

“Easter”
April 12, 2009
By Rebecca Enney

After church on Easter morning Mrs. Mawakasunga said “Don’t forget to take a balloon home from church for Aunt Gertrude.” And Elizabeth asked Barabas to come along again, just like they did last week with the palms.

This time Barabas was not quite as nervous as he was last week about the visit. As the two of them went upstairs they could hear Aunt Gertrude snoring very loudly. Then the teeny tiny sound of opening the door made Aunt Gertrude wake up suddenly with a snort. (snort) Barabas and Elizabeth looked at each other and smiled.

“Happy Easter.” they both said in unison as they put the balloons next to her bed, being careful to hook them unto the bed so they would not float out of reach.

Aunt Gertrude struggled to get out of bed. Both Elizabeth and Barabas could see the huge crack in her neck. It has become increasingly difficult for Aunt Gertrude to stand or even to speak. She said “. . . ist . . . is . . . isen.”

“I see that you have risen.” answered Elizabeth helpfully.

Barabas thought Elizabeth may have misunderstood her aunt.

“Do you like the balloons we brought you from church?” Elizabeth continued.

Aunt Gertrude turned to look at the balloons but in her awkwardness she bumped the bed and the balloons got unhooked and . . . floated to the ceiling, out of reach!

She looked at the children and said “. . . ist . . . is . . . isen.” And Elizabeth gave a polite laugh and said, “Yes, I guess the balloons HAVE risen!”

Barabas thought to himself “I don’t think she was talking about the balloons.”

In her eagerness to be friendly with her aunt, Elizabeth changed the subject and said “I found lots of eggs and chocolate candy outside this morning! Did you look out your window and watch me?”

Aunt Gertrude nodded and smiled.

Elizabeth chattered on about finding the eggs and candy and all the while Barabas kept thinking about how hard it is for Aunt Gertrude. He kept trying not to stare at her broken neck. He suddenly had an odd feeling that there is something he is supposed to do for her but he hasn’t been told yet what it is. And it made him a little afraid. So Barabas pushed the idea to the back of his mind . . . where it will stay . . . for a while.

The women who went to the tomb of Jesus on that first Easter morning may have felt a bit like Barabas. They were unsure of what to do next when they found the tomb empty. So they put that uncertainty in the back of their minds and went on to Galilee to meet the disciples, as they were instructed to do. But they were afraid.



In the meantime Aunt Gertrude started to struggle to get back into bed, but first she turned and once again said “. . . ist . . . is . . . isen.”

This time, before Elizabeth could say anything Barabas quickly said “He is risen indeed?” Aunt Gertrude, with growing excitement said it again “. . . ist . . . is . . . isen.” and Barabas again said “He is risen indeed!” And yet a third time Aunt Gertrude said it “. . . ist . . . is . . . isen.” and Barabas said “Indeed!” and Elizabeth said “ALLELUIA!” like they do in church!

(Place Risen Christ)

Christ has indeed risen from the dead. This is indeed God’s plan for our salvation!

THE END