



# THE ANGLICAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

THE RIGHT REVEREND BRIAN R. MARSH  
PRESIDENT OF THE HOUSE OF BISHOPS

Presiding Bishop's Easter Message 2013

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

A Blessed Holy Week and a Joyous Easter to you all!

ALMIGHTY God, who through thine only-begotten Son Jesus Christ hast overcome death, and opened unto us the gate of everlasting life; We humbly beseech thee that, as by thy special grace preventing us thou dost put into our minds good desires, so by thy continual help we may bring the same to good effect; through the Same Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost ever, one God, world without end. Amen.

As we experience Eastertide again this year, it is my prayer that we may come to know more and more of the great love that God gives to His children on earth. Just as a pelican feeds her young from the blood of her body, so Jesus feeds His people with the redeeming blood poured forth from the cross. As we remember the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, we know that the Crucifixion is a necessary part of God's journey, just as it is part of our particular remembrance at this time in our church year.

There is no Easter without Good Friday. Much as we might like to minimize the passion and death of Our Savior, we cannot do so; Jesus must embrace the passion, the agony and death on the cross, so that we may truly live. So that Easter may grow in our hearts and minds.

On Easter Day, we celebrate the wonder of the Resurrection, the great joy that comes with an understanding that death has been overcome and that God's world has been redeemed. It is a time of great rejoicing and we rightly praise God for all He has done. But for us Easter Day is just the beginning, the first step in our own journey into a full understanding of God's great love for the world and for the children of His creation. God's work has been done. The world has changed.

It is now up to us; it is up to us to thank God for the gift of Himself to an indifferent world, a world He loves despite all its imperfections. Above all, it is up to us to embrace God's love and allow it to transform us, that we may become worthy stewards of the great and eternal gifts we have received.

Your Brother in Christ,

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