

# The Easter Story

Mark 16:1–8 or John 20:1–18

“Do not be alarmed. You seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified.  
He has risen; he is not here.”

The Easter Acclamation before the Gospel lesson is “Alleluia! Christ is risen!” We respond, “He is risen indeed! Alleluia!” One Alleluia isn’t enough. Jesus, our Lord, is alive.

The first Easter morning started with sadness and uncertainty, but it ended in a glorious celebration. The grave could not contain Jesus.

Jesus’ promises aren’t what we expect. He surprises us with His grace. Though He was a king, He was born in a stable. Though Israel expected the Messiah to sit on a throne, He came riding on a humble donkey. Instead of coming to rule, He came to serve. Simple wine and bread are His body and blood. And on Easter Sunday, when the women expected a barred tomb and a dead body, they found an empty tomb and a risen Lord, just as Jesus had promised.

Someday, our graves will also be empty because of Jesus’ sacrifice for us. Because He lives, we will live also (JOHN 14:19).

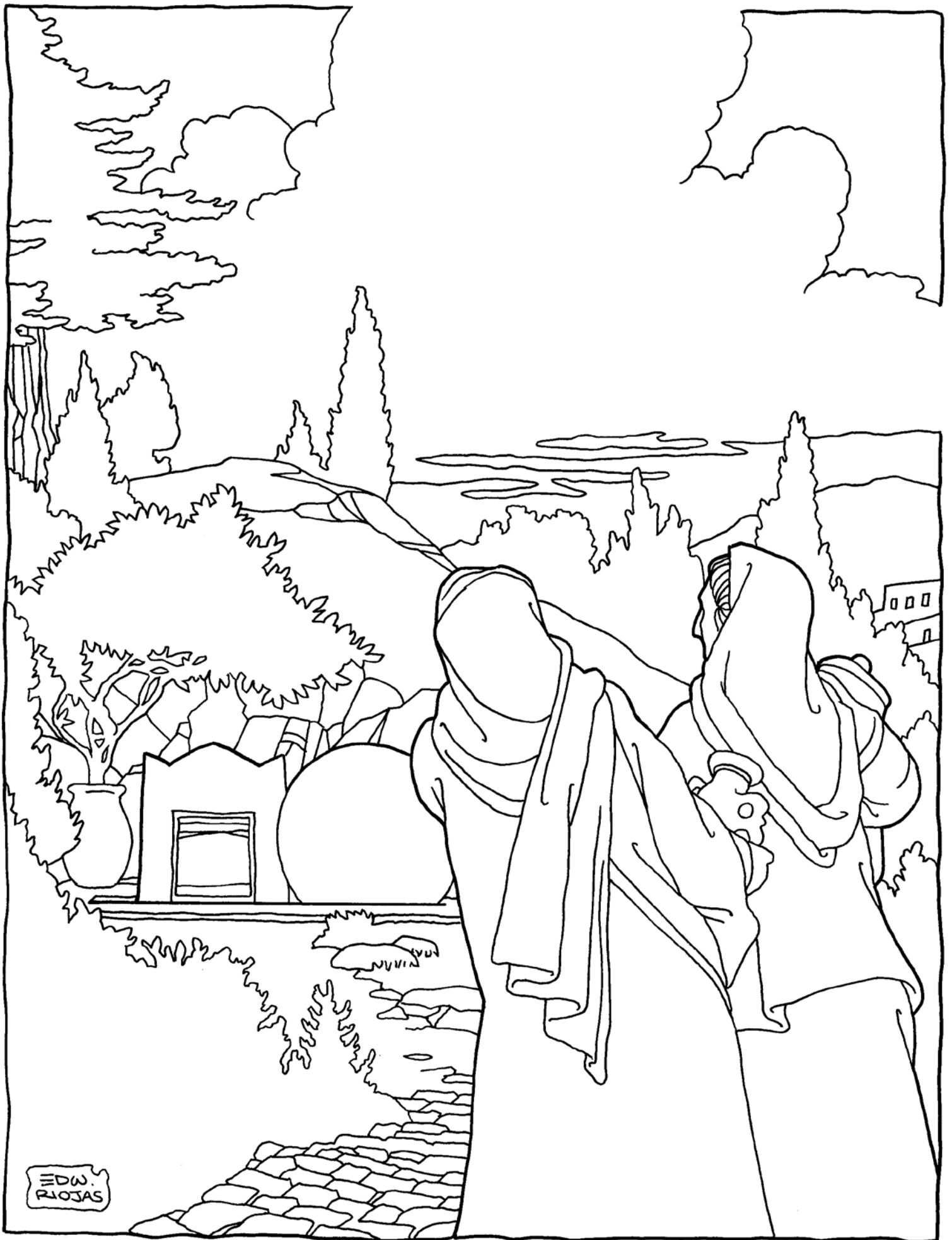
## Seek and Find

- ☐ The women going to the tomb
- ☐ The spices used for anointing the dead
- ☐ The empty tomb

## Think About It

Why could we treat every Sunday as a “little Easter”?

*Once we were in darkness, but now we are in the light, even Jesus Christ, Our Lord.*



EDW.  
RIOJAS