

St. Paul Lutheran Bible Study

The Resurrection

Read Matthew 28:1-10

Think about or discuss these questions:

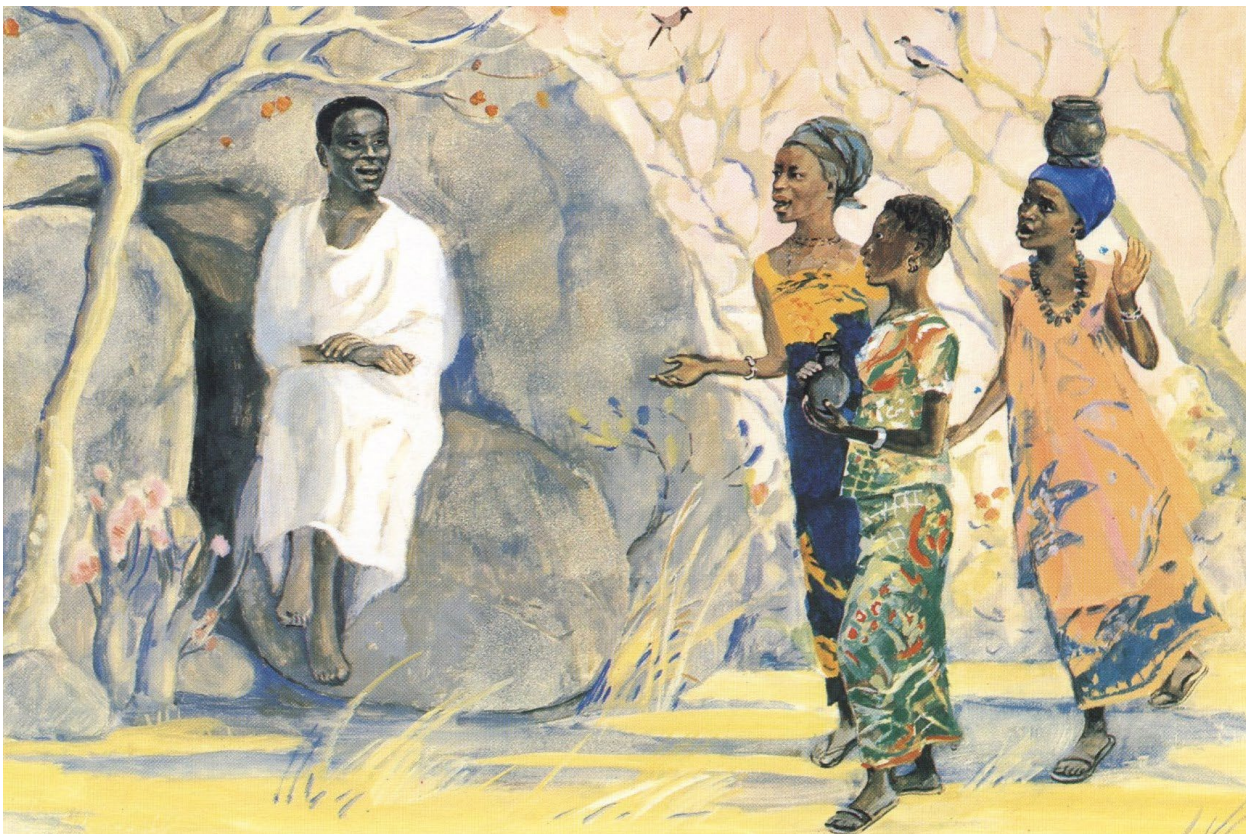
Why did the women do the risky thing of going to the tomb, associating with a crucified person?

- The verb "to see" (verse 1) denotes understanding of or insight into God's purposes (see 13:10-17).
- The disciples are also "to see" Jesus (v 6-7, 10)
- They heard Jesus' teaching about being raised on the third day (16:21; 20:17-19)

Where else in this gospel does an angel appear with a message? What does the angel say? The Greek word for angel means "messenger." What is the messenger's purpose?

The Roman empire is represented here by the guards who stand by the tomb. What happens to them? In juxtaposition, Jesus is God's kingdom embodied. What happens to him? What does that tell us about the Kingdom of God verses the empires of this earth?

Look at and read about the painting below (description is below the painting). What does this depict that is in keeping with Matthew's account of the resurrection? What details might be from a different account? Read the other Easter stories in Mark, Luke, and John. What is the same? What is different? What is the story as it has come together in your mind? Which parts of which gospels have you drawn from?



Title: Easter, Empty Tomb

Notes: JESUS MAFA is a response to the New Testament readings from the Lectionary by a Christian community in Cameroon, Africa. Each of the readings were selected and adapted to dramatic interpretation by the community members. Photographs of their interpretations were made, and these were then transcribed to paintings.

Date: 1973

Artist: JESUS MAFA

Object/Function: Painting

Attribution: JESUS MAFA. Easter, Empty Tomb, from *Art in the Christian Tradition*, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <http://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=48301> [retrieved April 10, 2020]. Original source: <http://www.librairie-emmanuel.fr> (contact page: <https://www.librairie-emmanuel.fr/contact>).