

JESUS IS RISEN FROM THE DEAD

Jesus was crucified on Good Friday.

He visited Hades, the place of the dead, on Saturday.

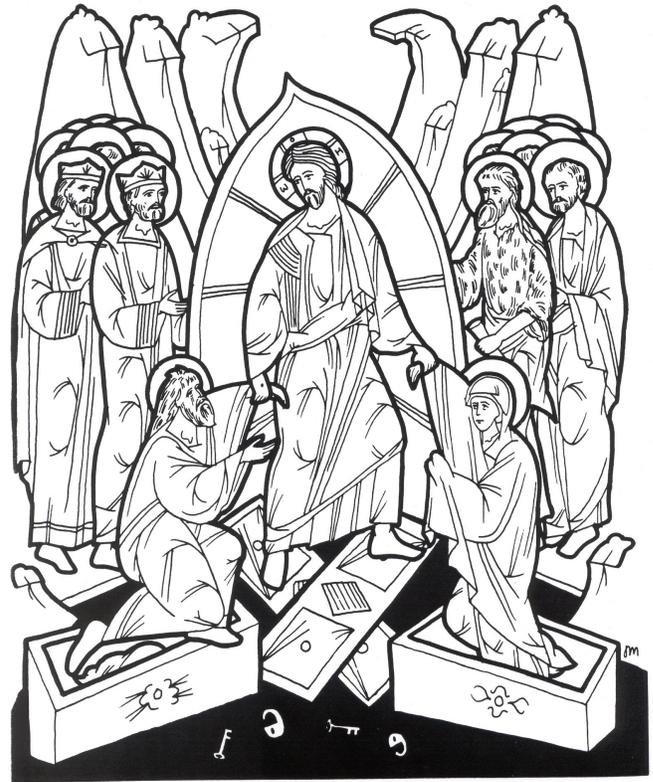
Today He rose from the dead and is alive again!

He brought Adam and Eve with Him, and all godly people who had died.

Christ rose from the dead and opened the gates of heaven to us.

We can live united with God now, and unto ages of ages.

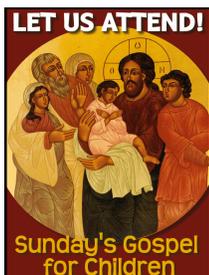
It is a new day!



Icon courtesy of Iconographics (www.theologic.com)

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

1. Look at the center of the icon. Color Jesus' clothing white or gold.
2. Jesus is standing on the doors of Hades, the place of the dead. Jesus conquered death and is trampling, or stomping on the doors. Color the doors brown.
3. Jesus is surrounded by his glory, a bright but peaceful light. Color the area around Jesus blue.



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Pre-12



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PASCHA, THE MOST GLORIOUS DAY

From the very beginning, our Lord Jesus Christ was with God, because He is God! He created everything. Look around you—all the people, animals, plants, even the Earth itself, He made! Life comes from Him.

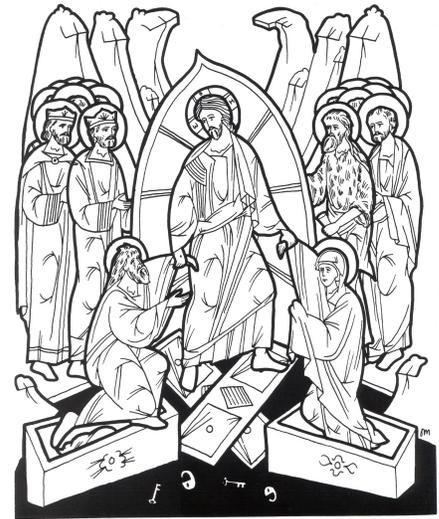
Because of Adam and Eve’s choice to disobey God (and all of our choices to do the same, since then), sin came into the world. This sin keeps people from God. But God’s love for us is so great that He wanted to free us from sin through Jesus.

When Jesus was getting ready to come into the world, God sent John ahead of him. John came to help people see that Jesus was God’s Son, and that they should follow Him.

When Jesus came into the world, even though He made the world, because of sin, the people of the world did not know Him. He was right with His own special people—the Jews—and they did not welcome Him. In fact, they killed Him.

But, just like light shining in darkness makes the darkness go away, so our Lord Jesus Christ shone in the darkness of our sinful world. He entered Hades, the place of the dead, and rescued people, even Adam and Eve, from death!

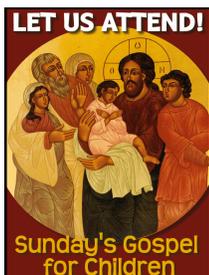
Jesus rose from the dead. He freed us from sin and death. He gave us power to become children of God!



Icon courtesy of Iconographics (www.theologic.com)

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

1. We have just celebrated Great and Holy Friday, the day Christ was crucified. On Holy Saturday, while the tomb was closed, Christ went into the realm of the dead and brought back to life those who lived godly lives.
2. The icon of the Resurrection teaches us that truth.
3. What is Christ trampling or stomping on in the icon? Those are the doors of Hades, the place of the dead.
4. Is it light or dark there under the doors? Do you think it is a happy or sad and scary place?
5. The icon shows us that Christ is the winner in the battle with darkness, evil, and death. At the Gospel, listen for the words, “The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.”
6. Be happy today because of what Jesus has done!



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HE DWELT AMONG US

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God; all things were made through him, and without him was not anything made that was made. In him was life, and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came for testimony, to bear witness to the light, that all might believe through him. He was not the light, but was to bear witness to the light.

The true light that enlightens every man was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world knew him not. He came to his own, and his own received him not. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God; who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth; we have beheld his glory, glo-

ry as of the only Son from the Father. [John bore witness to him, and cried, "This is he of whom I said, 'he who comes after me ranks before me, for he was before me.'"] And from his fullness have we all received, grace upon grace. For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.

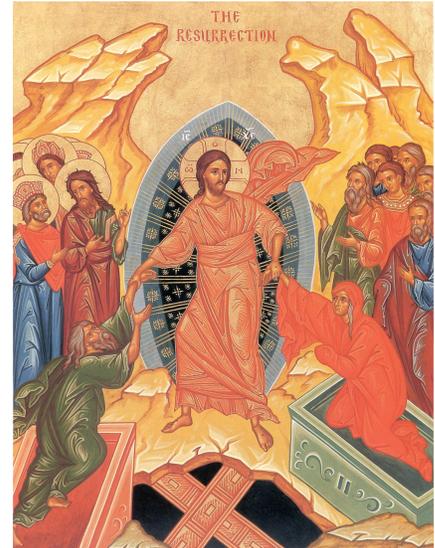
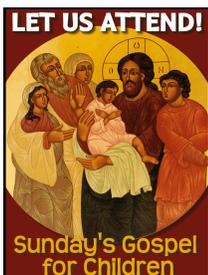


Image courtesy of Teaching Pics

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

1. Who was present when everything came into being?
2. Who was present in the beginning with God?
3. Were you present at the beginning with God? Did you help make the world? Do you know anyone who did?
4. What is the name of the person who was present at all of these things? (Hint: it's the very last words of this Gospel.)
5. What does that tell us about Jesus Christ? Who is Jesus?
6. What do we celebrate on Pascha? What do we say about Jesus on Pascha?
7. Why do you think we read this gospel on Pascha?



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HE DWELT AMONG US

Characters: Narrator, John the Forerunner

Narrator: In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God; all things were made through him, and without him was not anything made that was made. In him was life, and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

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And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and

truth; we have beheld his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father. John bore witness to him, and cried,

John: This is he of whom I said, 'he who comes after me ranks before me, for he was before me.'

Narrator: And from his fullness have we all received, grace upon grace. For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.

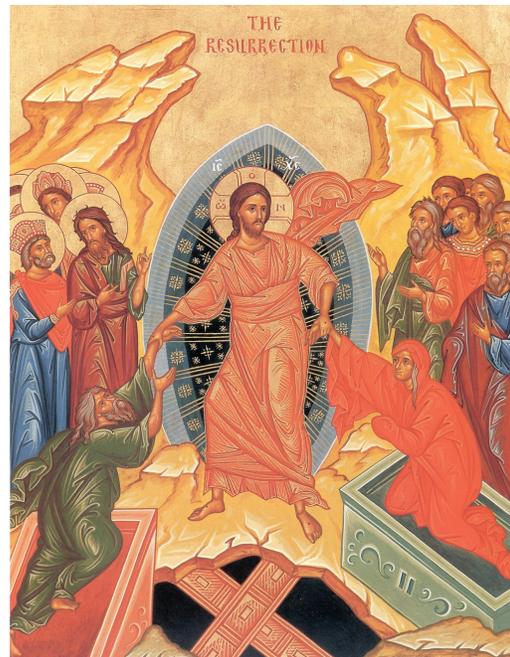
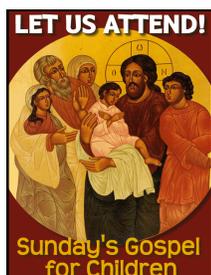


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IN THE BEGINNING

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God; all things were made through him, and without him was not anything made that was made. In him was life, and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

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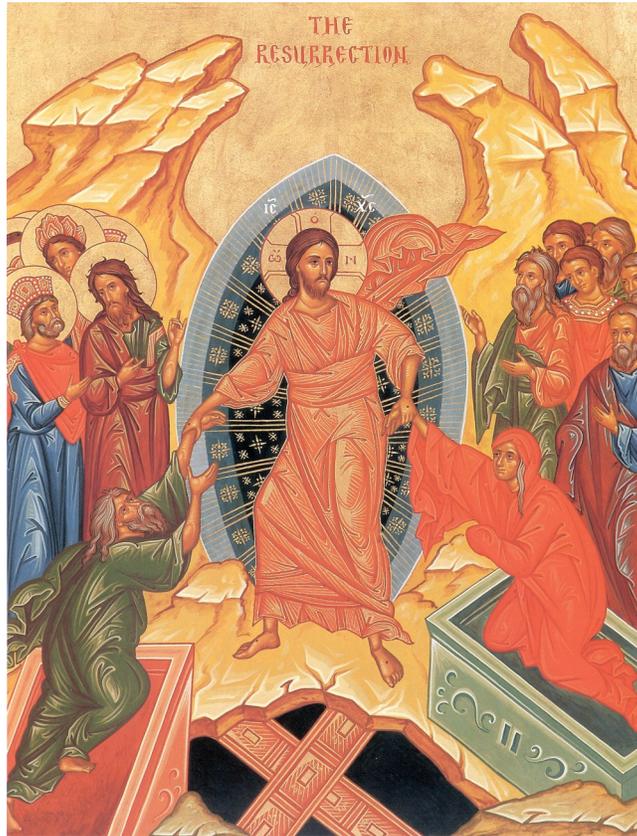


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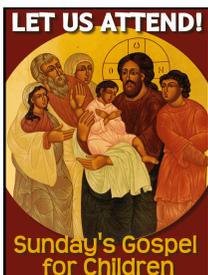
ceived him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God; who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth; we have beheld his glory, glory as of the only Son from

the Father. [John bore witness to him, and cried, “This is he of whom I said, ‘he who comes after me ranks before me, for he was before me.’”] And from his fullness have we all received, grace upon grace. For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

1. Who were all things made through according to this gospel?
2. Were you present when everything came into being? Do you know anyone who was?
3. Who was in the beginning with God according to this gospel?
4. Were you “in the beginning with God?”
5. At the end of this gospel, who became flesh and dwelt among us?
6. Did you exist before you took on flesh and were in your mother’s womb?
7. Who is the Word according to this gospel?
8. Why do you think this gospel is working so hard to explain that Jesus Christ, the person, is the Word who was present at all of these things? What is this gospel saying about Jesus?



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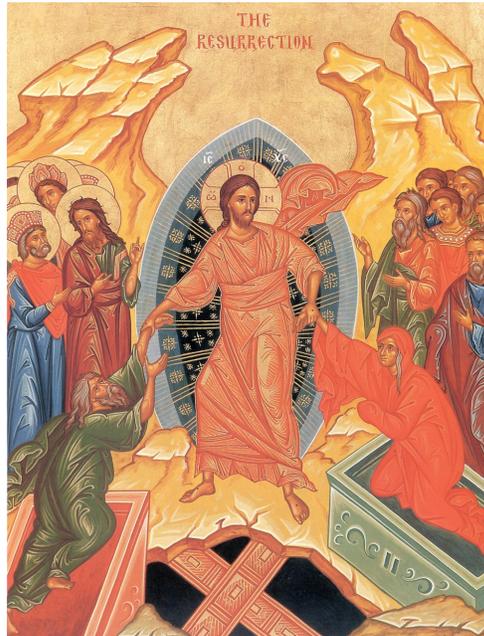


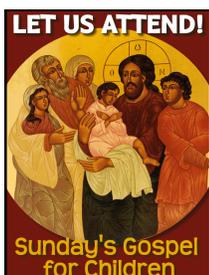
Image courtesy of Teaching Pics

from his fullness have we all received, grace upon grace. For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

1. What is a word? If you say a word what are you doing?
2. What does this gospel mean when it uses the term word?
3. What is the first part of this gospel telling us about the Word?
4. What does the last part of this gospel tell us about the Word?
5. Who do we find out the Word is at the end of this gospel?
6. What do you think "we have beheld his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father" means? What is the glory we have beheld?
7. Why do you think we read this gospel on Pascha?

Blessed Pascha!



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