

Easter Vigil/Easter Sunday

Theme: Let us rejoice for our Lord has risen.

Tonight/Today we celebrate the passage of humanity from darkness to light, from death to life, from slavery to freedom and from fear to victory and joy for all.

For this is the night/day as we heard from exulted or Easter proclamations Our Lord passed from death to life thereby destroying death. Tonight/Today, again is a celebration of victory, for our Lord Jesus, for he has won the battle by rising from the dead. The resurrection of Christ is also our own victory for if he did not rise from death, our hope and faith would have been in vain.

For us Christians, Christ's death and resurrection is a clear sign that there is resurrection of the dead. It strengthens our belief and faith in the resurrection of the dead.

Just as we see from the readings, God led his people out from the land of slavery to freedom. Today, by our faith, we are led from our state of slavery to a state of freedom of the children of God, by the power of the resurrection.

In the Old Testament, God led his people by night by the pillar of fire and by day by the pillar of cloud. Today the light of Christ's resurrection dispels that darkness in our lives as we journey with him.

Dearest friends in the Lord, by Christ's victory over death, which is our greatest fear, he has shown us that his power is absolute and that with him everything is possible.

Let us hold firm to the risen Lord for with him we shall win, with him we shall have peace and joy, with him we shall be healed, with him we shall live and have life in abundance, and with him we shall be saved.