

The Risen Christ Meets Us and Sends Us: Matthew 28:1–10

Theme: *From Fear to Joy: The Risen Christ meets us where we are, transforms our fear, and sends us as witnesses of His resurrection.*

Let us pause and see this: dawn breaks over a sealed tomb. Two women—Mary Magdalene and the other Mary—walk in silence, hearts heavy, spices in hand. They expect death. They expect stone. But God? He’s already been working.

The Stone Is Rolled Away – God Acts First *(Matthew 28:1–4)*

An earthquake rumbles. An angel descends—bright as lightning. The stone rolls—not because Jesus needs an exit, but because you need to see: **“He is not here, for he has risen, as he said.” (Matthew 28:6)**

The guards shake like dead men. The women? They freeze. Here is the truth: before they arrived, before they understood—God had already acted. Whatever feels sealed in your life—God is already ahead of you.

From Fear to Faith – The Message Changes Everything *(Matthew 28:5–8)*

But the angel cuts through the moment: **“Do not be afraid.” (Matthew 28:5)** Fear doesn’t vanish—it gets rewritten. They turn, run—half terrified, half electric with joy. **“So they departed quickly... with fear and great joy.” (Matthew 28:8)**

That’s how resurrection hits: messy, real, but, unstoppable. Faith does not erase fear—but it changes its direction.

The Risen Christ Meets and Sends Us *(Matthew 28:9–10)*

Then—on the road—Jesus Himself steps out. Not in spectacle. Just... present. **“Do not be afraid... go and tell my brothers...” (Matthew 28:10)**

He doesn’t wait for them to get it right. He meets them mid-stride. And then He sends them. The resurrection is not just something to believe—it is something to share.

My Saints of Advent: The tomb wasn’t the end. It was the launchpad.

So listen—whatever you’re facing right now: a sealed door, a diagnosis, a betrayal, a dark stretch where hope feels buried—God moved first. Before your prayer left your lips, before you even knew to ask.

Fear? It'll tag along. But it won't win. Because the One who rolled the stone is the One who rolls your doubts aside too.

And He doesn't just save you—He sends you. Not as spectators. As messengers.

The women came expecting death. They left carrying life.

They came with fear. They left with joy.

They came looking for a body. They met the living Lord—on the way.

And so it is with us.

The stone is rolled away. The tomb is empty. Christ is risen— **Now go. Live like people who've seen the impossible.** Live like resurrection is not just history— **it is your everyday power.**