

'Come on, Jesus!'

The call to worship had just been pronounced during Easter Sunday morning service in an East Texas church.



The choir started its processional, singing *Up from the Grave He Arose* as they marched in perfect step down the center aisle to the front of the church. The last lady was wearing shoes with very slender heels.

Without a thought for her fancy heels, she marched toward the grating that covered the hot-air register in the middle of the aisle. Suddenly, the heel of one shoe sank into the hole in the register grate.

In a flash, she realized her predicament. Not wishing to hold up the whole processional, and without missing a step, she slipped her foot out of her shoe and continued marching down the aisle.

There wasn't a hitch. The processional moved with clocklike precision. The first man after her spotted the situation and – without losing a step – reached down and pulled up her shoe. Alas, however, the entire grate came with it!

Surprised, but still singing, the man proceeded down the aisle, holding in his hand the grate with the shoe attached. Imagine that picture!

Everything, however, kept moving like clockwork. Still in tune and still in step, the next man in line stepped into the open register and disappeared from sight.

The service took on a special meaning that Sunday, for just as the choir ended with *Allelujah! Christ Arose!*, a voice somewhere under the church floor shouted: "I hope all of you are out of the way 'cause I'm coming out now!"

A little girl – closest to the aisle and the hole where the register had been – shouted, "Come on, Jesus! We'll stay out of the way."

Now that's a very funny story. Bizarre events such as this one have a more comical effect in a church setting than they might otherwise.

But the story contains a foundational truth about faith in Christ – particularly appropriate to recognize in this Easter season – that is on display here.

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Christ, the Prince of Heaven, willingly went to the cross on our behalf – taking our sins upon Himself – and His resurrection from the grave means that we, too, can have eternal life. All it takes is faith in Jesus as the Son of God, making Him the Lord of our lives, surrendering our own will to Him.

In other words, “Come on, Jesus!” We’ll stay out of the way.

For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life (John 3:16 NKJV).

– Beecher Hunter