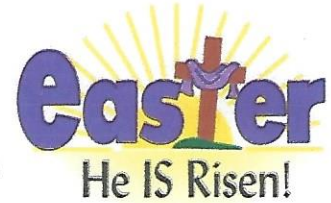


## E A S T E R Images and Words

**Easter:** The English word Easter is borrowed from the name of a pagan spring festival and is related to the fact that the sun rises in the east.

**“He is risen!”** and the reply, “He is risen, indeed!” are the most ancient—and always new—shouts of Christian people at Easter. “Jesus Christ is risen today . . .” is the same shout in the form of well-known Easter hymn, a Latin carol from the 14th century, which was set in English by Charles Wesley in the 18th century.



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**Alleluia:** a Hebrew word meaning “Praise the Lord,” which appears in the New Testament as part of the grand victory celebrations in the book of Revelation (chapter 19).

**White** is the color for Easter’s joyous celebration, although gold often accompanies white as the color for Easter Day and the following week.

**Butterfly:** The butterfly, emerging from its tomb-like cocoon, symbolizes Christ emerging from His empty tomb.

**Easter lily:** Of course the Easter lily is one of the most common signs of Easter with its heavy (funereal?) fragrance and trumpet-like appearance. This flower, shaped like the bell of a trumpet announcing victory, grows from a seemingly dead bulb which is buried in order for it to grow and bloom.

**The crown** is an Easter symbol that refers to our Lord, crowned as the triumphant Lord of life, and to the “crown of life” awaiting each of us.

**The Easter (paschal) Lamb of God** is now pictured, no longer in sacrificial death, but standing proudly with a victory banner.

