

This is a happy day, isn't it? I wonder who can tell me what makes today so special and why it is a happy day? That's right! Today is Easter. The day we celebrate that Jesus rose from the grave.

Since today is a happy day, show me how your face looks when you are happy. Oh yes, that is good. Our faces show the way we feel, don't they? Let me see what your face would look like if you were sad. How would your face look like if you were surprised? Afraid? Angry?

I want you to help me tell the Bible story today. As I tell the story, you will help me by showing with your faces how the people in the story feel about what is happening. Will you help me do that? Great! Let's begin.

It was early in the morning on the first day of the week when some women went to visit the tomb where their friend Jesus had been buried. He had been crucified on a cross and buried in a borrowed tomb and the women were going to put spices on his body. The women were **very sad** as they went to the tomb.

When they arrived at the tomb, the women discovered that the stone that had covered the entrance had been rolled away. They were **surprised** when they saw the open tomb & it was empty!

Suddenly, surprise turned to **fear** as two men in bright shining clothes came and stood beside the women. In their fright, they bowed down with their faces to the ground. The men spoke to the women and said, "Jesus is not here; he has risen! Don't you remember what he told you when he was in Galilee?"

Then the women remembered what Jesus had told them and they were no longer afraid. Their fear turned to **happiness** and they went back and told Jesus' disciples what they had seen and that Jesus had risen, just as he had told them he would. What a happy day!

You and I have reason to be happy today, don't we? We are happy because we know that Jesus rose from the grave and that he lives forever. But we are also happy because we know that the Bible tells us that "Whoever believes in him will not perish, but will have everlasting life." Now that is something to be happy about, isn't it? Well, show me see your **happy face**.

Dear Father, we are happy today because Jesus is risen from the grave and lives forever. We are also happy because we know that those who believe in him will also have everlasting life. **Amen.**