



## *Pastor's Easter 2021 Message*

### **Does Easter really matter?**

Christ has risen from the dead as he said he would ... And it was simply too good to be true. But it was true. Yes, it really does matter if you value the gift of life.

Life is precious. No one likes to die. Only a deeply troubled person wants to die. Life is simply wonderful to welcome death as a friend. God has instilled within each of us the desire to live here on this earth. We resist letting go of life. That is how God created us to be. We all want to live. We know that beyond this world is another world and we trust God that it will be an even better world than this one. But, we were created out of dust of this world. Still death is one reality in life that confronts us all.

What do you think of death or dying? A little girl once said, "Only good people go to heaven. The other people go where it's hot all the time ... like Florida." (I thought that is a pretty good answer).

Easter is important not only because of what it says about life beyond death, but because of what it says about life on this side of death. The resurrection story tells us that Christ lives. Then, life has a meaning. There is a hope even in the most difficult circumstances. Even at the end of my rope, here is a knot I can hang on to. If Christ defeated death, if my life goes on forever, if the gospel is true, I can live courageously, victoriously. I can overcome my fears by his grace and I can be all he intends for me to be. I need never consider the possibility of absolute futility or failure—not Christ has been raised from the dead. It is that knowledge that has given the followers of Jesus Christ power over their circumstances in every era for more than 2,000 years.

Christ is Risen. Halleluiah!

I wish you a blessed and joyous Easter to you and your families!

Fr. Marreddy Allam