. evpi. th.n yh/fon o;noma kaino.n gegramme,non o] ouvdei.j oi=den eiv mh. o` lamba,wnÅ

^{ESV} **Revelation 9:20** The rest of mankind, who were not killed by these plagues, did not repent of the works of their hands nor give up worshiping demons and idols of gold and silver and bronze and **stone** and wood, which cannot see or hear or walk,

^{GNT} **Revelation 9:20** Kai. oi` loipoi. tw/n avnqrw,pwn(oi] ouvkv avpekta,nqhsan evn tai/j plhgai/j tau,taij(ouvde. meteno,hsan evk tw/n e;rgwn tw/n ceirw/n auvtw/n(i[na mh. proskunh,sousin ta. daimo,nia kai. ta. ei;dwla ta. crusa/ kai. ta. avrgura/ kai. ta. calka/ kai. ta. li,qina kai. ta. xu,lina(a] ou;te ble,pein du,nantai ou;te avkou,ein ou;te peripatei/n(

^{ESV} **Revelation 18:21** Then a mighty angel took up a **stone** like a great millstone and threw it into the sea, saying, "So will Babylon the great city be thrown down with violence, and will be found no more;

^{GNT} **Revelation 18:21** Kai. h=ren ei-j a;ggeloj ivscuro.j li,qon w`j mu,linon me,gan kai. e;balen eivj th.n qa,lassan le,gwn(Ou[twj o`rmh,mati blhqh,setai Babulw.n h` mega,lh po,lij kai. ouv mh. eu`reqh/| e;tiÅ

641 avpokuli,w

avpokuli,w: future avpokuli,sw; 1 aorist avpekulisa; perfect passive (3 person singular avpokeku,listai Mark 16:4 R G L but T Tr WH, avnakekulistai), participle avpokekulismenoi; *to roll off or away*: Matt. 28:2; Mark 16:3; Luke 24:2. (Gen. 29:3,8,10; Judith 13:9; Josephus, Antiquities 4, 8, 37; 5, 11, 3; Lucian, rhet. praec. 3.) But see avnakuli,w.*

^{ESV} **Matthew 28:2** And behold, there was a great earthquake, for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven and came and rolled back the stone and sat on it.

^{GNT} **Matthew 28:2** kai. ivdou. seismo.j evge,neto me,gaj\ a;ggeloj ga.r kuri,ou kataba.j evx ouvranou/ kai. proselqw.n avpeku,lisen to.n li,qon kai. evka,qhto evpa,nw auvtou/Å

^{ESV} **Mark 16:3** And they were saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance of the tomb?"

^{GNT} **Mark 16:3** kai. e;legon pro.j e`auta,j(Ti,j avpokuli,sei h`mi/n to.n li,qon evk th/j qu,raj tou/ mnhmei,ouÈ

^{ESV} **Mark 16:4** And looking up, they saw that the stone had been rolled back- it was very large.

^{GNT} **Mark 16:4** kai. avnable,yasai qewrou/sin o[ti avpokeku,listai o` li,qoj\ h=n ga.r me,gaj sfo,draÅ

^{ESV} **Luke 24:2** And they found the stone rolled away from the tomb,

^{GNT} **Luke 24:2** eu-ron de. to.n li,qon avpokekulisme,non avpo. tou/ mnhmei,ou(

3123 kuli,w

kuli,w: (for kulindw more common in earlier writings), *to roll*; passive imperfect 3 person singular evkuli,eto; *to be rolled, to wallow*: Mark 9:20. ((Aristotle, h. a. 5, 19, 18, etc.; Dionysius Halicarnassus; the Septuagint); Polybius 26, 10, 16; Aelian n. a. 7, 33; Epictetus diss. 4, 11, 29.) (Compare: avnakuli,w, apokuliw&,proskuli,w.)*

^{ESV} **Mark 9:20** And they brought the boy to him. And when the spirit saw him, immediately it convulsed the boy, and he fell on the ground and rolled about, foaming at the mouth.

^{GNT} **Mark 9:20** kai. h;negkan auvto.n pro.j auvto,nÅ kai. ivdw.n auvto.n to. pneu/ma euvqu.j sunespa,raxen auvto,n(kai. pesw.n evpi. th/j gh/j evkuli,eto avfri,zwnÅ

limestone about 150 pound/cubic foot

5' diameter, 1 foot thick: 2.5*2.5*1=6.25 cubic feet * 3.14 =
19.625 cubic feet x 150 lb/ft³ = 2944 lb

6' diameter then 4239 pounds

clean and jerk: 266 Kg—585 pounds
deadlift—500 Kg—1100 pounds

from internet, Baldwin Hamilton about 440 pounds

who will roll away the stone

who will remove the stone?

Theme: Who Will Roll Away the Stone?

problem: load is too heavy—only looking down

solution: been rolled away—look up and you will see

The Resurrection of our Lord
April 1, 2018

Text: Mark 16:1-8

Theme: “Who Will Roll Away the Stone?”

Introduction

- let’s do some lifting today
 - I can lift one of the Easter lilies, even two—no sweat
 - pick up the offering plate—be able to do so even after the offering is received
 - this cinder block over here in the corner, on which I set my computer when I record the audio—heavier
 - something heavier yet—the piano
 - Baldwin Hamilton model—internet tells me it weighs around 440 pounds—made to be picked up—see the handles
 - here we go—now James Cooper is going to come up and grab the other end and we’ll carry it around—pretend we are priests carrying the ark of the covenant—April Fool

- text today is about lifting—heavy lifting
 - woman going to the tomb faced with a dilemma—who will roll away the stone
 - a key way cut in the rock—entry stone held out of that keyway by blocks, blocks taken out and the stone in securely in the key way—if stone were only 5 feet in diameter, 1 foot thick, weigh right almost 3000 pounds, six feet in diameter over 4000 pounds
 - these women who quite burdened down going to the tomb, but not into weight lifting now had one more burden in front of them

I. It’s Too Heavy—looking down

A. The Women

- yes, a new burden
 - familiar with the practice—how could they ever move it? very likely had seen it rolled into place, but when you are in as much distress, as loaded down as they were you thinking gets a little jumbled
 - harder than they thought—Roman guard—kinds sirs, would it be asking too much for you to roll back the stone so we can anoint the body?
 - these woman were loaded down early on that morning

- a heavy load suddenly upon them—pressing out all hope? first sight that stone rolled away not a comforting one—descreation of the body?

B. For Us?

- big burdens and a series of smaller ones, or both

- spread of the message of the Gospel, lack thereof, temptation to be conformed from the outside instead of transformed from the inside by the Spirit working in the new nature—instead of testing to discern in the light of God's Word what is good and acceptable and perfect, testing to see how far one can venture into the good, and unacceptable, and imperfect

- health and money issues

- transition issues

 - change of moving, new location, or new job or both

 - empty nest, or retirement

 - loss of loved ones

- fully loaded?

- one more—no, no more please

II. Getting Heavier

A. Still looking down?

- look past the blessings right in front of us?

 - see people with bigger problems helps you put it into perspective

 - not praying that other people receive more problems so mine can look smaller—there but for the grace of God go I—comes to problems always getting less than I deserve

 - right now

 - brothers and sisters in Christ here together—what a day

 - family and friends

 - food, drink, house, home, clothes, means of transportation, lots of beautiful and interesting things

- only bad problems getting worse

 - arthritis on the increase, good feelings on the decrease

 - Murphey's law squared

 - not just trying to lift a piano, just had one dropped on you

B. Death is always out there

- covering cast over all peoples and veil that is spread over all nations (Isaiah 25:7)

- ^{ESV} **Proverbs 30:15** The leech has two daughters; "Give" and "Give," they cry. Three things are never satisfied; four never say, "Enough": ¹⁶ Sheol, the barren womb, the land never satisfied with water, and the fire that never says, "Enough."—just keep piling it on

- things are really looking up as the women are about to find out

III. It's Already Rolled Away!—look up!

A. Stone Rolled away

- not the first time (Lazarus)
 - not early in the morning before the sun came up
 - sometime in the day—Jesus and His disciples had arrived at Bethany, tomb of His friend Lazarus—both of Lazarus's sisters say the same thing, “Lord, if you have been her, my brother would not have died.” (John 11:21, 32)
 - at the tomb—not alone, mourners had followed Mary out to the tomb
 - “Take away the stone” (vs 38)
 - Martha, ‘Are you kidding me? The body has been in there four days. We won't like what comes out (stench).’ (39)
 - she was wrong—Jesus called forth and Lazarus came forth—alive
 - many witnesses—many believe in Jesus because of it—Jewish leadership goes into turbo mode to find a way to put a stop to it all—Caiaphas' famous words, “It is better of you that one man should die for the people, not that the whole nation should perish.” (John 11:50b)
- look up and see
 - of course the One did die—lifted up for all to see on the cross
 - dead and buried for anyone to see—women included—buried by Nicodemus and Joseph of Arimathea—this rich man's own tomb—made more secure by the Roman guard at the same leaders who had condemned Him to die—post a guard lest his followers steal him away and say he has risen and the last deception will be worse than the first
 - looking up on this early morning
 - stone already rolled in back—know from Matthew the work of one angel—maybe the one that speaks to the woman
 - they were alarmed—(**evkqambe**, **w**—ekthambeo)—“utterly amazed” could be amazed in a good way or bad away—intensifier prefix, not just gasted but flabbergasted
 - “Stop being flabbergasted,” “you seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has risen; he is not here.” ‘Look, here, no go tell his disciples and Peter He is going to Galilee. You will see Him there as He told you.’
- run away trembling and amazed?
 - understand the trembling from what they had just seen and heard—amazed, trying to process it all.
 - not telling does not last as we know from the other Gospels
 - their word will not be initially believed—cause more flabbergasting
 - appear to many—to Cephas, the twelve, more than 500 at one time, to James and all the apostles, last of all to Paul—so tells Paul, calling to hold to the message of the gospel He has preached and by which you are being saved (1 Corinthians 15:1-9)

B. Lifted Away—sin

-really died

- that burden, much heavier than a 440 pound piano, or a three or four thousand pound rock—He Himself bore on sins in His flesh on the tree—all of them for all time
- It's the Righteous Holy One for the unrighteous, unholy ones

-raised up just as He said would happen

-“You will see Him, just as He told you.” (Mark 16:7)

-life for those who trust Him

-I am the resurrection and the life he who believes in me will live, even though he dies and whoever lives and believes in me shall never die (John 11:25-26)

-one day the death of death itself—God's Holy Mountain, the new heavens and the new earth—“He will swallow up on this mountain the covering that is cast over all peoples, the veil that is spread over all nations, He will swallow up death forever.” (Isaiah 25:7, 8a)

C. Looking Up and Lifted Up

-looking up to the One lifted up and raised up, ascended up

-the burden of our sin and guilt is lifted from us completely—Jesus took it all—
stone of sin has been rolled away

-fear of death as our Lord has conquered death

-looking up to the One interceding for us right now

-lifted up

-our eyes lifted up to God's Word as our guide and our strength

-means some burdens are removed, burdened down by pursuing the
path of sin, freedom from that

-be other burdens that come from being in this fallen creation

-bear up one another—rejoice with those who rejoice, and mourn with those
who mourn

-strength we have in Christ can handle (for it is beyond us, outside of us) that
piano or Murphy's law squared, even cubed

-look up the stone has been rolled away—away with sin and sorrow

The Resurrection of our Lord
April 1, 2018

Text: Mark 16:1-8

Theme: “Who Will Roll Away the Stone?”

Let's do some lifting today. Let's start small. See I can lift this Easter lily, why I can even lift two. I can pick up the offering plate without any difficulty. I usually can handle them after they have been used for collecting gifts. There's this cinder block over here in the corner. I put my computer on that to record the service sometimes. It's quite a bit heavier, but I can still lift it. Let's go to something bigger. Let's try the piano. This piano is a Baldwin Hamilton model. The Internet tells me it weighs about 440 pounds. It has handles, made to be picked up, so let's do it. Of course I'm only lifted half of that 440 pounds. Now James Cooper will come up here, get a grip on the other end and we will carry it around like we are priests carrying the Ark of the Covenant. “April Fool.”

Well today's text is about heavy lifting, no fooling. The women on their way to the tomb remember another problem other than the fact they were on the way to the tomb. The stone, the stone that blocked the entrance to the tomb, who would roll that away? It's my understand that this large round stone was held by blocks to keep it from rolling down in front of the doorway. When the body had been placed in the tomb the blocks were removed and the stone rolled down into a keyway cut in front of that door. Gravity put it right in place and gravity held it there. If the stone were only 5 feet in diameter and a foot thick it would weigh almost 3000 pounds. If it were 6 feet in diameter that weight would be over 4000 pounds. These women were quite burdened down and now they had another burden before them, quite a heavy one.

Who would roll away the stone? The women were familiar with how such nice tombs were secured. It is very likely they had seen this very stone put into place. But when you are in such distress, as loaded down as they were in dark thinking things just get jumbled. They did not remember until they were on the way. Actually it should have been even harder than they thought. They weren't aware of that Roman guard that had been posted. They could not just walk up and say, "Kind sirs, would it be asking too much for you to roll back the stone so we can anoint the body?"

These women were quite loaded down. But as they approach the tomb it may well have become heavier. The stone was rolled back. This was not a comforting sight. It could well mean someone had stolen the body. Could the Jewish leaders do such a thing? Could they have taken the body and thrown it outside the city on the garbage heap for the birds of the air to pick out and the dogs to devour? Yes, they doing some heavy lifting, and it was not by their choice.

What's weighing on us today? Is it some big burden or a series of smaller ones? Is it both these things and more in combination? Does the state of our society burden us? Are we concerned about the spread of the Gospel or the lack thereof? Are we burdened by the constant temptation to be conformed to the world instead of being transformed by the Spirit from within—burdened with the many failures in this matter? Instead of testing to discern what the will of God is in light of God's Word to learn what is good and acceptable and perfect, is there testing to see how far one can venture into what is bad, unacceptable, and imperfect?

What else may be loading us down? Are there health, money, or relationship issues? There may be those transitions that can bring more weight. We experience such things as a new location, a new job, or both. There is the empty nest or retirement. There is a whole

different burden that comes with the loss of loved ones. Are we fully loaded? And now one more comes our way, "No thank you, I'm pretty low to the ground already."

We look down and we look right past, or maybe below the blessings right in front of us. We see people with bigger problems that help us put ours in perspective. It's not that we pray others have more problems so we don't feel so badly about ours, yet it is a reminder that there for the grace of God go I. When it comes to problems I'm always getting less that I deserve. Look up to the blessings right now before us. We are brothers and sisters in Christ here together on this wonderful day. We have family and friends. We have food and drink, clothing and shoes, house and home, means of transportation, so many beautiful and interesting things before us.

But we miss this if we are always looking down, or don't fully appreciate it. The arthritis is on the increase and good feelings on the decrease. It's not that I'm hurting from trying to lift the piano, feels as though someone dropped that thing on me. Is it Murphy's Law squared?

If left to ourselves it is not a cheery outlook at all, no, a very burdensome one. Death is always out there casting its shadow over and one day sucking in. We read in Proverbs 30:15-16, The leech has two daughters; "Give" and "Give," they cry. Three things are never satisfied; four never say, "Enough":¹⁶ Sheol, the barren womb, the land never satisfied with water, and the fire that never says, "Enough." Never enough, death never satisfied, an endless appetite for yet one more.

But wait, things are looking up as the woman are about to find out. The stone has been rolled away. This is not the first time in the Gospels we have seen the rolling away of a stone from the tomb. We go back to John 11. It's not early morning in this case. It's sometime in the daylight. Jesus and His disciples have arrived at the town of His friend

Lazarus, His dead friend Lazarus. Both of Lazarus' sisters say the same thing to Jesus, "Lord, if you have been here, my brother would not have died." (John 11:21, 32) There are more than a few people at the tomb. Mourners had followed Mary out there when she had left for the tomb hearing Jesus was present. Jesus gives the word, "Take away the stone." (vs 38) Martha responds in effect, 'Are you kidding me? The body has been in there for four days. We won't like what comes out (stench).' But she was wrong. She loved what was coming out, her brother Lazarus. Jesus calls forth and he comes forth, alive.

Many believed in Jesus after this great sign. The Jewish leadership goes into turbo mode to find a way to put a stop to it all. The High Priest, Caiaphas speaks his famous words, "It is better for you that one man die for the people, not that the whole nation should perish." (John 11:50b) Of course the one man did die. He is lifted up for all to see on the cross. He is dead and buried for anyone to see, these women included, the burying being led by Nicodemus and Joseph of Arimathea. Joseph donates his own garden tomb, secured by the stone and then made more secure by the Roman guard.

The guard was to keep thieves out, not to keep the body in. That was not foreseen as a possibility. The Jewish leaders were afraid that Jesus' followers would come and steal the body and say he had risen making the last deception worse than the first. But it's not deception, no, it's resurrection. The stone is rolled back. Matthew tells us it's the work of one angel, maybe that one who speaks to women. We read the women were alarmed, could be translated "utterly amazed," could be amazed in a good way or a bad way. The Greek word has a intensifier prefix (εἰς, ekthambeo), not just "gasted" but "flabbergasted."

The angel speaks, ‘Stop being flabbergasted, you seek Jesus of Nazareth who was crucified. He has risen; He is not here.’ (vs 6) ‘Look, here, now go tell His disciples and Peter He is going to Galilee. You will see Him there as He told you.’ (vs 7) The women flee trembling and amazed. We can understand the trembling and amazement part considering what they had just experienced. They are trying to process it all, but not telling, what do we make of that? We know from the other Gospels the not telling does not last for long, but even as they tell they are not initially believed, leads to more flabbergasting.

Jesus appeared to many. It was Cephas and then the Twelve, then more than 500 at one time, then to James, then to all the apostles and last of all to Paul, so tells Paul as he calls his readers to hold to the message of the gospel He has preached and by which they are being saved. (1 Corinthians 15:1-9)

Yes, the stone was rolled away. Sin has been lifted away. Jesus bore them, all of them. He Himself bore our sins in His body on the tree. He bore all of them for all time. It is the Righteous Holy One for the unrighteous, unholy ones. Our sin load was much greater than a 440 pound piano, or a three or four thousand pound rock. Jesus was to die in atoning for this load, but now He is raised up just as He said would happen, said it more than once. There is life for those who trust in Him. He says, “I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live even though he dies and whoever lives and believes in me will never die.” (John 11:25-26) The day comes when death itself dies. Isaiah foresaw it and wrote about it as he spoke of God’s holy mountain. “He will swallow up on this mountain the covering that is cast over all people, the veil that has spread over all nations, He will swallow up death forever.” (Isaiah 25:7, 8a)

We look up to the One lifted up, raised up and now ascended up on high. The burden of our sin and guilt has been lifted from us completely. Jesus bore it all, the stone of our sin has been rolled away. The stone of the fear of death sent tumbling down the hill. We are looking up to the One interceding for us right now.

Our eyes are lifted to God's Word as our guide and our strength. Here the burdens of pursuing the path of sin are removed. We have been redeemed from that. There are plenty of burdens that come along in this fallen world occupied by fallen people. We as brothers and sisters bear up one another. We rejoice with those who rejoice and mourn with those who mourn. We bear these loads only with the strength we have in our Lord Jesus. It's by His strength, in our resurrected Jesus, that we bear up under that piano or Murphy's Law squared or even cubed.

Look up. The stone has been rolled away. Away with sin and sorrow! For Jesus' sake. Amen