

ANNUNCIATION

March 25

LUKE 1

descendants of Jacob forever; his kingdom will never end!"

³⁴Mary said to the angel, "I am a virgin. How, then, can this be?"

³⁵The angel answered, "The Holy Spirit will come on you, and God's power will rest upon you. For this reason the holy child will be called the Son of God. ³⁶Remember your relative Elizabeth. It is said that she cannot have children, but she herself is now six months pregnant, even though she is very old. ³⁷For there is nothing that God cannot do."

³⁸"I am the Lord's servant," said Mary; "may it happen to me as you have said." And the angel left her.

Mary Visits Elizabeth

³⁹Soon afterward Mary got ready and hurried off to a town in the hill country of Judea. ⁴⁰She went into Zechariah's house and greeted Elizabeth. ⁴¹When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the baby moved within her. Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. ⁴²and said in a loud voice, "You are the most blessed of all women, and blessed is the child you will bear! ⁴³Why should this great thing happen to me, that my Lord's mother comes to visit me? ⁴⁴For as soon as I heard your greeting, the baby within me jumped with gladness. ⁴⁵How happy you are to believe that the Lord's message to you will come true!"

Mary's Song of Praise

⁴⁶Mary said,
"My heart praises the Lord;
⁴⁷ my soul is glad because of
God my Savior,
⁴⁸ for he has remembered me,
his lowly servant!
From now on all people will call
me happy,

⁴⁹ because of the great things
the Mighty God has
done for me.

⁵⁰ His name is holy;
from one generation to
another
he shows mercy to those who
honor him.

⁵¹ He has stretched out his
mighty arm
and scattered the proud with
all their plans.

⁵² He has brought down mighty
kings from their thrones,
and lifted up the lowly.

⁵³ He has filled the hungry with
good things,
and sent the rich away with
empty hands.

⁵⁴ He has kept the promise he
made to our ancestors,
and has come to the help of
his servant Israel.

⁵⁵ He has remembered to show
mercy to Abraham
and to all his descendants
forever!"

⁵⁶Mary stayed about three months
with Elizabeth and then went back
home.

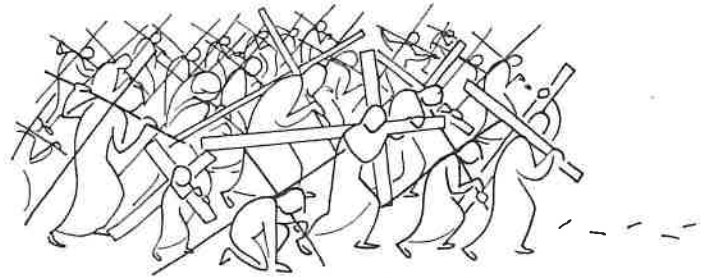
The Birth of Jesus Is Announced

God sent the angel Gabriel to a town in Galilee named Nazareth.

²⁷He had a message for a young woman promised in marriage to a man named Joseph, who was a descendant of King David. Her name was Mary. ²⁸The angel came to her and said, "Peace be with you! The Lord is with you and has greatly blessed you!"

²⁹Mary was deeply troubled by the angel's message, and she wondered what his words meant. ³⁰The angel said to her, "Don't be afraid, Mary; God has been gracious to you. ³¹You will become pregnant and give birth to a son, and you will name him Jesus. ³²He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High God. The Lord God will make him a king, as his ancestor David was, ³³and he will be the king of the

3RD SUNDAY
OF GREAT LENT
(Mark 8:34-38, 9:1)



... you must forget yourself, carry your cross, and follow me. (8.34)

Jesus Heals a Blind Man at Bethsaida

²²They came to Bethsaida, where some people brought a blind man to Jesus and begged him to touch him. ²³Jesus took the blind man by the hand and led him out of the village. After spitting on the man's eyes, Jesus placed his hands on him and asked him, "Can you see anything?"

²⁴The man looked up and said, "Yes, I can see people, but they look like trees walking around."

²⁵Jesus again placed his hands on the man's eyes. This time the man looked intently, his eyesight returned, and he saw everything clearly. ²⁶Jesus then sent him home with the order, "Don't go back into the village."

Peter's Declaration about Jesus

(Matthew 16.13-20; Luke 9.18-21)

²⁷Then Jesus and his disciples went away to the villages near Caesarea Philippi. On the way he asked them, "Tell me, who do people say I am?"

²⁸"Some say that you are John the Baptist," they answered; "others say that you are Elijah, while others say that you are one of the prophets."

²⁹"What about you?" he asked them. "Who do you say I am?"

Peter answered, "You are the Messiah."

³⁰Then Jesus ordered them, "Do not tell anyone about me."

Jesus Speaks about His Suffering and Death

(Matthew 16.21-28; Luke 9.22-27)

³¹Then Jesus began to teach his disciples: "The Son of Man must suffer much and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the teachers of the Law. He will be put to death, but three days later he will rise to life." ³²He made this very clear to them. So Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. ³³But Jesus turned around, looked at his disciples, and rebuked Peter. "Get away from me, Satan," he said. "Your thoughts don't come from God but from human nature!"

³⁴Then Jesus called the crowd and his disciples to him. "If any of you want to come with me," he told them, "you must forget yourself, carry your cross, and follow me. ³⁵For if you want to save your own life, you will lose it; but if you lose your life for me and for the gospel, you will save it. ³⁶Do you gain anything if you win the whole world but lose your life? Of course not! ³⁷There is nothing you can give to regain your life. ³⁸If you are ashamed of me and of my teaching in this godless and wicked day, then the Son of Man will be ashamed of you when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."

9 And he went on to say, "I tell you, there are some here who will not die until they have seen the Kingdom of God come with power."

4TH SUNDAY
OF LENT
MARK 9:17-31

can! Everything is possible for the person who has faith.

²⁴The father at once cried out, "I do have faith, but not enough. Help me have more!"

²⁵Jesus noticed that the crowd was closing in on them, so he gave a command to the evil spirit. "Deaf and dumb spirit," he said, "I order you to come out of the boy and never go into him again!"

²⁶The spirit screamed, threw the boy into a bad fit and came out. The boy looked like a corpse, and everyone said, "He is dead!" ²⁷But Jesus took the boy by the hand and helped him rise, and he stood up.

²⁸After Jesus had gone indoors, his disciples asked him privately, "Why couldn't we drive the spirit out?"

²⁹"Only prayer can drive this kind out," answered Jesus; "nothing else can."

Jesus Speaks Again about His Death

(Matthew 17:22, 23; Luke 9:43b-45)

³⁰Jesus and his disciples left that place and went on through Galilee. Jesus did not want anyone to know where he was, ³¹because he was teaching his disciples: "The Son of Man will be handed over to those who will kill him. Three days later, however, he will rise to life."

³²But they did not understand what this teaching meant, and they were afraid to ask him.

Who Is the Greatest?

(Matthew 18:1-5; Luke 9:46-48)

³³They came to Capernaum, and after going indoors Jesus asked his disciples, "What were you arguing about on the road?"

³⁴But they would not answer him, because on the road they had been arguing among themselves about who was the greatest. ³⁵Jesus sat down,

Jesus Heals a Boy with an Evil Spirit

(Matthew 17:14-21; Luke 9:37-43a)

¹⁴When they joined the rest of the disciples, they saw a large crowd around them and some teachers of the Law arguing with them. ¹⁵When the people saw Jesus, they were greatly surprised, and ran to him and greeted him. ¹⁶Jesus asked his disciples, "What are you arguing with them about?"

¹⁷A man in the crowd answered, "Teacher, I brought my son to you, because he has an evil spirit in him and cannot talk. ¹⁸Whenever the spirit attacks him, it throws him to the ground, and he foams at the mouth, grinds his teeth, and becomes stiff all over. I asked your disciples to drive the spirit out, but they could not."

¹⁹Jesus said to them, "How unbelieving you people are! How long must I stay with you? How long do I have to put up with you? Bring the boy to me!" ²⁰They brought him to Jesus.

As soon as the spirit saw Jesus, it threw the boy into a fit, so that he fell on the ground and rolled around, foaming at the mouth. ²¹"How long has he been like this?" Jesus asked the father.

"Ever since he was a child," he replied. ²²"Many times the evil spirit has tried to kill him by throwing him in the fire and into water. Have pity on us and help us, if you possibly can!"

²³"Yes," said Jesus, "if you yourself

HOLY WEEK - The Betrayal

MATTHEW 26

Judas Agrees to Betray Jesus (Mark 14.10, 11; Luke 22.3-6)

¹⁴Then one of the twelve disciples — the one named Judas Iscariot, — went to the chief priests ¹⁵and asked, "What will you give me if I betray Jesus to you?" They counted out thirty silver coins and gave them to him. ¹⁶From then on Judas was looking for a good chance to hand Jesus over to them.

Jesus Eats the Passover Meal with His Disciples

(Mark 14.12-21; Luke 22.7-13, 21-23;
John 13.21-30)

¹⁷On the first day of the Festival of Unleavened Bread the disciples came to Jesus and asked him, "Where do you want us to get the Passover meal ready for you?"

¹⁸"Go to a certain man in the city," he said to them; "and tell him: 'The Teacher says, My hour has come; my disciples and I will celebrate the Passover at your house.'"

¹⁹The disciples did as Jesus had told them and prepared the Passover meal.

²⁰When it was evening, Jesus and the twelve disciples sat down to eat.

²¹During the meal Jesus said, "I tell you, one of you will betray me."

²²The disciples were very upset and began to ask him, one after the other, "Surely, Lord, you don't mean me?"

²³Jesus answered, "One who dips his bread in the dish with me will betray me. ²⁴The Son of Man will die as the Scriptures say he will, but how terrible for that man who will betray the Son of Man! It would have been better for that man if he had never been born!"

²⁵Judas, the traitor, spoke up. "Surely, Teacher, you don't mean me?" he asked.

Jesus answered, "So you say."

The Lord's Supper

(Mark 14.22-26; Luke 22.14-20;
1-Corinthians 11.23-25)

²⁶While they were eating, Jesus took a piece of bread, gave a prayer of thanks, broke it, and gave it to his disciples. "Take and eat it," he said; "this is my body."

²⁷Then he took a cup, gave thanks to God, and gave it to them. "Drink it, all of you," he said; ²⁸"this is my blood, which seals God's covenant, my blood poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. ²⁹I tell you, I will never again drink this wine until the day I drink the new wine with you in my Father's Kingdom."

³⁰Then they sang a hymn and went out to the Mount of Olives.

Jesus Predicts Peter's Denial

(Mark 14.27-31; Luke 22.31-34;
John 13.36-38)

³¹Then Jesus said to them, "This very night all of you will run away and leave me, for the scripture says, 'God will kill the shepherd, and the sheep of the flock will be scattered.' ³²But after I am raised to life, I will go to Galilee ahead of you."

³³Peter spoke up and said to Jesus, "I will never leave you, even though all the rest do!"

³⁴Jesus said to Peter, "I tell you that before the rooster crows tonight, you will say three times that you do not know me."

³⁵Peter answered, "I will never say that, even if I have to die with you!"

And all the other disciples said the same thing.

Holy Week - The Arrest of Christ

Jesus Prays in Gethsemane (Mark 14:32-42; Luke 22:39-46)

³⁶Then Jesus went with his disciples to a place called Gethsemane, and he said to them, "Sit here while I go over there and pray."³⁷He took with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee. Grief and anguish came over him,³⁸ and he said to them, "The sorrow in my heart is so great that it almost crushes me. Stay here and keep watch with me."

³⁹He went a little farther on, threw himself face downward on the ground, and prayed, "My Father, if it is possible, take this cup of suffering from me! Yet not what I want, but what you want."

⁴⁰Then he returned to the three disciples and found them asleep; and he said to Peter, "How is it that you three were not able to keep watch with me for even one hour?"⁴¹Keep watch and pray that you will not fall into temptation. The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak."

⁴²Once more Jesus went away and prayed, "My Father, if this cup of suf-

fering cannot be taken away unless I drink it, your will be done."⁴³He returned once more and found the disciples asleep; they could not keep their eyes open.

⁴⁴Again Jesus left them, went away, and prayed the third time, saying the same words.⁴⁵Then he returned to the disciples and said, "Are you still sleeping and resting? Look! The hour has come for the Son of Man to be handed over to the power of sinners."⁴⁶Get up, let us go. Look, here is the man who is betraying me!"

The Arrest of Jesus (Mark 14:43-50; Luke 22:47-53; John 18:3-12)

⁴⁷Jesus was still speaking when Judas, one of the twelve disciples, arrived. With him was a large crowd armed with swords and clubs and sent by the chief priests and the elders.⁴⁸The traitor had given the crowd a signal: "The man I kiss is the one you want. Arrest him!"

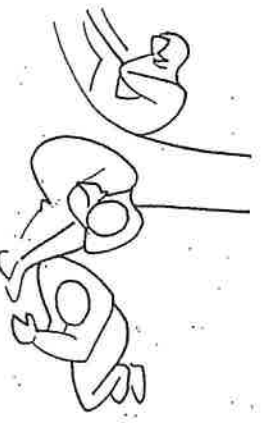
⁴⁹Judas went straight to Jesus and said: "Peace be with you, Teacher," and kissed him.

⁵⁰Jesus answered, "Be quick about it, friend!"^a

Then they came up, arrested Jesus, and held him tight.⁵¹One of those who were with Jesus drew his sword and

struck at the High Priest's slave, cutting off his ear.⁵²"Put your sword back in its place," Jesus said to him. "All who take the sword will die by the sword."⁵³Don't you know that I could call on my Father for help, and at once he would send me more than twelve armies of angels?⁵⁴But in that case, how could the Scriptures come true which say that this is what must happen?"⁵⁵Then Jesus spoke to the crowd, "Did you have to come with swords and clubs to capture me, as though I were an outlaw? Every day I sat down and taught in the Temple, and you did not arrest me."⁵⁶But all this has happened in order to make come true what the prophets wrote in the Scriptures."

Then all the disciples left him and ran away.



They could not keep their eyes open. (26:43)

around and looked straight at Peter, and Peter remembered that the Lord had said to him, "Before the rooster crows tonight, you will say three times that you do not know me."⁵² Peter went out and wept bitterly.

Jesus Is Mocked and Beaten

(Matthew 26:67, 68; Mark 14:65)

⁶³The men who were guarding Jesus made fun of him and beat him.⁶⁴ They blindfolded him and asked him, "Who hit you? Guess!"⁶⁵ And they said many other insulting things to him.

Jesus before the Council

(Matthew 26:59-66; Mark 14:55-64; John 18:19-24)

⁶⁶When day came, the elders, the chief priests, and the teachers of the Law met together, and Jesus was brought before the Council.⁶⁷ "Tell us," they said, "are you the Messiah?"

He answered, "If I tell you, you will not believe me; ⁶⁸and if I ask you a question, you will not answer.⁶⁹ But from now on the Son of Man will be seated at the right side of Almighty God."

⁷⁰They all said, "Are you, then, the Son of God?" He answered them, "You say that I am."

⁷¹And they said, "We don't need any witnesses! We ourselves have heard what he said!"

Jesus before Pilate

(Matthew 27:1, 2, 11-14; Mark 15:1-5; John 18:28-38)

23 The whole group rose up and took Jesus before Pilate, where they began to accuse him: "We caught this man misleading our people, telling them not to pay taxes to the Emperor and claiming that he himself is the Messiah, a king."

³Pilate asked him, "Are you the king of the Jews?"

"So you say," answered Jesus.

⁴Then Pilate said to the chief priests and the crowds, "I find no reason to condemn this man."

⁵But they insisted even more strongly, "With his teaching he is starting a riot among the people all through Judea. He began in Galilee and now has come here."

Jesus before Herod

⁶When Pilate heard this, he asked, "Is this man a Galilean?"⁷ When he learned that Jesus was from the region ruled by Herod, he sent him to Herod, who was also in Jerusalem at that time.

⁸Herod was very pleased when he saw Jesus, because he had heard about him and had been wanting to see him for a long time. He was hoping to see Jesus perform some miracle.⁹ So Herod asked Jesus many questions, but Jesus made no answer.¹⁰ The chief priests and the teachers of the Law stepped forward and made strong accusations against Jesus.¹¹ Herod and his soldiers made fun of Jesus and treated him with contempt; then they put a fine robe on him and sent him back to Pilate.¹² On that very day Herod and Pilate became friends; before this they had been enemies.

Jesus Is Sentenced to Death

(Matthew 27:15-26; Mark 15:6-15; John 18:39-19:16)

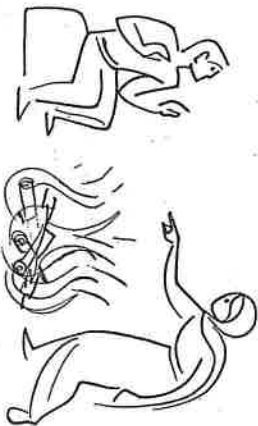
¹³Pilate called together the chief priests, the leaders, and the people,¹⁴ and said to them, "You brought this man to me and said that he was misleading the people. Now, I have examined him here in your presence, and I have not found him guilty of any of the crimes you accuse him of."¹⁵ Nor did Herod find him guilty, for he sent him

Peter Denies Jesus

(Matthew 26:57, 58, 69-75; Mark 14:53, 54, 66-72; John 18:12-18, 25-27)

⁵⁴They arrested Jesus and took him away into the house of the High Priest; and Peter followed at a distance.⁵⁵ A fire had been lit in the center of the courtyard, and Peter joined those who were sitting around it.⁵⁶ When one of the servant women saw him sitting there at the fire, she looked straight at him and said, "This man too was with Jesus!"

⁵⁷But Peter denied it, "Woman, I don't even know him!"



"Woman, I don't even know him!" (22:57)

⁵⁸After a little while a man noticed Peter and said, "You are one of them, too!"

But Peter answered, "Man, I am not!"

⁵⁹And about an hour later another man insisted strongly, "There isn't any doubt that this man was with Jesus, because he also is a Galilean!"

But Peter answered, "Man, I don't know what you are talking about!"

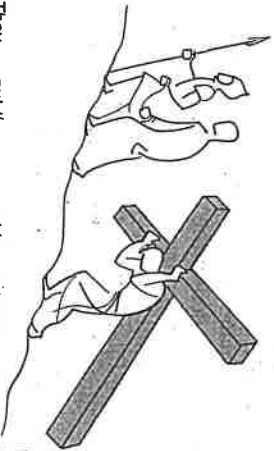
At once, while he was still speaking, a rooster crowed.⁶¹ The Lord turned

Jesus Is Crucified
 (Matthew 27:32-44; Mark 15:21-32;
 John 19:17-27)

²⁶The soldiers led Jesus away, and as they were going, they met a man from Cyrene named Simon who was coming into the city from the country. They seized him, put the cross on him, and made him carry it behind Jesus.

²⁷A large crowd of people followed him; among them were some women who were weeping and waiting for him. ²⁸Jesus turned to them and said, "Women of Jerusalem! Don't cry for me, but for yourselves and your children. ²⁹For the days are coming when people will say, 'How lucky are the women who never had children, who never bore babies, who never nursed

them!' ³⁰That will be the time when people will say to the mountains, 'Fall on us!' and to the hills, 'Hide us!' ³¹For if such things as these are done when the wood is green, what will happen when it is dry?"



They . . . put the cross on him, and made him carry it. (23:26)

³²Two other men, both of them criminals, were also led out to be put to death with Jesus. ³³When they came to the place called "The Skull," they crucified Jesus there, and the two criminals, one on his right and the other on his left. ³⁴Jesus said, "Forgive them, Father! They don't know what they are doing."^e

They divided his clothes among themselves by throwing dice. ³⁵The people stood there watching while the Jewish leaders made fun of him: "He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah whom God has chosen!"

³⁶The soldiers also made fun of him: they came up to him and offered him cheap wine, ³⁷and said, "Save yourself if you are the king of the Jews!"

³⁸Above him were written these words: "This is the King of the Jews."

³⁹One of the criminals hanging there hurled insults at him: "Aren't you the Messiah? Save yourself and us!"

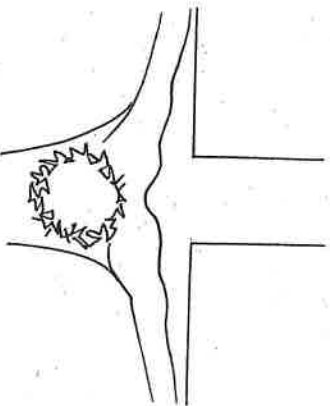
⁴⁰The other one, however, rebuked him, saying, "Don't you fear God? You

received the same sentence he did. ⁴¹Ours, however, is only right, because we are getting what we deserve for what we did; but he has done no wrong." ⁴²And he said to Jesus, "Remember me, Jesus, when you come as King!"

⁴³Jesus said to him, "I promise you that today you will be in Paradise with me."

The Death of Jesus
 (Matthew 27:45-56; Mark 15:33-41;
 John 19:28-30)

⁴⁴⁻⁴⁵It was about twelve o'clock when the sun stopped shining and darkness covered the whole country until three o'clock; and the curtain hanging in the Temple was torn in two. ⁴⁶Jesus cried out in a loud voice, "Father! In your hands I place my spirit!" He said this and died.



"Father! In your hands I place my spirit" (23:46)

⁴⁷The army officer saw what had happened, and he praised God, saying, "Certainly he was a good man!"

⁴⁸When the people who had gathered there to watch the spectacle saw what happened, they all went back home, beating their breasts in sorrow. ⁴⁹All those who knew Jesus personally,

including the women who had followed him from Galilee, stood at a distance to watch.

The Resurrection

(Matthew 28.1-8; Luke 24.1-12;
John 20.1-10)

16 After the Sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices to go and anoint the body of Jesus. ²Very early on Sunday morning, at sunrise, they went to the tomb. ³⁻⁴On the way they said to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?" (It was a very large stone.) Then they looked up and saw that the stone had already been rolled back. ⁵So they entered the tomb, where they saw a young man sitting at the right, wearing a white robe — and they were alarmed.

⁶"Don't be alarmed," he said. "I know you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He is not here — he has been raised! Look, here is the place where he was placed. ⁷Now go and give this message to his disciples, including Peter: 'He is going to Galilee ahead of you; there you will see him, just as he told you.'"

⁸So they went out and ran from the tomb, distressed and terrified. They said nothing to anyone, because they were afraid.



So they went out and ran. (16.8)

The Burial of Jesus

(Matthew 27.57-61; Luke 23.50-56;
John 19.38-42)

⁴²⁻⁴³It was toward evening when Joseph of Arimathea arrived. He was a respected member of the Council, who was waiting for the coming of the Kingdom of God. It was Preparation day (that is, the day before the Sabbath), so Joseph went boldly into the presence of Pilate and asked him for the body of Jesus. ⁴⁴Pilate was surprised to hear that Jesus was already dead. He called the army officer and asked him if Jesus had been dead a long time. ⁴⁵After hearing the officer's report, Pilate told Joseph he could have the body. ⁴⁶Joseph bought a linen sheet, took the body down, wrapped it in the sheet, and placed it in a tomb which had been dug out of solid rock. Then he rolled a large stone across the entrance to the tomb. ⁴⁷Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Joseph were watching and saw where the body of Jesus was placed.

The Empty Tomb

(Matthew 28:1-8; Mark 16:1-8;
Luke 24:1-12)

20 Early on Sunday morning, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene went to the tomb and saw that the stone had been taken away from the entrance. ²She went running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, whom Jesus loved, and told them, "They have taken the Lord from the tomb, and we don't know where they have put him!"

³Then Peter and the other disciple went to the tomb. ⁴The two of them were running, but the other disciple ran faster than Peter and reached the tomb first. ⁵He bent over and saw the linen cloths, but he did not go in. ⁶Behind him came Simon Peter, and he went straight into the tomb. He saw the linen cloths lying there ⁷and the cloth which had been around Jesus' head. It was not lying with the linen cloths but was rolled up by itself. ⁸Then the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went in; he saw and believed. ⁹They still did not understand the scripture which said that he must rise from death. ¹⁰Then the disciples went back home.

Jesus Appears to Mary Magdalene

(Matthew 28:9, 10; Mark 16:9-11)

¹¹Mary stood crying outside the tomb. While she was still crying, she bent over and looked in the tomb ¹²and saw two angels there dressed in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been, one at the head and the other at

the feet. ¹³"Woman, why are you crying?" they asked her.

She answered, "They have taken my Lord away, and I do not know where they have put him!"

¹⁴Then she turned around and saw Jesus standing there; but she did not know that it was Jesus. ¹⁵"Woman, why are you crying?" Jesus asked her. "Who is it that you are looking for?"

She thought he was the gardener, so she said to him, "If you took him away, sir, tell me where you have put him, and I will go and get him."

¹⁶Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned toward him and said in Hebrew, "Rabboni!" (This means "Teacher.")

¹⁷"Do not hold on to me," Jesus told her, "because I have not yet gone back up to the Father. But go to my brothers and tell them that I am returning to him who is my Father and their Father, my God and their God."

¹⁸So Mary Magdalene went and told the disciples that she had seen the Lord and related to them what he had told her.

Jesus Appears to His Disciples

(Matthew 28:16-20; Mark 16:14-18;
Luke 24:36-49)

¹⁹It was late that Sunday evening, and the disciples were gathered together behind locked doors, because they were afraid of the Jewish authorities. Then Jesus came and stood among them. "Peace be with you," he said.

²⁰After saying this, he showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy at seeing the Lord.

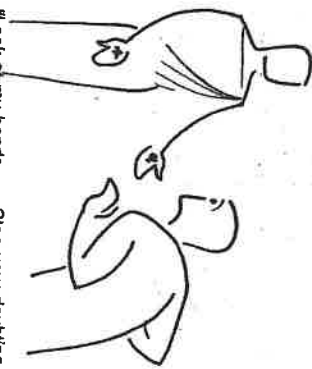
²¹Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father sent me, so I send you." ²²Then he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive people's sins, they are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven."

Jesus and Thomas

²⁴One of the twelve disciples, Thomas (called the Twin), was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord!"

Thomas said to them, "Unless I see the scars of the nails in his hands and put my finger on those scars and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

²⁶A week later the disciples were together again indoors, and Thomas was with them. The doors were locked, but Jesus came and stood among them and said to Thomas, "Put your finger here, and look at my hands; then reach out your hand and put it in my side. Stop your doubting, and believe!"



"Look at my hands... Stop your doubting, and believe" (20:27)

²⁸Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!"

²⁹Jesus said to him, "Do you believe because you see me? How happy are those who believe without seeing me!"

The Purpose of This Book

³⁰In his disciples' presence Jesus performed many other miracles which are not written down in this book. ³¹But these have been written in order that you may believe that Jesus is the

Messiah, the Son of God, and that through your faith in him you may have life.