

# Confession and Assurance – Celebrate New Life

God of life, in you, death has no power.  
Because of you, this life is not our final end.  
Thank you.

It feels good to celebrate new life, yours and ours.  
It's spring.

We long to throw off the heavy blankets of winter and bask in the sun.  
We confess that, just as some folks would like to skip winter,  
there are times when we want to skip the whole crucifixion story  
and jump straight to the resurrection.

And yet there are other times when death feels more real than life.  
When we see an empty tomb, it is easy to despair, and it seems futile to hope.  
We hear stories of people who claim to have seen you alive;  
we want to believe, but struggle.

Forgive us for not recognizing you, for doubting our fellow believers,  
and for trying to hold you back.

*(Pause for silent confession)*

The Lord is my strength and my might;  
He has become my salvation.

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