

Now, there was a man named Joseph, a member of the Council, a good and upright man, who had not consented to their decision and action. He came from the Judean town of Arimathea, and he was waiting for the kingdom of God. Going to Pilate he asked for Jesus' body, then he took it down, wrapped it in linen cloth and placed it in a tomb cut in the rock, one in which no-one had yet been laid. It was preparation day and the Sabbath was about to begin. The women who had come with Jesus from Galilee, followed Joseph and saw the tomb and how his body was laid in it. Then they went home and prepared spices and perfumes, but they rested on the Sabbath, in obedience to the commandment.

Christ is risen! Alleluia!

**He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

Let us celebrate with Easter joy! Not out of habit. Not just thinking about chocolate and fun today, but with a brand new awareness of Christ's presence with us as our loving and risen Lord!

Lord of the Church, Lord of our lives, and  
Lord of the world:

Christ is risen! Alleluia!

**He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**



Leader Jesus is Risen, so what do we say!

**People Jesus is risen!**

Leader But he was dead!

**People Jesus is risen!**

Leader Nailed to a cross

**People Jesus is risen!**

Leader Laid in a grave

**People Jesus is risen!**

Leader Dead for 3 days

**People Jesus is risen!**

Leader

And now he's alive!

**People**

**Jesus is risen!**

Leader

Death overcome!

**People**

**Jesus is risen!**

Leader

Hope for us all!

**People**

**Jesus is risen!**

Leader

Shout with one voice!

**All**

**Jesus is risen! Alleluia!**

**AMEN !**

## Lent Cross for Easter Day

Galatians 2:20

I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me.

The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

On this resurrection day we transform the Lenten cross of suffering into the glory of new life in Christ.

*The symbols are removed in turn:*

We remove from the cross the bag of money.  
Jesus has purchased our salvation.

We remove from the cross the towel and the bowl.  
Jesus is the servant King.

We remove from the cross the cup of suffering.  
Jesus took up our pain and bore our suffering.

We remove from the cross the whip.  
By his wounds we are healed.

We remove from the cross the crown of thorns.  
Jesus now wears the crown of glory. (Place flower  
crown)

We remove from the cross the palm branches.  
We lift them high to welcome the risen Lord.

We remove from the cross the nails.  
Death could not pin him down.

Jesus has been transformed from death to life.  
We shall follow where he has led.



Let us join in the prayer on screen:  
Let us pray.

We come to worship the risen Lord.

**We come with our strengths and our  
weaknesses,  
Our confidence and our uncertainty,  
Our laughter and our tears,  
Our hopes and our disappointments.  
We come alone, and we come together**

For the risen Christ calls us to be his friends,  
his disciples and his witnesses.

With joy we proclaim:

Alleluia! Christ is risen

**He is risen indeed. Alleluia!**



# **Stone 1 (Betrayed)**

## **Mark 14, vs 43-45**

**Just as he was speaking, Judas, one of the Twelve, appeared. With him was a crowd armed with swords and clubs, sent from the chief priests, the teachers of the law, and the elders. Now the betrayer had arranged a signal with them: "The one I kiss is the man; arrest him and lead him away under guard." Going at once to Jesus, Judas said, "Rabbi!" and kissed him.**

# **Stone 2 (Arrested)**

**Mark 14, vs 46**

**The men seized Jesus and arrested him.**

**Jesus was arrested and taken away from his disciples.**

**They must have felt confused, shocked and frightened.**

**What would happen next?**

# **Stone 3 (Crucified)**

**Mark 15, vs 25-26**

**It was nine in the morning when they crucified him. The written notice of the charge against him read:**

**THE KING OF THE JEWS.**

# **Stone 4 (Buried)**

**Mark 15, vs 45-46**

**When he learned from the centurion that it was so, he gave the body to Joseph. So Joseph bought some linen cloth, took down the body, wrapped it in the linen, and placed it in a tomb cut out of rock. Then he rolled a stone against the entrance of the tomb.**



# **Stone 5 (Hopeless)**

**John 20, vs 11-13**

**Now Mary stood outside the tomb crying. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb and saw two angels in white, seated where Jesus' body had been, one at the head and the other at the foot.**

**They asked her, "Woman, why are you crying?"**

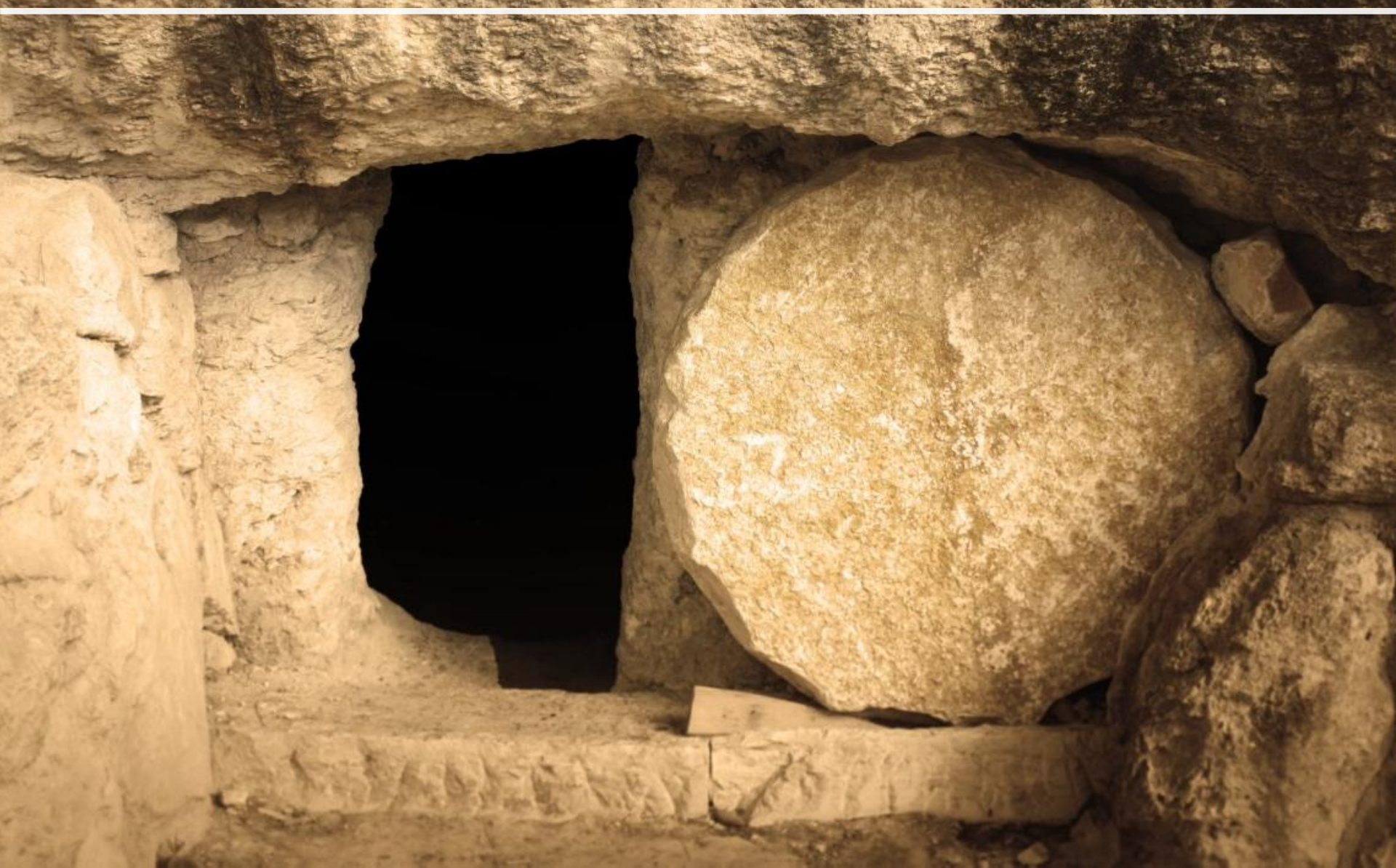
**"They have taken my Lord away," she said, and I don't know where they have put him."**

A vibrant sunrise scene over a lush green field. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a bright, golden glow that reflects on the grass. In the background, three crosses are visible on a hill. The text "HE IS RISEN" is overlaid in large, bold, purple letters across the center of the image.

HE IS RISEN



**When we feel trapped...**





**When we can't let go of our burdens...**





**When we can't see a way forward...**







**When we just don't understand what's going on ...**





**When we doubt our faith ...**

A person in a dark robe is seen from behind, looking towards a cross on a hill. The scene is set at sunrise or sunset, with a bright, hazy sky and a silhouette of the person in the foreground. The text "THE HOPE OF EASTER REMAINS" is overlaid in white, with "EASTER" in a larger font.

THE HOPE OF  
**EASTER**  
REMAINS