



Darkness was upon the earth when Christ was born. Doubt, suspicion, neglect, hatred nay even murder were abroad. And according to our tradition it was winter. The world was cold and stark: the trees were bare: the song of the birds was stilled and His shelter was a stable. But Christ is risen: the Winter is past: the flowers appear on the earth; the time of the singing of birds is come; life and love are abroad; very early in the morning in a garden Jesus appeared. Which things form our Easter Anthem of hope.

"In a Manger

In a garden Christ rose. Even so for a garden is a grave with a promise of life. And thus we go to the tombs of the sacred dead and the meeting-places of the living with our offerings of lilies, of palms, of roses. Each tells of the spring-



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ant Women's Institute day. April 3rd at the Wm. Perrin, with a of members present occupied the chain d by singing the openwhich a short prayer n the trenches was of president, Minutes of were read by the sec-pproved. Several come read by the secre of Wool was hand ring to knit Several utograph quilt were e secretary was inmore flannelette for pyjamas and surgical ole reported having irgical shirts and viamas. Several pairs eady to be shipped. responded to by Housecleaning." dered an appropriate id paper on gardening was read by Miss B valuable suggestions rom this paper. ation was given

r a pleasant and profiton was enjoyed by the er present. The hostess y refreshments. 'A silver as taken for Red Cross next Red Cross tea will he 24th at Mrs. Perrin's.

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This is the strangest Easter Day the world has known and never in the history of Easters has the world needed its message more.

The ancient name of the day was the "Sunday of Joy." The early Christians greeted each other as they met with the words, "Jesus is Risen," and this is the age-long salutation. In the Calendar of the Church Easter Day determines all other days in the year. It would be well now that the spirit of Easter should dominate all our days. Easter dawns upon a world grown too sadly familiar with death. On sea, on land, in the air, by fire, by sword, by famine, we know face to face him whom once we called the King• of Terrors. By Night" "In a Garden, Very Early in the Morning"



REV. J. B. FOTHERINGHAM Now Rector of Grace Church, Formerly of Goderich, Ontario time of life. Generation after generation follows in the train of the Magdalene who met Christ in the garden. Our dead are buried out of sight, but they are in the garden waiting for the springtime of resurrection. From the re-birth of flowers and from the love song of birds we learn anew to hope. Sometimes there are voices in the garden and someone says it is only the Gardener, but love and faith have their own secret: it is the voice of the endless life.

And it was early in the morning. The darkness was just passing and the breath of a new day was on the cheek. And the day born beside the empty grave is the day in which we live. The clouds of smoke on the battlefield part and the noise of the world stops and the birds begin to sing of a new day, when wrong, injustice, war, death will be over and gone. At Easter the Russians open the cages of the birds to let the imprisoned songsters go free. Easter was the day when slaves used to be liberated: it is called in the East, "The Bright Day." This, our Easter-tide, brings the message of the victory of the Lord of Light over the powers of darkness and this is our Easter prayer in a time of war that the night of tyranny may end.

Our dead are ours this bright day—living because of Him who is alive henceforth and for ever: the day of our Empire, though overcast with sorrow and separation, is breaking towards the perfect day.

J. B. Fotheringham, Rector Grace Church



THIRTEEN





