

## Easter Sunrise Service Challenge/Program

### Get up to see the sunrise.

(Portugal 7:04; Spain 7:41)

- Find the window in your house that will allow you to see the sun rise.
- Prepare your heart and mind for the significance of this moment.
- Take a deep breath; three times
- Read this song out loud



Alleluia!



Christ the Lord is risen today, Alleluia!  
Earth and heaven in chorus say, Alleluia!  
Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia!  
Sing, ye heavens, and earth reply, Alleluia!

Love's redeeming work is done, Alleluia!  
Fought the fight, the battle won, Alleluia!  
Death in vain forbids him rise, Alleluia!  
Christ has opened paradise, Alleluia!

Lives again our glorious King, Alleluia!  
Where, O death, is now thy sting? Alleluia!  
Once he died our souls to save, Alleluia!  
Where's thy victory, boasting grave? Alleluia!

Soar we now where Christ has led, Alleluia!  
Following our exalted Head, Alleluia!  
Made like him, like him we rise, Alleluia!  
Ours the cross, the grave, the skies, Alleluia!

*Text:* Charles Wesley, 1707–1788

*Music:* Anon., *Lyra Davidica*, 1708

## SAP Command

### Easter 2020/ Pascua 2020/ Páscoa 2020

**Now sit in silence; Consider these things:**

- Christ, Arose for us (me)
- Christ, Loves us (me) immensely
- Because of this we (I) will love others
- Because of this we (I) will tell others

### **Prayer of Thanksgiving:**

*Philippians 4:5-7 The Voice (VOICE)*

*Keep your gentle nature so that all people will know what it looks like to walk in His footsteps. The Lord is ever present with us. Don't be anxious about things; instead, pray. Pray about everything. He longs to hear your requests, so talk to God about your needs and be thankful for what has come. And know that the peace of God (a peace that is beyond any and all of our human understanding) will stand watch over your hearts and minds in Jesus, the Anointed One.*

### **Sing or listen to this song**

*If you are able to find this on your phone or computer sing this song together:*

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g5hN\\_m55uoM](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g5hN_m55uoM)



### **Here I Am To Worship**

Hillsong Worship

Light of the world  
You stepped down into darkness  
Opened my eyes, let me see  
Beauty that made this heart adore You  
Hope of a life spent with You

Here I am to worship  
Here I am to bow down  
Here I am to say that You're my God  
You're altogether lovely  
Altogether worthy  
Altogether wonderful to me

King of all days  
Oh so highly exalted  
Glorious in heaven above  
Humbly You came to the earth You created  
All for love's sake became poor

Well, I'll never know how much it cost  
To see my sin upon that cross (X 4)

Songwriters: Tim Hughes  
Here I Am To Worship lyrics © Capitol  
Christian Music Group

## SAP Command

### Easter 2020/ Pascua 2020/ Páscoa 2020

Do one or all of the following ideas:

- ✓ Share another in the room with you or with another by phone or text:

I love Jesus and this is why...?

- ✓ Write a letter or journal

Dear Jesus, I am so thankful for this day because....

- ✓ Record a message to share with another

With recording device share a testimony that could be sent to someone who needs encouragement.

*Example: I love you because God loves me and because on this day we are reminded of that great love. May you be blessed and encouraged this day.*



### Families with Children (Option)

Gather these items

- White Napkins or Paper Towels
- Crayons, Colored Pencils, Markers
- Clothes Pins

On the napkin or paper towel – take time to design and color and while you are each doing so talk about this idea of new life

Start with asking about the caterpillar. (If you can show one to the children, great.)

Consider the caterpillar

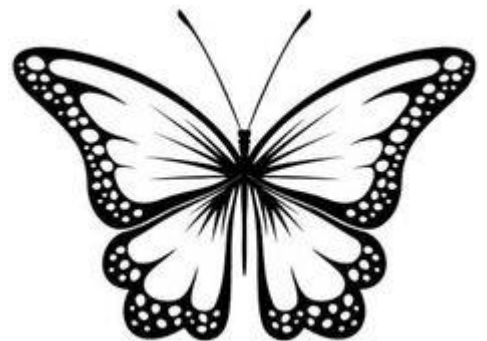
What does it do?

What does it eat?

What does it become?

When it turns into a butterfly, it is a new creature?

This reminds us about new life in Christ. Because of what happened on Resurrection Sunday. Jesus, the Messiah, died (Friday) for all and rose again on Sunday. He did this because He loved us so much. And desires each one of us to have new life in Him just like the caterpillar.



Now take your colorful napkin or paper towel and crunch it together top to bottom and put it into the clothes pin. It should look like a butterfly and our reminder today of new life in Christ.

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#### Scripture: Matthew 27:45 – 54 (The Voice)

And then, starting at noon, the entire land became dark. It was dark for three hours. In the middle of the dark afternoon, Jesus cried out in a loud voice. Jesus: Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani—My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?

Bystanders: He's calling on Elijah.

One bystander grabbed a sponge, steeped it in vinegar, stuck it on a reed, and gave Jesus the vinegar to drink.

Others: We'll see—we'll see if Elijah is going to come and rescue Him.

And then Jesus cried out once more, loudly, and then He breathed His last breath. At that instant, the temple curtain was torn in half, from top to bottom. The earth shook; rocks split in two; tombs burst open, and bodies of many sleeping holy women and men were raised up. After Jesus' resurrection, they came out of their tombs, went into the holy city of Jerusalem, and showed themselves to people.

When the Centurion and soldiers who had been charged with guarding Jesus felt the earthquake and saw the rocks splitting and the tombs opening, they were, of course, terrified.

Soldiers: He really was God's Son.



#### ***The Curtain Torn for Us.***

The Shadow of the Cross reveals just how limited we are with God. There is a giant chasm between us and our creator created by sin. But today we can claim the cross that Jesus died on is our bridge to God.

The curtain was a symbol of separation if us and

God as well.

*Within the Holy Place of the tabernacle, there was an inner room called the Holy of Holies, or the Most Holy Place. Judging from its name, we can see that it was a most sacred room, a place no ordinary person could enter.*

*A thick curtain separated the Holy of Holies from the Holy Place. This curtain, known as the "veil," was made of fine linen and blue, purple and scarlet yarn. The picture of the veil was that of a barrier between man and God, showing man that the holiness of God could not be trifled with. The veil was a barrier to make sure that man could not carelessly and irreverently enter into God's awesome presence.*

<https://www.goodseed.com/holy-of-holies-and-the-veil.html>

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One day a year, the high priest could enter the Holy of Holies to pay atonement for Israel. The message of the curtain is that we cannot go where God is and only can be free of sin by having this High Priest go in for us.

Goodseed goes on to say:

*So the presence of God remained shielded from man behind a thick curtain during the history of Israel. However, Jesus' sacrificial death on the cross changed that. When He died, the curtain in the Jerusalem temple was torn in half, from the top to the bottom. Only God could have carried out such an incredible feat because the veil was too high for human hands to have reached it, and too thick to have torn it. (The Jerusalem temple, a replica of the wilderness tabernacle, had a curtain that was about 60 feet in height, 30 feet in width and four inches thick.) Furthermore, it was torn from top down, meaning this act must have come from above.*

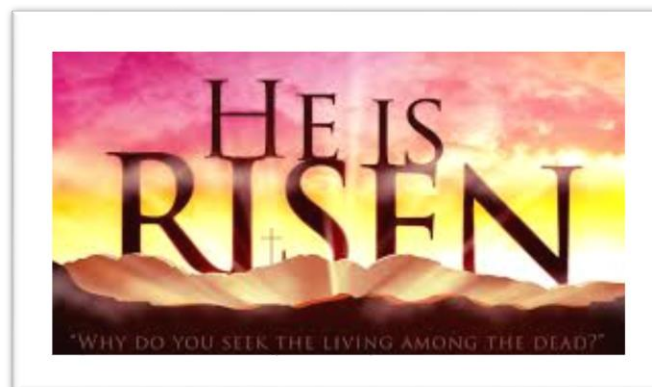
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The curtain is torn and reveals how much God wants to bridge the gap. It is no coincidence that the curtain is torn when Jesus died. There was no longer a big distance between God and people. The curtain is torn from top to bottom as mentioned above, no human could have torn the curtain this way. Just like no human could overcome their own limitations and reach God on their own. Not only did the torn curtain mean that God was revealed, it meant that access to God wasn't limited to a few priests.

The message for us then is that the church and its people cannot put up new curtains.

Colossians 3.11 (The Voice) reminds us that we are all equal. *"In this re-creation there is no distinction between Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian and conqueror, or slave and free because the Anointed is the whole and dwells in us all."* It is not our job as the church to decide who is in or out. We are all called to introduce people to the one who tore the curtain. Consider on a personal level what obstacles do we put up the prevent us from fully embracing this complete access to God.

**Written by: Captain Jaclyn (Davisson) Holloway & Lt. Colonel Sheila Davisson**



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**Take a moment to reflect on this idea and then pray.**

Prayer:

God, we are so thankful for this day and we claim complete access to you because the curtain was torn for me (us). Jesus bridged the gap with the cross and the torn curtain provide the way to You, God. May we continue to come to you and reflect to others in our lives the change that this makes.

**Closing with listening/singing this song.**

#### **This Is Amazing Grace**

**Phil Wickham**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zPQKj2Zptr0>

Who breaks the power of sin and darkness  
Whose love is mighty and so much stronger  
The King of Glory, the King above all kings  
Who shakes the whole earth with holy thunder  
And leaves us breathless in awe and wonder  
The King of Glory, the King above all kings

This is amazing grace  
This is unfailing love  
That You would take my place  
That You would bear my cross  
You lay down Your life  
That I would be set free

Oh, Jesus, I sing for  
All that You've done for me

Who brings our chaos back into order  
Who makes the orphan a son and daughter  
The King of Glory, the King of Glory  
Who rules the nations with truth and justice  
Shines like the sun in all of its brilliance  
The King of Glory, the King above all kings

Worthy is the Lamb who was slain  
Worthy is the King who conquered the grave

**And Go in Peace – Alleluia the curtain is torn and Christ has risen.**



Created by Sheila Davisson, Lt Colonel 2020