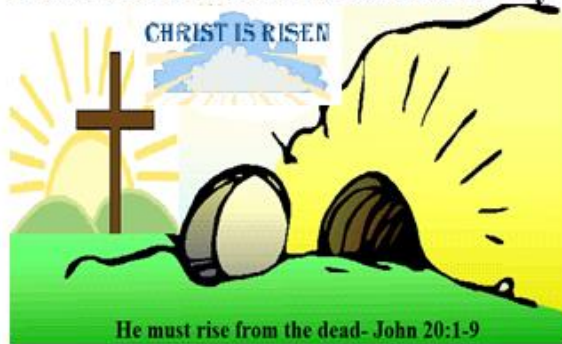


# “The Stone has been Rolled Away!”

## EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD

Children’s liturgy activity April 17<sup>th</sup>, 2022

### The Stone has been Rolled Away



### VERSE OF THE WEEK

Since you have been brought back to true life with Christ, you must look for the things that are in heaven, where Christ is, sitting at God’s right hand  
- Colossians 3:1

#### Gospel: John 20:1-9

In the Gospel today, we see that when Mary Magdalene arrived at the tomb, the stone had been moved away. She ran to Peter and the other disciple that Jesus loved and told ‘They have taken the Lord out of the tomb and we don’t know where they have put him.’ Peter and the other disciple ran together to the tomb. The other disciple ran faster and reached the tomb. He saw the linen cloths lying on the ground, but did not go in. Simon Peter who was following entered the tomb straight away and saw the linen cloths on the ground, and also the cloth that had been over his head; this was not with the linen cloths but rolled up in a place by itself. The other disciple also entered. He saw and he believed. Till this moment they had failed to understand the teaching of scripture, that he must rise from the dead.

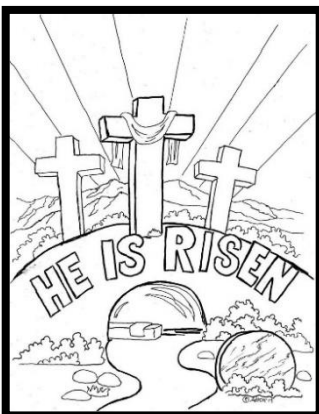
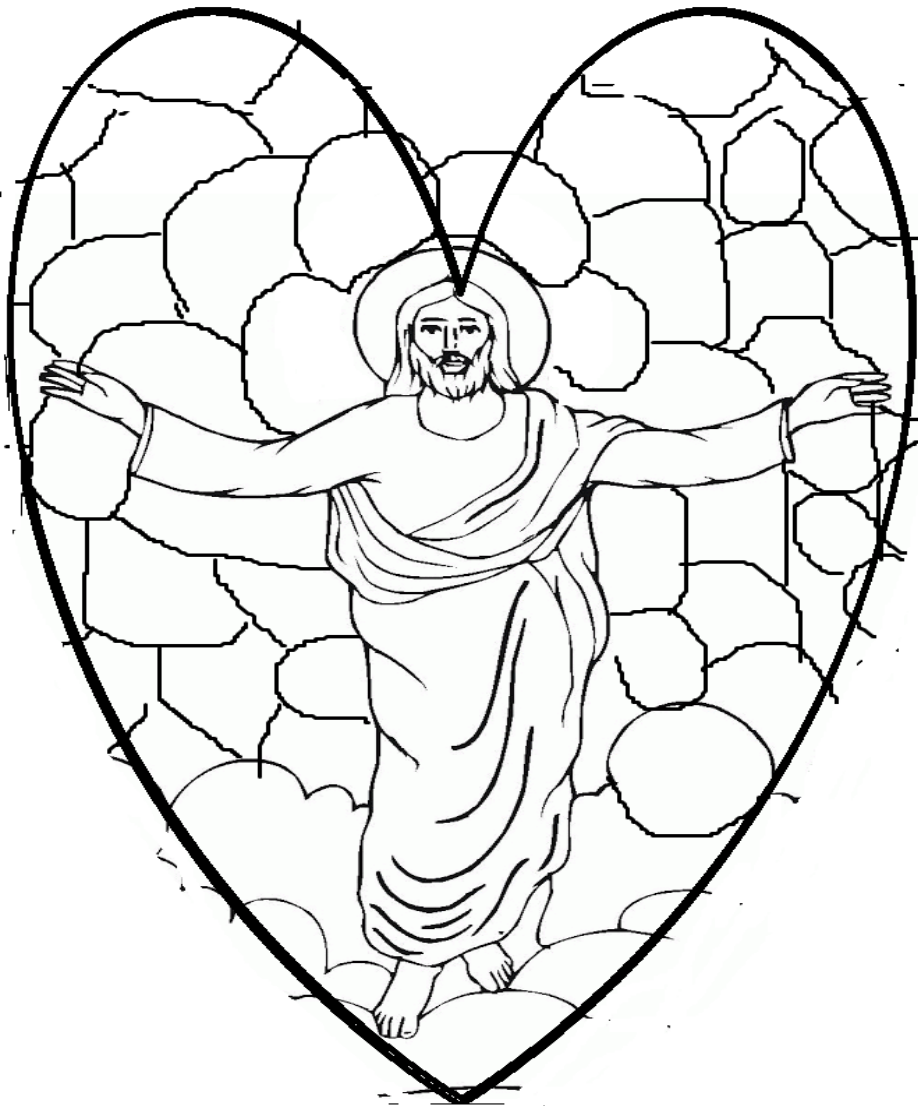
What are the traces given in today’s Gospel that revealed Jesus’ resurrection to his disciples? The rolled away stone of the tomb, the linen cloths on the ground and the cloth over Jesus’ head was not with the linen cloths but rolled up in a place by itself. How did each of them respond to the traces of Jesus’ resurrection? How are we responding to Jesus’ resurrection?

Till this moment they had failed to understand the teaching of scripture, that he must rise from the dead. But when they saw the traces, they understood. ‘he saw and he believed.’ What did John see that helped him to believe? The linen cloths and the rolled-up head covering. Gave real proof of Jesus’s resurrection. The folded napkin laid in the side of the plate in dinner table. In Hebrew tradition this points master saying, “I’m coming back!” The rolled-up head cloth reveals to Peter and John that Jesus Christ is “Not Finished.” He is coming back. This helped the disciples believe and understand the scripture ‘he must rise from the dead’.

Jesus resurrected by rolling away the stone, that held the humanity away from experiencing God’s presence. The stones signify our sins and everything that blocks us from God’s presence and his life. What are the stones that blocks the experience of Jesus’s resurrection in our lives? Sins, Wealth, Toys, Media, comforts, luxuries etc. Jesus wants us to recognize that the stones have been rolled away by His passion and Resurrection. And that we must experience the new life of freedom from flesh and world and must live in the power of Jesus’ resurrection.

How Do we experience the presence of Resurrected Jesus in our lives? The word of God, The Holy Spirit, The Holy Eucharist, All sacraments, The Church, our fellow beings. Jesus has given everything to deepen more into the truth that He is with us till the end of the ages. Let us try to recognize the presence of resurrected Jesus’s in our lives and live in Him. Let us follow Resurrected Jesus by setting our eyes on the heavenly things and not on earthly things, leading a Life in Holy Spirit, journeying towards eternity. Let us live in the power of Resurrected Jesus. ‘He is Alive. He is in us. He is coming back’. Empty tomb is not an end, but a beginning of new life in resurrected Jesus. EMPTY TOMBS ARE SIGNS OF NEW LIFE. It is a call to turn around and see ‘Jesus is Alive’ and is with us forever. It is a call to bury our old self in Jesus’ tomb, to resurrect out in new life of Jesus and to live the resurrected life in Jesus. Is an egg lifeless? No, not at all. It contains new life. So is a seed and so the tomb of Jesus. Let our faith encourage others to experience the power of resurrected Jesus, amidst all hopelessness and emptiness.

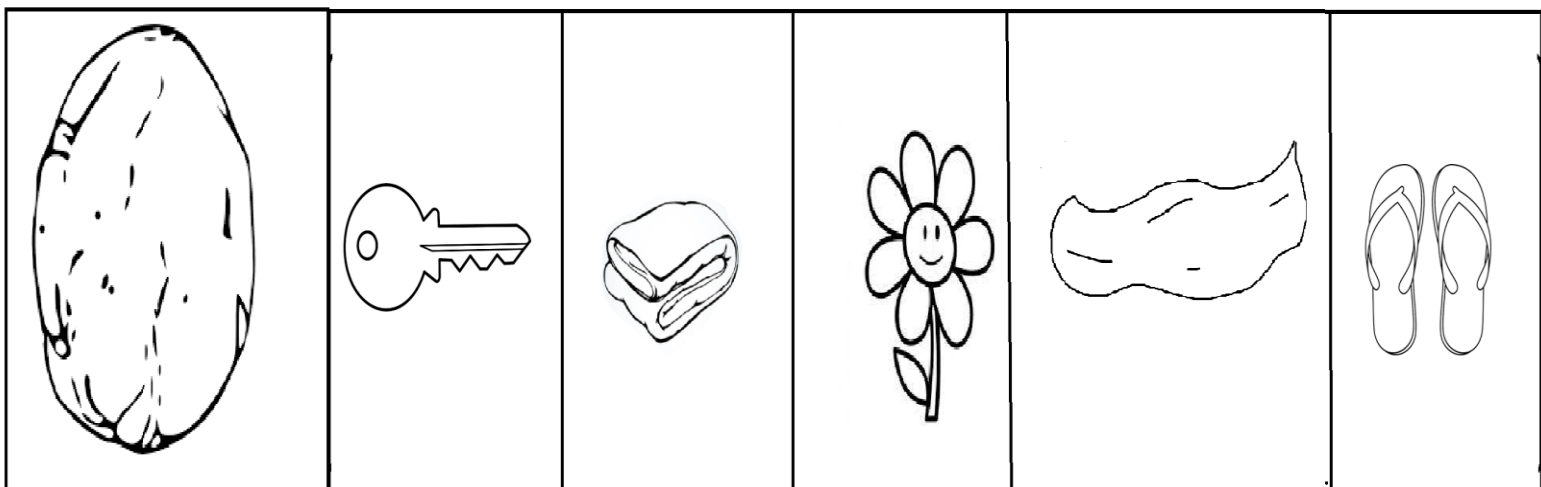
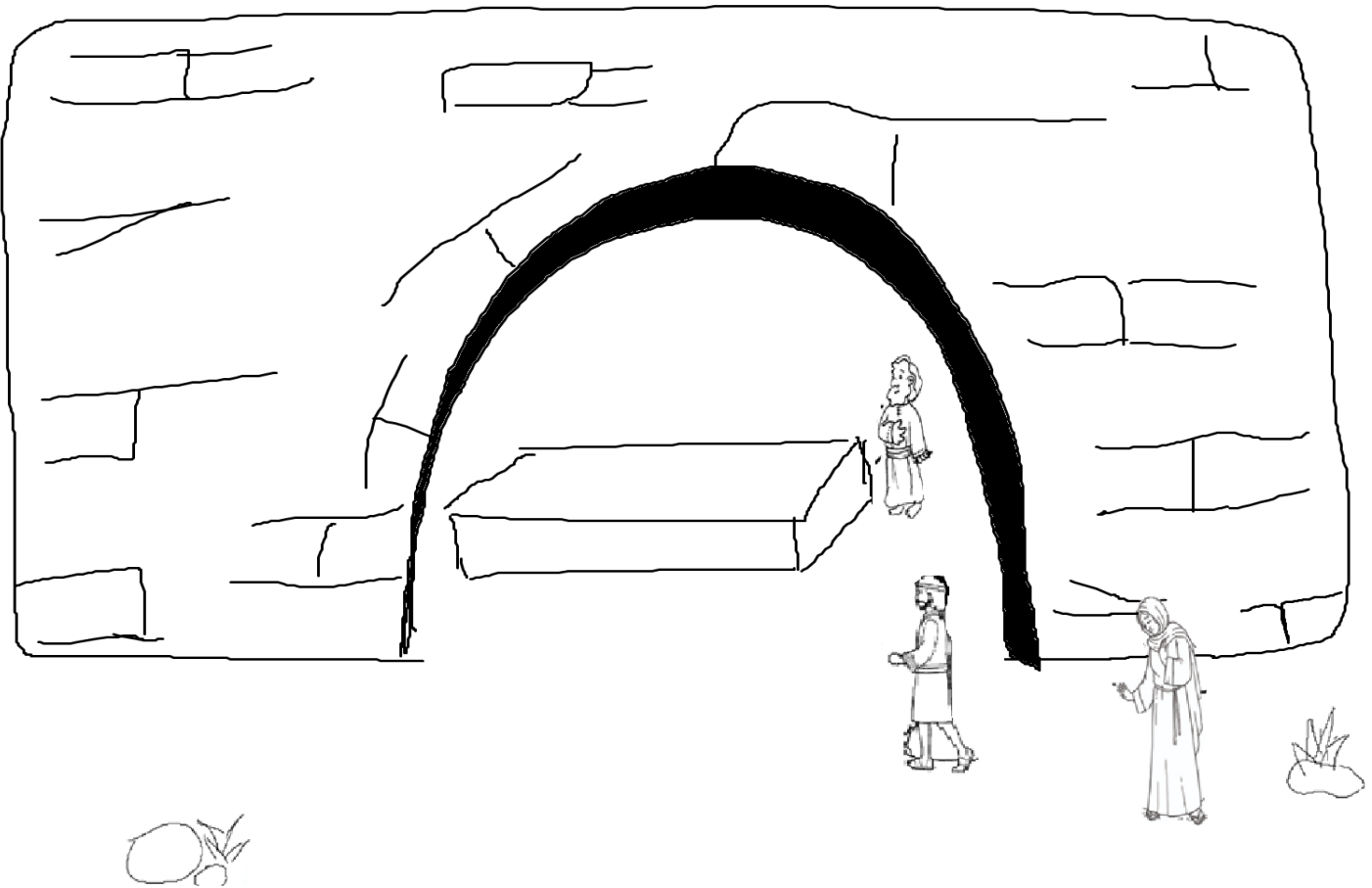
Roll away all the stones from our hearts by Colouring it with colours of God's love and mercy to reveal Jesus resurrected living in us.



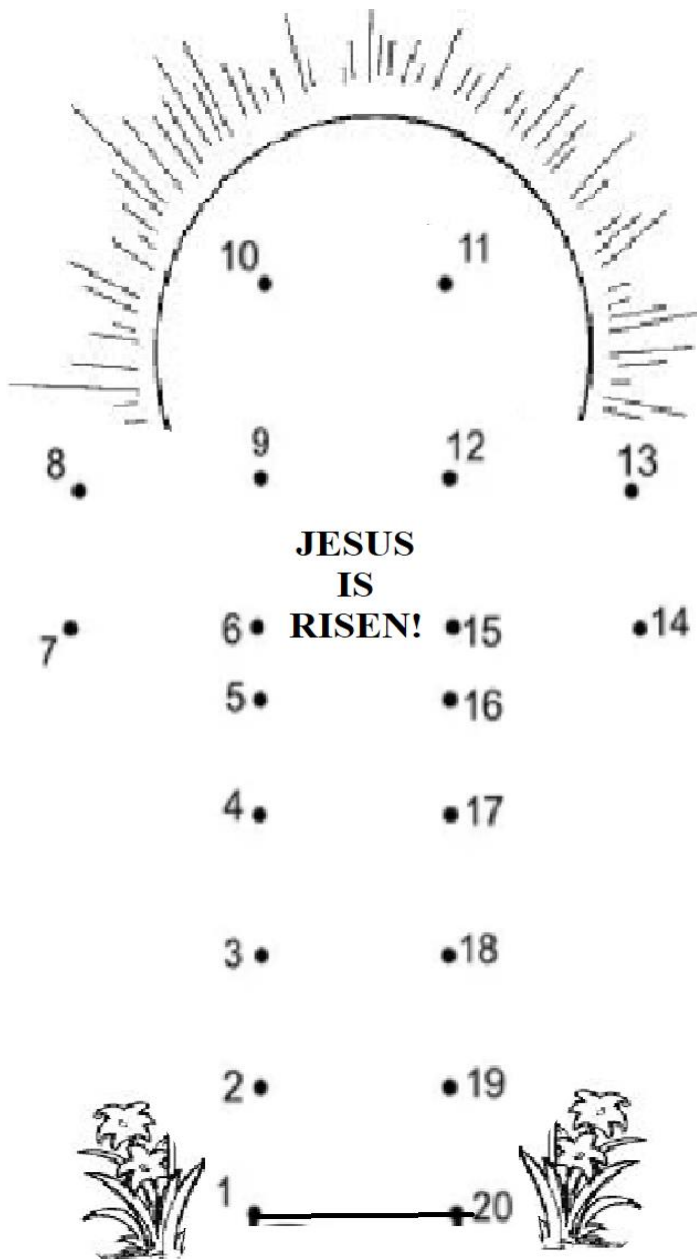
**Can you complete the following verses?**

Therefore, we have been ----- with him  
by ----- into death, so that, just as ----  
----- was raised from the dead by the glory of  
the Father, so we too might walk in -----  
of life. -Romans 6:4

**Can you complete the given picture by sticking on the right traces that revealed Jesus's Resurrection? Do stick in it their right places.**  
**Can you remember the names of the people present near the tomb?**



**Join the dots and colour it.**



**Circle everything that helps us to experience the living presence of Jesus.**



 **Let us Pray,**

**Lord Jesus, we thank you for rolling away the stone that blocks your presence from our lives. Open our eyes to see the traces of your resurrection in our lives. Give us grace to experience the new life, free from slavery of sins and flesh by the power of your Resurrection and led by the Holy Spirit deepening in your love. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.**