HAPPY EASTER

What thoughts enter your mind when you hear the word Easter? Soft fluffy bunnies and fuzzy chicks? It's easier to think of soft, cute baby animals rather than a cold, hard nail. We would rather behold a beautiful white fragrant lily over a large menacing cross surrounded by the stench of death. Pretty foiled chocolate eggs are preferred to a bloodied crown of thorns. Such contrasts are hard to consider. What makes the difficult thoughts bearable for us as Christians? The empty tomb! We Believers celebrate that empty grave; our very futures depend on it - but the fact of the matter is that the empty tomb is the result of the crucifixion. God on a cross. Our Lord beaten and dying. The Jesus we love – bloodied and crucified. And the fact that He went willingly is the harder thought to ponder. Our sinful natures put Him there. The hardest part is what kept Him there. For God loved the world so much that he gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life. John 3:16 NLT. Jesus understood we needed a Savior. He loved us enough to give us One. He made a way for us. All we have to do is believe in Him and accept him as Lord. He died for us and was buried and on that third day overcame death and the grave.

THAT TOMB IS EMPTY!! All of the Gospels record that the stone was moved and Jesus was not there! Matthew 28:1-6. Mark 16:2-6. Luke 24:1-7. John 20:1-18. That stone was not moved so that Jesus could get out. That stone was moved so that people could see in. That tomb was empty. It's proof that our God is alive! And because He lives-we will too.

Go ahead and get that beautiful, fragrant, Easter Lily. Buy some chocolate eggs and jelly beans. Dye some eggs and make Sunday dinner. Time for a celebration. The tomb is empty and our Savior lives! Praise God! Happy Easter!!
"I have loved you, my people, with an everlasting love. With unfailing love I have drawn you to myself." Jeremiah 31:3 NLT

Blessings,
The Christian Center Staff