

Christ is Alive! Let Christians sing. His cross stands empty to the sky.
Let streets and homes with praises ring. His love in death can never die.
(Hymn 182, The Hymnal 1982)

Dear Friends in Christ,

Christ is Risen! Jesus is alive today! That is the proclamation of our faith. Christ is Risen and in his rising the end of death begins. As the apostle Paul writes in his First letter to the Corinthians, "The last enemy to be destroyed is death." (I Cor. 15:26).

I think of the resurrection is as the end of the beginning, the last act in God's mission of redemption of the fall of Adam. I also see it as the beginning of the end- - the first act in the mission of restoration of the whole creation as he designed it to be-- a design to be completed when Christ returns in glory.

I invite you in this Eastertide to think on this mystery and pray God for grace to embrace the call of this truth. How is God calling you to participate in his ending of death? For when we focus on this we live the Easter life Christ has won for us.

Yours in the risen and living Lord,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "S. A. Miller". The signature is written in dark ink on a white background.

The Rt. Rev. Steven A. Miller
Bishop of Milwaukee