

TUESDAY, APRIL 21



Romans 6:9–14 ♦ Psalm 99:1–5

We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over Him. *Romans 6:9*

Already Died

The widow's son. Jairus's daughter. Lazarus. Tabitha. Several people on Good Friday (Matthew 27:52). These people died. And God raised them back to life. But they eventually died again.

But not Jesus. See, Jesus was the first person to die without deserving it. In the just laws of creation, death was overthrown! For one to die without sin? Suddenly, all the wages of sin were paid, and death could no longer collect on the debt owed.

When Jesus, life incarnate, died, He rose for the last time. Because He died for the last time.

“Praise we in songs of victory That love, that life which cannot die” (*LSB* 475:3).

And if you think that's amazing, here's something else: you've already died too. That's right! Read Romans 6 again. In Baptism, we died with Christ. Our sinful selves are dead and buried. Our eternal life has already begun!

Yes, our bodies may still die if Jesus doesn't return first, but that's why Christians often say that believers are “asleep.” Our spirits rest in the Lord and our bodies rest in the ground until the Last Day, when in Christ, we will rise.

*Lord of Life, You are the resurrection and the life.
You have overcome death for us all! Help us to
not fear and instead trust in You. Amen.*