

Easter

2008

My dear sisters and brothers
in Christ,
Nearly 2,000 years ago, the
world changed. In a remote part
of the mighty Roman empire,
word began to spread that a
poor Jewish carpenter and
itinerant preacher had done
the impossible: he had conquered
death. Since those early
times, the size and influence
of Christianity has coronated
kings and dethroned despots. It
has spread to every continent,
and its members still seek out
every quiet corner and every
open field to tell the story of
Jesus Christ.

Americans today are people
who live in the moment, and
to describe the impact of the
Resurrection takes time and
understanding that some are
unwilling to give. Of course,
Jesus conquered death, but
of greater significance is that
he conquered sin. Through
his sacrifice, he paid our debt,
brought on by disobedience,
and made eternal happiness
with him once again attainable.
He did this as one of us, a human,
our brother.

It doesn't matter whether
you are wealthy or poor, native
or immigrant, man or woman,
ordained or lay. In Jesus' eyes,
we were pearls of great value,
and he willingly paid the price
for our freedom with his life.
If he could see the presence
of God in each of us, and lay
down his life, surely we can do
no less.

Let us strive to make this Easter
a better day in Idaho. Let us

pause to look within ourselves
and see what Jesus saw, the
presence of God. Finally, let us
look to our neighbor – wealthy
or poor, native or immigrant,
man or woman, ordained or lay
– and see the same goodness in
them that Jesus saw.

You see, my friends, of all the
great mysteries in the church –
including how God could come
as a man and die for our sins – a
wonderful part of our faith is no
mystery at all.

“Love one another as I have
loved you.”

Have a joyous Easter. Yours
in Christ,
Bishop Michael P. Driscoll