



ABOUT THE LITURGY

This is a simple liturgy for your own personal Easter Sunrise service.

Why sunrise? Every year, thousands of people celebrate Easter at sunrise because the women discovered the empty tomb early in the morning, “while it was still dark” (John 20:1).

So we are each invited and challenged to be like these brave biblical women, to rise in the dark, to recognize the wilderness, and to watch the sun rise over it.

May your morning be holy. May it be authentic. May it be joyful. May it be messy. May it be whatever it is you need on this day. For even though we cannot be near one another at this time, God always draws near to us. Even in the wilderness, God is there. Let us worship Holy God.

SUPPLIES

- A candle
- Matches or a lighter
- Comfy clothes (its okay to stay in your pyjamas)
- A blanket (if it’s chilly)
- Something warm to drink (this is optional, but if you’re getting up for sunrise, you deserve coffee!)

OPENING

Light a Candle & Settle In

As you start your morning, find a comfortable place to settle in and watch the sunrise. Open your front door, sit in your garden, or sit in front of a big window in your kitchen/living room.

Once there, light a candle. Allow this candle lighting to be a spiritual reminder that this place is a place set apart.

This is a moment set apart, for even though the sun will rise, we, like the women at the tomb, begin our journey in the dark.

Allow the flame to remind you that even in the darkest times, love and light find a way

READ John 20:1-18 as you read, pick out a word or phrase that stands out for you. Share that word or phrase with those around you, or jot it down below.

REFLECT on the following prompts.

You can either jot these down in a journal, or below, mull them over in your mind as the sun rises, or discuss them with any family members present.

1) What are your Easter morning traditions? Why is this morning special to you? What feels different about this morning this year?

2) There are many emotions present in this story—fear, hope, grief, disbelief, awe. What emotions are you feeling today? Put words to those emotions. Share with your family or write them down.

3) Jesus says to Mary, “Who is it you are looking for?” What is the ‘something’ you are looking for in your faith journey, in your life, in your relationships, or in your own self-growth?

4) Mary ends her discussion with Jesus with a declaration: “I have seen the Lord.” It is a statement of faith, a statement of hope, a statement of trust. Where do you see God? Where have you seen God in years past, and where do you see God this very morning?

PRAY Easter is a day of new beginnings and new life. It is a day for hope and love that overflows. It is a day of gratitude for the days we’ve had and the days to come. It is a day where we remember that love is stronger than hate, and death does not have the last word. Therefore, it only seems appropriate to take a moment to practice gratitude.

Listen to the birds chirping. Take a moment to appreciate the rising sun, and as you do, write down a list of ten things you are grateful for.

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Allow this to be your prayer.

SENDING Passing of the Peace: We cannot be physically close to one another in this time, but we can be relationally close. So on this Easter morning, you are invited to pass the peace with your church family and loved ones by taking a moment to text or call people and let them know you are thinking about them. If you wish you can share some of your thoughts from this reflection

Additional Thought: This Easter Sunday is unlike any we have ever seen. We are not in the company of our church family, and yet we trust that God is still here. So if are able to you are invited to document this moment, take a

photo of your space—of the candle, the sunrise, (which you can share with family/friends on whatsapp, facebook, email etc)