

# "I Know That My Redeemer"

## GOD IS ALIVE

Casualty lists are depressing but we ought never get used to them. Death is horror. It abounds in war and traffic news and even in entertainment. It ought not be headlined in theology. The tragic death in the gospel has a sequel. We sing about an old rugged cross but make it of polished brass for our altars. Realism is indelicate. We don't talk of a man with a scourged back being spiked to a cross-beam, bleeding, writhing, hoisted up with his weight on the nails, left hanging and moaning to die in the blazing noonday sun. I can't imagine Mary, or John, or Peter saying, "I love that old cross!"

The tomb was not lovelier than the cross. None of the disciples lingered near it but fled until they met the Lord Himself alive, bearing wounds but walking and talking. It was then that lillies bloomed, that courage to live and die was given intravenously to the band of men and women whose hopes had been long deferred until their hearts were sick.

Whatever coherence may be in the four differing stories of the unwitnessed disentanglement something comes to our spirits that finds voice in many-noted Alleluias of Christian congregations. Mortal bodies continue to be terminal. But the good news that God is alive will bounce from earth to telestar across the world and back to lift us out of our feebleness to triumph through our everlasting spirits.

Rev. Charles H. Gilbert

Rev. Gilbert, who served Carverton Methodist charge from 1936 to 1946, has made his home in Mount Zion since retiring in 1959. He is Protestant Chaplain at Valley Crest.



## EASTER AND YOU

The Resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead completion of the Great Act of God's Love for man, experienced it, share of it, with each other, in simultaneous way, at Christmas time, in the Incarnation.

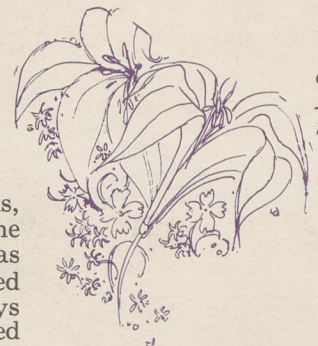
It is an extension and accomplishment of the Great Act of God's Love for man, experienced it, share of it, with each other, in simultaneous way, at Christmas time, in the Incarnation.

Living our lives, one day at a time, in that same way, we gain strength, through His blood and Death on the Cross, to carry our own daily suffering, misunderstanding, anxiety, uncertainty and the jumble of other discouragements, we again at Easter, with NEW HOPE, new courage in our souls, new joy and happiness, through God's love, continue to share ourselves with God and man, in every image and likeness of God.

In that thought, we pray and wish each and every one a Blessed and Joyfully Happy Season of Easter Day.

Father Albin

Father Albin has been serving as priest in charge of St. X. Cabrini Roman Catholic Church in Carverton.



## JESUS, PETER AND JUDAS

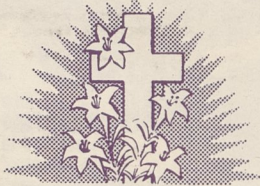
Crises do not make the man but they do reveal him. Jesus, Peter and Judas fell into three classes when they faced the cross. Going up to Jerusalem Jesus was popular and Judas clung to him to claim the advantage. But when the tide turned Judas forsook Jesus and took care of Judas. Tradition says Judas hanged himself with his moneybelt. Whatever he used broke and his body plunged down into the Vale of Hinnom which was the garbage dump of Jerusalem. How fittingly later scriptures said "He went to his own place."

But Peter knew his Lord. He wept bitterly and he also returned to his Lord. Peter's conduct in the face of the cross was shameful, but his Lord, when he called him from his boats and nets said "I will make you." On Pentecost the same Peter who lied, swore and disowned his Lord was the preacher under whose appeal the church started at none, and by night counted in its membership three thousand.

The third of this group was Jesus himself who "set his face steadfastly to go to Jerusalem." As the world again walks up the deepening shadow of the cross we all know well we are a part of one of these groups.

Charles H. Frick

Rev. Frick served Huntsville Christian Church for thirty-five years. Now retired, he lives in Benton. At the age of 88, he still enjoys working around the yard.



## HE LIVES

"He is risen, He is not dead." Mark tells for all time the end of time. They proclaimed these same words proclaimed the resurrection of lives forever. It is witnessed the God of power and the God, the God of Love.

All the cunning and the craft could not defeat God. The Cross could not destroy the guard could not keep Him and death. The whole of truth these words declare, after this Act of God. God His universe. God is living.

On that first Easter Day the resurrection of the dead fact of all who believe in Him. Not only the fear of death taken out of life. Had there been no Christianity, no religion, Christ loose in the world, lives of men. What joy nothing can separate us from Christ Jesus our Lord. We are here because the message is not here. What might be for our world today. God declares it anew.



## EASTER SUNRISE SERVICES

Easter Sunrise services help the worshiper to remember the first Easter, when the women went to the tomb of Jesus "very early in the morning".

While many churches have their own Sunrise services, others find it an appropriate time to join in worship together.

Couples Clubs of several Back Mountain churches will sponsor a 6 a.m. service at Dallas Outdoor Theater. Carverton Methodist Charge will worship at the same hour at Memorial Shrine, Carverton. Everyone is welcome at both these services.

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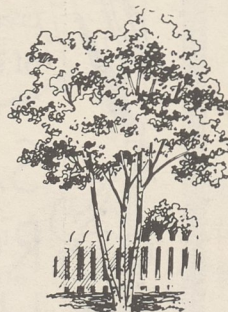
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