

## **Jeremiah 31:1-6, 10-12 (NIV)**

**31** “At that time,” declares the LORD, “I will be the God of all the families of Israel, and they will be my people.”

<sup>2</sup> This is what the LORD says:

“The people who survive the sword  
will find favor in the wilderness;  
I will come to give rest to Israel.”

<sup>3</sup> The LORD appeared to us in the past,<sup>[a]</sup> saying:

“I have loved you with an everlasting love;  
I have drawn you with unfailing kindness.

<sup>4</sup> I will build you up again,  
and you, Virgin Israel, will be rebuilt.

Again you will take up your timbrels  
and go out to dance with the joyful.

<sup>5</sup> Again you will plant vineyards  
on the hills of Samaria;  
the farmers will plant them  
and enjoy their fruit.

<sup>6</sup> There will be a day when watchmen cry out  
on the hills of Ephraim,  
‘Come, let us go up to Zion,  
to the LORD our God.’”

<sup>10</sup> “Hear the word of the LORD, you nations;  
proclaim it in distant coastlands:

‘He who scattered Israel will gather them  
and will watch over his flock like a shepherd.’

<sup>11</sup> For the LORD will deliver Jacob  
and redeem them from the hand of those stronger than they.

<sup>12</sup> They will come and shout for joy on the heights of Zion;

they will rejoice in the bounty of the LORD—  
the grain, the new wine and the olive oil,  
the young of the flocks and herds.

They will be like a well-watered garden,  
and they will sorrow no more.

## **Psalms 118:1-6, 15-18, 24 (NIV)**

<sup>1</sup> Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good;  
his love endures forever.

<sup>2</sup> Let Israel say:  
“His love endures forever.”

<sup>3</sup> Let the house of Aaron say:  
“His love endures forever.”

<sup>4</sup> Let those who fear the LORD say:  
“His love endures forever.”

<sup>5</sup> When hard pressed, I cried to the LORD;  
he brought me into a spacious place.

<sup>6</sup> The LORD is with me; I will not be afraid.  
What can mere mortals do to me?

<sup>15</sup> Shouts of joy and victory  
resound in the tents of the righteous:  
“The LORD’s right hand has done mighty things!

<sup>16</sup> The LORD’s right hand is lifted high;  
the LORD’s right hand has done mighty things!”

<sup>17</sup> I will not die but live,  
and will proclaim what the LORD has done.

<sup>18</sup> The LORD has chastened me severely,  
but he has not given me over to death.

<sup>24</sup> The LORD has done it this very day;  
let us rejoice today and be glad.

## **John 20:1-18 (NIV) — The Empty Tomb**

**20** Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene went to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the entrance. <sup>2</sup> So she came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved, and said, “They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we don’t know where they have put him!”

<sup>3</sup> So Peter and the other disciple started for the tomb. <sup>4</sup> Both were running, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first.

## **John 20:1-18 (NIV) continued**

<sup>5</sup> He bent over and looked in at the strips of linen lying there but did not go in. <sup>6</sup> Then Simon Peter came along behind him and went straight into the tomb. He saw the strips of linen lying there, <sup>7</sup> as well as the cloth that had been wrapped around Jesus’ head. The cloth was still lying in its place, separate from the linen. <sup>8</sup> Finally the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went inside. He saw and believed. <sup>9</sup> (They still did not understand from Scripture that Jesus had to rise from the dead.) <sup>10</sup> Then the disciples went back to where they were staying.

## **Jesus Appears to Mary Magdalene**

<sup>11</sup> Now Mary stood outside the tomb crying. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb <sup>12</sup> and saw two angels in white, seated where Jesus’ body had been, one at the head and the other at the foot.

<sup>13</sup> They asked her, “Woman, why are you crying?” “They have taken my Lord away,” she said, “and I don’t know where they have put him.” <sup>14</sup> At this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not realize that it was Jesus.

<sup>15</sup> He asked her, “Woman, why are you crying? Who is it you are looking for?”

Thinking he was the gardener, she said, “Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have put him, and I will get him.”

<sup>16</sup> Jesus said to her, “Mary.”

She turned toward him and cried out in Aramaic “Rabboni!” (which means “Teacher”).

<sup>17</sup> Jesus said, “Do not hold on to me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father. Go instead to my brothers and tell them, ‘I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.’”

<sup>18</sup> Mary Magdalene went to the disciples with the news: “I have seen the Lord!” And she told them that he had said these things to her.

# 232 Jesus Christ Is Risen Today

1 Je - sus Christ is risen to - day,  
 2 Hymns of praise then let us sing, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 3 But the pains which he en - dured,  
 4 Sing we to our God a - bove,

our tri - um-phant ho - ly day,  
 un - to Christ, our heav-en-ly King,  
 our sal - va - tion have pro - cured. Al - le - lu - ia!  
 praise e - ter - nal as God's love.

who did once up - on the cross,  
 who en - dured the cross and grave, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Now a - bove the sky he's King,  
 Praise our God, ye heav-en-ly host,

suf - fer to re - deem our loss.  
 sin - ners to re - deem and save. Al - le - lu - ia!  
 where the an - gels ev - er sing.  
 Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

# 247 Now the Green Blade Rises

1 Now the green blade ris - es from the bur - ied grain,  
 2 In the grave they laid him, love by ha - tred slain,  
 3 Forth he came at Eas - ter like the ris - en grain,  
 4 When our hearts are win - try, griev - ing, or in pain,

wheat that in dark earth man - y days has lain;  
 think - ing that he would nev - er wake a - gain,  
 he that for three days in the grave had lain;  
 your touch can call us back to life a - gain;

love lives a - gain, that with the dead has been;  
 laid in the earth like grain that sleeps un - seen;  
 raised from the dead, my liv - ing Lord is seen;  
 fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been:

love is come a - gain like wheat a - ris - ing green.

Although there were some traditional Easter carols, this hybrid one has been created by grafting a 20th-century English text onto a late 15th-century French tune. The allegory of the dying and rising grain as a parallel for Christ's Resurrection is probably based on John 12:24.

TEXT: John M. C. Crum, 1928, alt.  
 MUSIC: French carol, 15th cent.; harm. Martin Shaw, 1928  
 Text and Music Harm. © 1928 Oxford University Press

NOËL NOUVELET  
 11.10.10.11

# Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna! 248

1 Christ is ris - en! Shout Ho - san - na! Cel - e - brate this day of days!  
 2 Christ is ris - en! Raise your spir - its from the cav - erns of de - spair.  
 3 Christ is ris - en! Earth and heav - en nev - er - more shall be the same.

Christ is ris - en! Hush in won - der: all cre - a - tion is a - mazed.  
 Walk with glad - ness in the morn - ing. See what love can do and dare.  
 Break the bread of new cre - a - tion where the world is still in pain.

In the des - ert all - sur - round - ing, see, a spread - ing tree has grown.  
 Drink the wine of res - ur - rec - tion, not a ser - vant, but a friend.  
 Tell its grim, de - mon - ic cho - rus: "Christ is ris - en! Get you gone!"

Heal - ing leaves of grace a - bound - ing bring a taste of love un - known.  
 Je - sus is our strong com - pan - ion. Joy and peace shall nev - er end.  
 God the First and Last is with us. Sing Ho - san - na ev - ery - one!

In commenting on this late 20th-century text, the author has stressed his intention to affirm the social implications of an Easter faith: "Christian peace and justice action finds its wellspring, not in moral zeal or guilty conscience, but in the resurrection."

TEXT: Brian Wren, 1984  
 MUSIC: Ludwig van Beethoven, 1824; adapt. Edward Hodges, 1842, alt.  
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HYMN TO JOY  
 8.7.8.7.D