

# This Easter Celebration

(sung to “The Church’s One Foundation”)

Words: Carolyn Winfrey Gillette, 2020

Music: Samuel Sebastian Wesley, 1864

I. This Easter celebration  
is not like ones we’ve known.

We pray in isolation,  
we sing the hymns alone.

We’re distant from our neighbors --  
from worship leaders too.

No flowers grace the chancel  
to set a festive mood.

2. No gathered choirs are singing;  
no banners lead the way.  
O God of love and promise,  
where's joy this Easter Day?

With sanctuaries empty,  
may homes become the place  
we ponder resurrection  
and celebrate your grace.

3. Our joy won't come from worship  
that's in a crowded room  
but from the news of women  
who saw the empty tomb.

Our joy comes from disciples  
who ran with haste to see --  
who heard that Christ is risen,  
and then, by grace believed.

4. In all the grief and suffering,  
may we remember well;  
Christ suffered crucifixion  
and faced the powers of hell.

Each Easter bears the promise:  
Christ rose that glorious day!  
Now nothing in creation  
can keep your love away.

5. We thank you that on Easter,  
your church is blessed to be  
a scattered, faithful body  
that's doing ministry.

In homes and in the places  
of help and healing, too,  
we live the Easter message  
by gladly serving you.