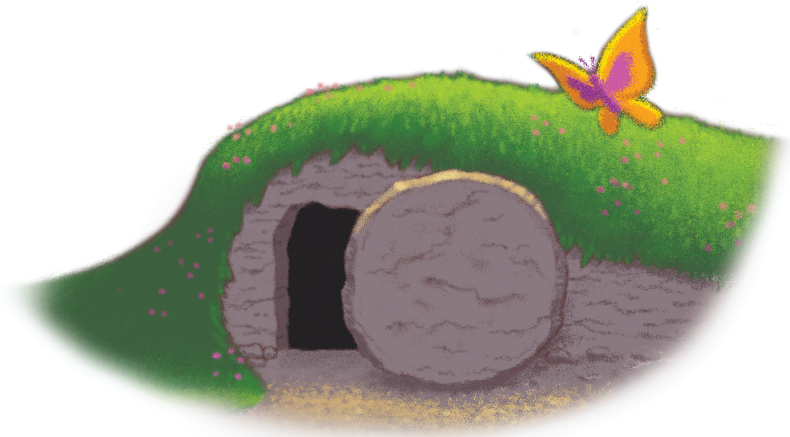


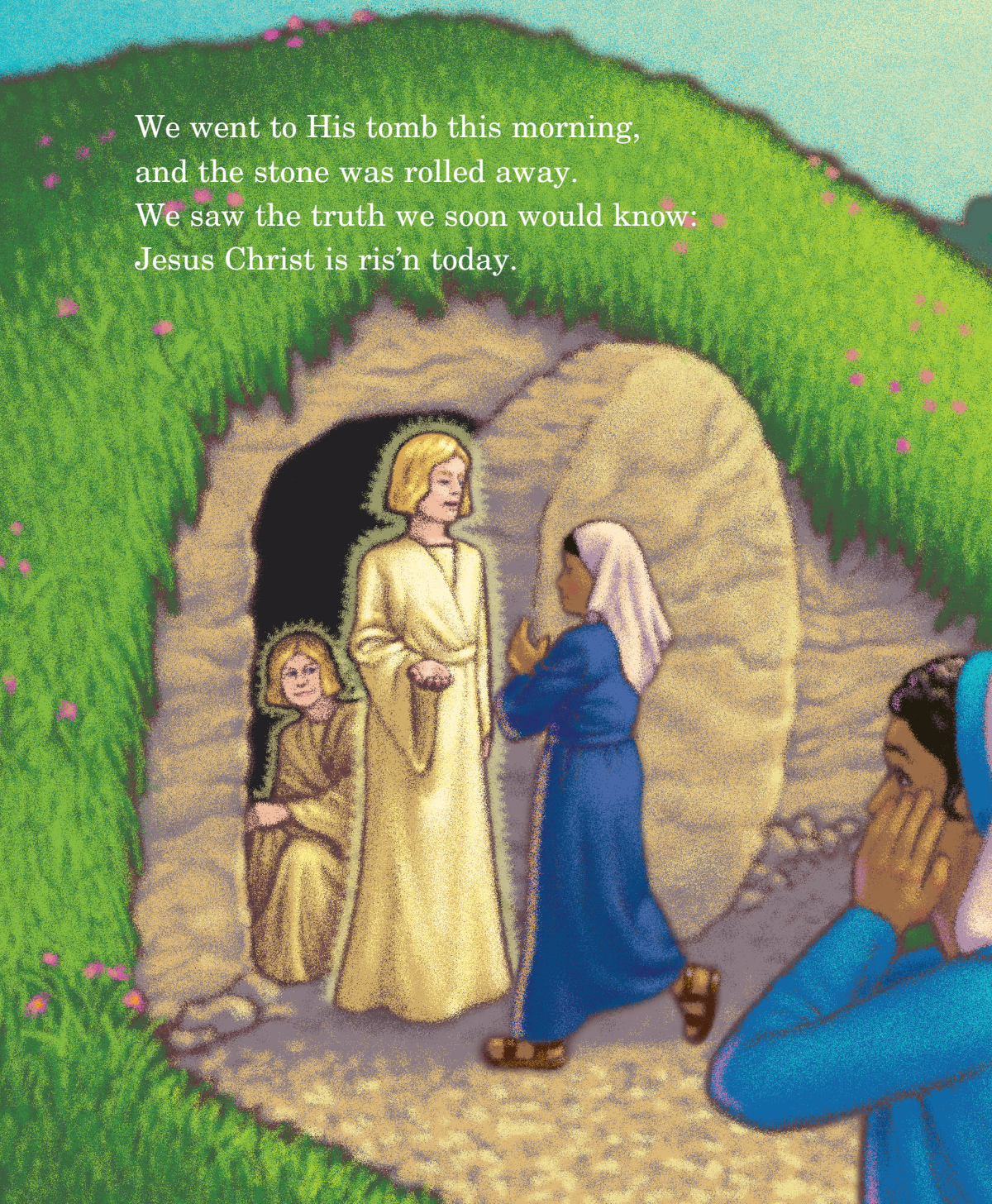
Jesus Christ Is Risen Today!

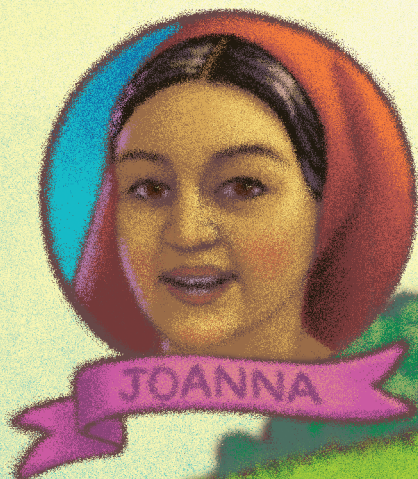


The story of Easter from Matthew 28;
Mark 16; Luke 24; John 20 for children

Eric C. Bohnet
Illustrated by Erika LeBarre

We went to His tomb this morning,
and the stone was rolled away.
We saw the truth we soon would know:
Jesus Christ is ris'n today.





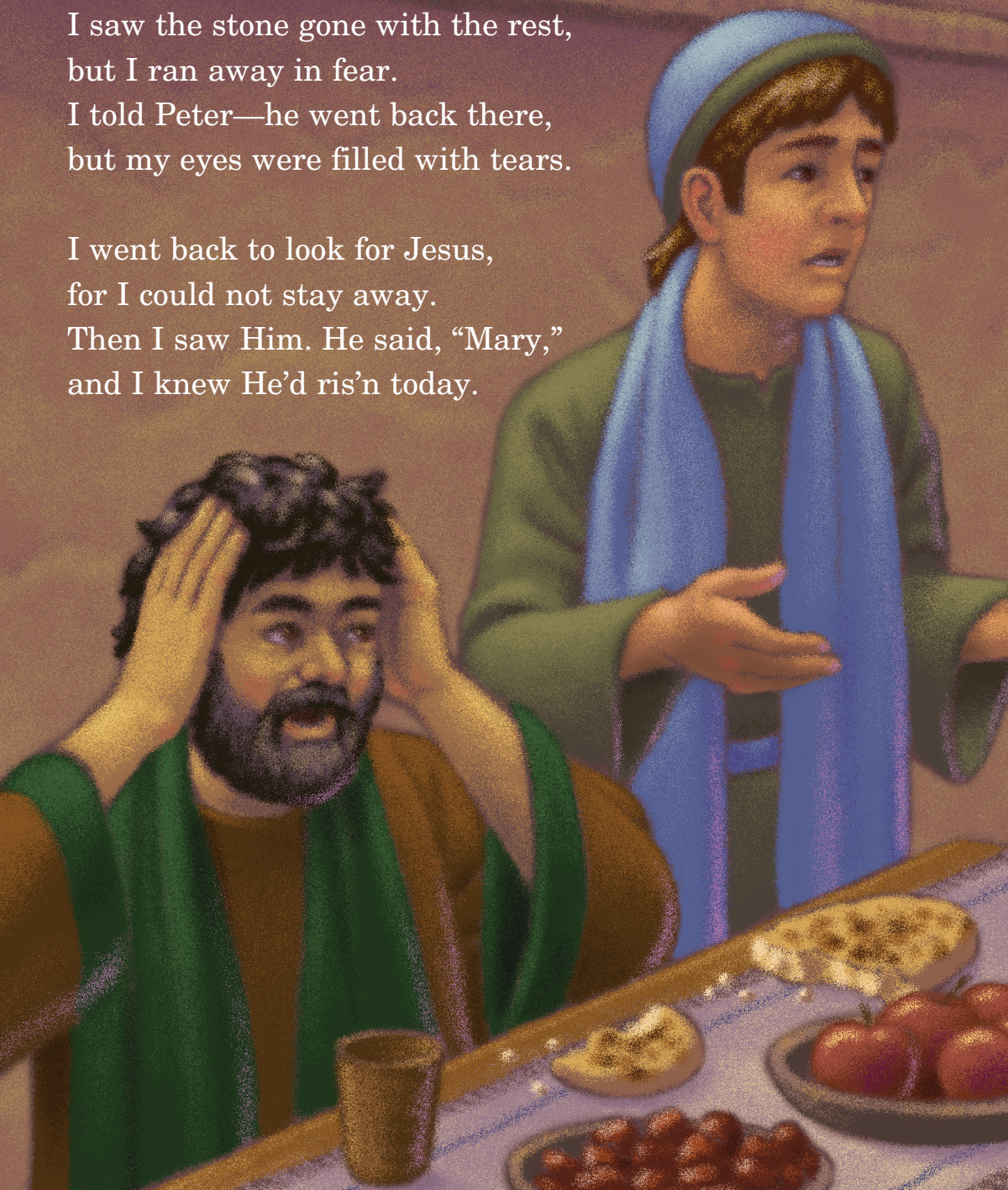
So we went inside to see Him,
but His body was not there.
Instead we saw two bright angels,
wearing dazzling clothes so fair.

Then they asked, "Why are you looking
for the living with the dead?
He's not here, for Christ is risen.
He is risen as He said."



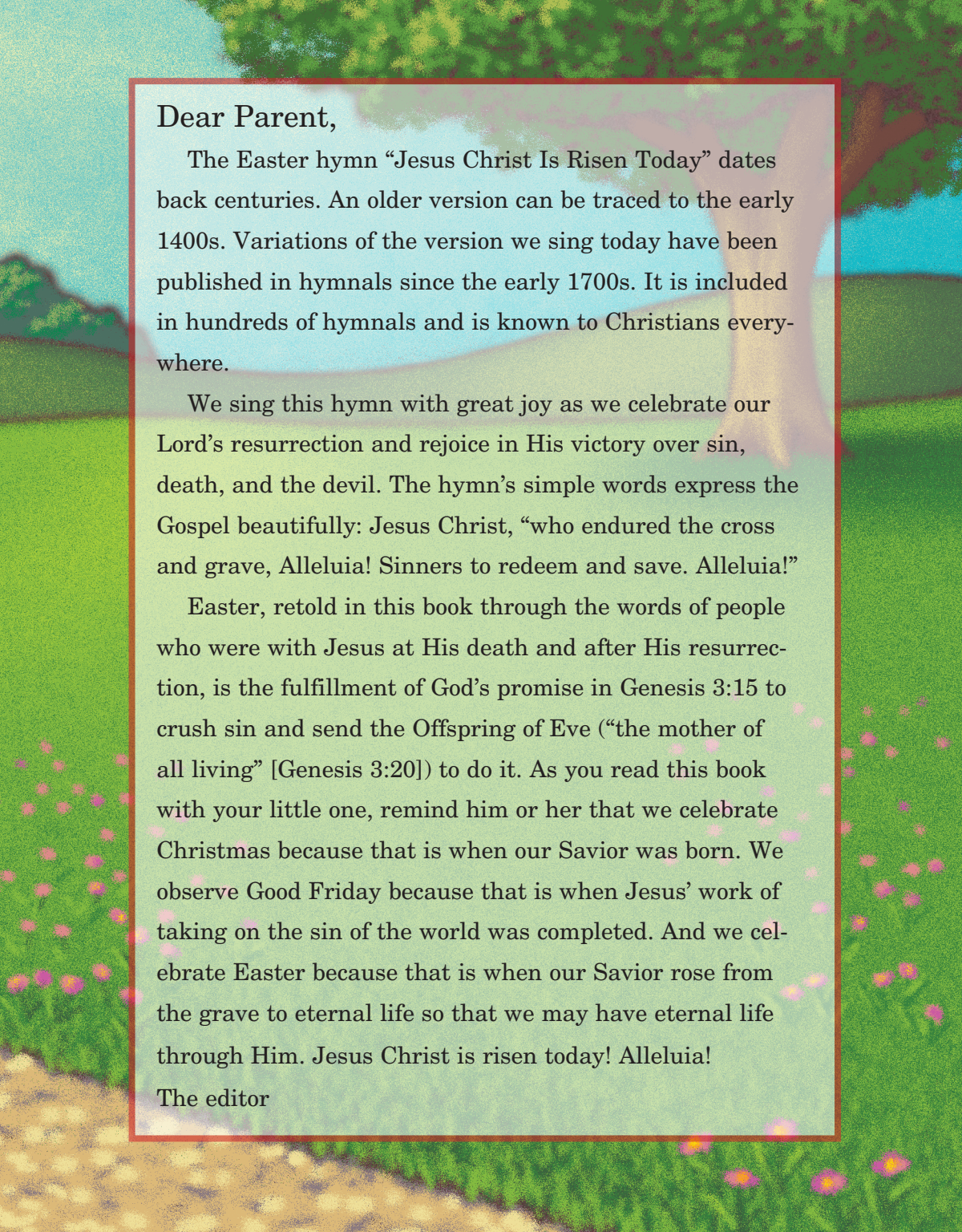
I saw the stone gone with the rest,
but I ran away in fear.
I told Peter—he went back there,
but my eyes were filled with tears.

I went back to look for Jesus,
for I could not stay away.
Then I saw Him. He said, “Mary,”
and I knew He’d ris’n today.





MARY MAGDALENE



Dear Parent,

The Easter hymn “Jesus Christ Is Risen Today” dates back centuries. An older version can be traced to the early 1400s. Variations of the version we sing today have been published in hymnals since the early 1700s. It is included in hundreds of hymnals and is known to Christians everywhere.

We sing this hymn with great joy as we celebrate our Lord’s resurrection and rejoice in His victory over sin, death, and the devil. The hymn’s simple words express the Gospel beautifully: Jesus Christ, “who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia! Sinners to redeem and save. Alleluia!”

Easter, retold in this book through the words of people who were with Jesus at His death and after His resurrection, is the fulfillment of God’s promise in Genesis 3:15 to crush sin and send the Offspring of Eve (“the mother of all living” [Genesis 3:20]) to do it. As you read this book with your little one, remind him or her that we celebrate Christmas because that is when our Savior was born. We observe Good Friday because that is when Jesus’ work of taking on the sin of the world was completed. And we celebrate Easter because that is when our Savior rose from the grave to eternal life so that we may have eternal life through Him. Jesus Christ is risen today! Alleluia!

The editor