Rejoice in this day of hope, renewal, and new life.

After the Sabbath, at dawn on the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to look at the tomb. There was a violent earthquake, for an angel of the Lord came down from heaven and, going to the tomb, rolled back the stone and sat on it. His appearance was like lightning, and his clothes were white as snow. The guards were so afraid of him that they shook and became like dead men. The angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. He is not here; he has risen, just as he said.

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"He IS Risen" April 20 & 21, 2019 The grave is empty... He is risen!!! From late Thursday night to Friday dawn, Jesus was _____ by his close friend, _____ by his chosen leader for the church, and _____ by all the disciples. Matthew 26:47-75 In the dark, Jesus was taken by _____ leaders and tortured. In the morning, they gave Jesus to _____ for them to kill him. 27:1-2 **Friday** is the day of . Matthew 27:26-31 Jesus is not a or a martyr, but the savior of the world! It wasn't nails that held Jesus on the cross. It was love! Love held him there. – John 10:17-18 Saturday is the day _____ makes sense. Matthew 27:62-66 Every one of us knows Saturday. It is the day of _____. "New life starts in the dark. Whether it is a seed in the ground, a baby in the womb or Jesus in the tomb, it starts in the dark." - Barbara Brown Taylor Sunday is the day of ______ or salvation. It can be ______ where we experience both joy and ______ . 28:1-8 The are both the first **witnesses** and the first **messengers**! Jesus' Easter message to them and to us is (Matthew 28:10) 1. Don't be _____. 2. Go and _____. On Easter Sunday, Jesus follower's lives got a lot more What to do? We do the _____ thing we know Jesus told us. 28:16 Easter is not a lovely _____ but a powerful _____! 28:17-20 1. Know universal authority now belongs to Jesus. See #1 above. 2. make disciples for the transformation of the world. 3. _____, we are not alone! Easter is proof that God is with us. The early Christians celebrated this fact. We celebrate today. 1 Cor. 15:3 "Death has been swallowed up in victory. Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?"

Matthew 28:1-6