**Sermon Synopsis**: There's something wrong with the way things are. At the core of this is the problem of death which faces us like a wall reminding us that things are broken and out of our control. What we need is someone who can beat death at it's own game and set us all free from it's tyranny. **Metaphor:** Though you are not as in control as you thought, Jesus can raise you to life **Themes**: Easter, resurrection, suffering, raised with Christ, new life

### Greeting

Good morning and happy easter I'm Chris – one of the pastors Visitors – welcome! Thank you Everyone – glad you're here

#### Celebrate Easter

Word
Chance to respond

#### Mark 16:1-7 (NLT)

Saturday evening, when the Sabbath ended, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome went out and purchased burial spices so they could anoint Jesus' body. Very early on Sunday morning, just at sunrise, they went to the tomb. On the way they were asking each other, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?" But as they arrived, they looked up and saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled aside. When they entered the tomb, they saw a young man clothed in a white robe sitting on the right side. The women were shocked, but the angel said, "Don't be alarmed. You are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He isn't here! He is risen from the dead! Look, this is where they laid his body. Now go and tell his disciples, including Peter

# Have you ever had one of those mornings where things didn't go quite the way you expected?

How do we deal with death?

These are merely symptoms of <u>death</u>

## **DEATH** itself must be defeated

# **THAT is why Easter changes everything**

But as they arrived, they looked up and saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled aside...**He is risen from the dead!** Look (4,6)

## 1) Jesus has power over death

## Hebrews 2:14-15 (NIV)

Since the children have flesh and blood, he too shared in their humanity so that by his death he might break the power of him who holds the power of death—that is, the devil— and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by their fear of death.

"O death, where is your victory?

O death, where is your sting?" ~ 1 Corinthians 15:55

## 2) Jesus has power over life too.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Romans 5:17 for example: "For if, because of one man's trespass, death reigned through that one man, much more will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man Jesus Christ."

# Jesus invites us to surrender everything and follow Him

# What will you do with his claims? His invitation?

For you were **buried with Christ when you were baptized**. And with him you were **raised to new life** because you trusted the mighty power of God, who raised Christ from the dead. (Colossians 2:12 NLT)