

Alive!

 **Luke 24.1-12**

Jesus has been crucified and laid in the tomb. The women go to the tomb first and find it empty. They are told by two angels that Jesus has risen. Later Peter goes to see for himself.

Now read **Luke 24.1-12** see p.2 for text.

**A note on the passage**

The last thing that the women expect to find is an empty tomb. They feel confused and terrified, but then the message of the angels gives them a new context for what Jesus had told them, so they begin to understand what has happened.

**GROW**

Save (deep) eggshells to make some cress heads. Keep the cleaned shells steady in an egg box or egg cup. Add damp cotton wool to the inside and sprinkle on cress seeds. Leave in a sunny spot. Think about the emotions of the women and the disciples and, with marker pens, draw appropriate expressions on the eggshells. When the cress has grown, you can retell the story using the eggs as an illustration.

*Write*

Haiku is a form of Japanese poetry made of short, unrhymed lines. The most common is a three-line poem with a 5-7-5 syllable pattern. Write an Easter haiku where the first line describes how the women felt on the way to the tomb, the second line, how they felt at the tomb and the last line, how they felt as they returned to the disciples.



What does the empty cross or tomb mean to you?

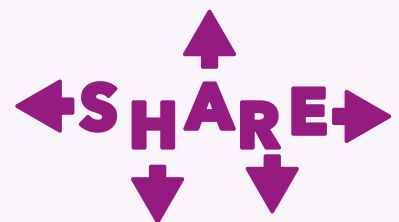


Make some Easter Day chocolate nests.

**You will need:** 225g/8oz chocolate, broken into small pieces, 50g/2oz butter, 1 tbsp golden syrup, 100g/4oz cornflakes, several chocolate mini eggs.

Melt the chocolate and butter in a heatproof bowl over a pan of gently simmering water. Stir in the golden syrup and then remove from the heat. Add the cornflakes a few at a time, stirring well between additions to ensure they're all coated. Spoon the mixture into paper cases and decorate with mini eggs. Chill until set.

As you make the nests, ask yourself how the women felt on their way to the tomb. As you eat them, give thanks that Jesus rose again.



Remember how the women dashed back to tell their friends what had happened. Think of a way that you can share your Easter joy. It can be by making a cake for someone, or giving them a small bunch of flowers – preferably with a simple card which says 'Alleluia He is risen'. If you have been adding things to your Hands-on Lent bowl over the past few weeks, why not share your gifts with others.

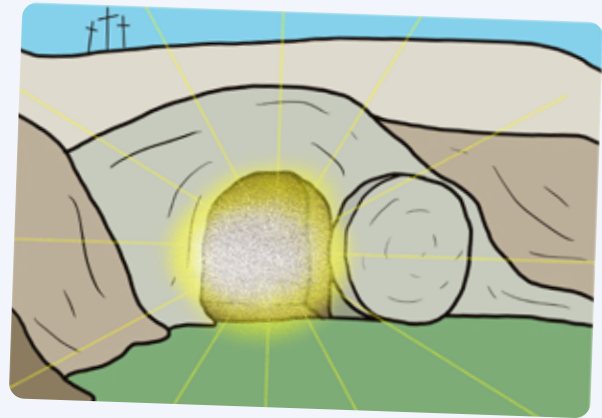
**Be Still**

Find a quiet place to be still. Feel your pulse, and thank God for life. Feel your heartbeat, and thank Jesus for lifegiving love. Feel your breath, and thank the Holy Spirit for the life that is given to you in the Spirit.

Choose a version of the passage to read. The first is the ROOTS version for children, the second is the NRSV text which may be suitable for older children, young people and adults.

**O**n the first day of the week, very early in the morning, Mary Magdalene, Joanna and Mary the mother of James came to the tomb, taking the spices that they had prepared to anoint Jesus' body with. But they found the stone had been rolled away from the tomb, and when they went inside, Jesus' body wasn't there. The women were very confused by this, when suddenly two men in dazzling clothes stood beside them. The women were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, 'Why do you look for the living in a tomb? He is not here. He is risen.'

The men in dazzling clothes continued, 'Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, that the Son of Man must be handed over to be crucified, and on the third day he would rise again?' Then the women remembered Jesus' words. They rushed from the tomb to tell the eleven disciples and others the news. 'Jesus wasn't in the tomb. He is risen!' But the men listening



didn't believe them and thought they were making it up. So Peter got up and ran to the tomb himself. Stooping down to look inside, he saw the linen cloths just lying there by themselves. Then he realised that what the women had said was true. And he went home, amazed at what had happened.

Luke 24.1-12

**Did you know?**

- The women had to wait until the Sunday because Saturday was their special/holy day and they weren't allowed to go.
- To anoint meant to pour oil and rub spices onto Jesus' body.
- The grave wasn't a hole in the ground like we have today. It would have been a cave so it needed a large stone across the front to close it up.
- Son of Man is a title used by Jesus to describe himself.

**Luke 24.1-12 (NRSV)**

But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, they came to the tomb, taking the spices that they had prepared. They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they went in, they did not find the body. While they were perplexed about this, suddenly two men in dazzling clothes stood beside them. The women were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen. Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, that the Son of Man must be handed over to sinners,

and be crucified, and on the third day rise again." Then they remembered his words, and returning from the tomb, they told all this to the eleven and to all the rest. Now it was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the other women with them who told this to the apostles. But these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them. But Peter got up and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; then he went home, amazed at what had happened.