

The Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of the State of Iowa

Series 2025-2026
General Order No. 9



Jason W. Delzell, REGC
February 22nd, 2026

Easter Message

To: All Past Grand Commanders, current Grand Officers, Committee Members, Officers, and Sir Knights of all Constituent Commanderies within the Jurisdiction of the Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Iowa.

Right Eminent Grant Commander of the Grand Commandery of Iowa S.K. Jason Delzell has requested the Grand Prelate's Easter Message to be written and subsequently read in each Iowa Commandery during the month of March, 2026.

Grand Prelate's Easter Message – 2026

Brothers, Companions, Sir Knights, and your families;

The great prophet Isaiah wrote *“But know this says the Lord, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: **“Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine.”*** (Isaiah 43:1)

Jesus fulfilled God's promise of redemption, and simultaneously fulfilled the prophecy of Isaiah – He has called you by name (at your baptism), and does so again when you say to him “I believe!”, and will so do at least once more - at the time of your passing.

When God calls you by name ... hear Him and listen. The power of His calling, and the personal joy one receives is stupendous, as exemplified by one woman's experience

Mary Magdalene, looking for the crucified body of Jesus at His tomb, asked a man she believed to be the gardener, “ ‘Where have you taken him?’ And Jesus turned to her and said, **‘Mary.’** “ (John 20:14-16) One little word, spoken by the risen Master – her name – and she knew it was Him. That cemented Mary's already firm belief in Jesus, the Savior, the Christ.

For Jesus has redeemed us through his ultimate sacrifice, his life for ours – for yours. He has won the battle, beautifully shared by Martin Luther in his great hymn, “A Mighty Fortress Is Our God*”. Luther’s lyrics include this: **“one little word subdues him.”** What’s the word, and who is subdued? Luther’s ‘one little word’ is actually two words (poetic license) sung in a different verse, ‘Christ Jesus is his name’; and He ‘subdues him’ – He subdues the devil (meaning sin and death). As a result, the last words of the last verse resound, **“His Kingdom is forever.”, i.e., for you and me!**

When each of us speak the words, **“I believe!”**, we enter a personal relationship with God, and with his Son, the risen Jesus Christ, and with the Holy Spirit who lives among us today and each day. And when we stand, symbolically at the empty tomb of Jesus on Easter morning and proclaim, **‘Christ is risen!’**, like Mary Magdalene our faith is cemented, and also like Mary we are each called by name by Christ Jesus to live with him forever, ‘in that house, not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.’ **He has risen for you! He has called you – by name!**

Hallelujah! Christ is risen! Christ is risen indeed!

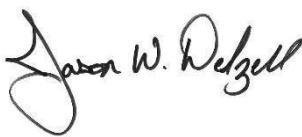
Fraternally,

Jons C. Olsson, Grand Prelate

Grand Commandery of Iowa

(* written 1527-1529 A.D.; the great hymn’s 500 th Anniversary is next year!)

Chivalric Regards,



Jason W. Delzell
R.E. Grand Commander



Attested:



Scott A. Schabacker
Grand Recorder