**Drama about the raising of Lazarus: John chapter 11: 17-46 CEV**

**Narrator:** Mary and Martha and the woman are very sad. They wished Jesus had come earlier. Jesus is on his way to Bethany. He finds out that Lazarus has already been in the tomb four days. Many people had come to comfort Martha and Mary because their brother had died.20When Martha heard that Jesus had arrived, she went out to meet him, but Mary stayed in the house.

**Martha:** **21**“Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.22Yet even now I know that God will do anything you ask.”

**Jesus:** “Your brother will live again!”

**Martha:** “I know that he will be raised to life on the last day, when all the dead are raised.”

**Jesus:** “I am the one who raises the dead to life! Everyone who has faith in me will live, even if they die.**26**And everyone who lives because of faith in me will never really die. Do you believe this?”

**Martha:** “Yes, Lord!” “I believe that you are Christ, the Son of God. You are the one we hoped would come into the world.”

**Narrator: 28**After Martha said this, she went and privately said to her sister Mary, “The Teacher is here, and he wants to see you.”**29**As soon as Mary heard this, she got up and went out to Jesus. **30**He was still outside the village where Martha had gone to meet him.**31**Many people had come to comfort Mary, and when they saw her quickly leave the house, they thought she was going out to the tomb to cry. So they followed her.**32**Mary went to where Jesus was. Then as soon as she saw him, she knelt at his feet.

**Mary:** “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.”

**Narrator:**When Jesus saw that Mary and the people with her were crying, he was terribly upset.

**Jesus:** “Where have you put his body?”

**People:** “Lord, come and you will see.”

**Narrator:** **35**Jesus started crying. Some people said “See how much he loved Lazarus.”

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**Narrator:** **38**Jesus was still terribly upset. So he went to the tomb, which was a cave with a stone rolled against the entrance. Then he told the people to roll the stone away.

**Jesus:**Roll the stone away.

**Martha:** “Lord, you know that Lazarus has been dead four days, and there will be a bad smell.”

**Jesus:**“Didn’t I tell you that if you had faith, you would see the glory of God?”

**Narrator:** **41**After the stone had been rolled aside, Jesus looked up toward heaven and prayed

**Jesus:** “Father, I thank you for answering my prayer.**42**I know that you always answer my prayers. But I said this, so that the people here would believe that you sent me.”

**Jesus:** “Lazarus, come out!”

**Narrator:** **44**The man who had been dead came out. His hands and feet were wrapped with strips of burial cloth, and a cloth covered his face.

**Jesus:** “Untie him and let him go.”

*Some people untie the cloths and the people are amazed and give thanks to God*. *Jesus and Lazarus greet each other and the people are rejoicing.*

***Questions*** *1. What do you think Martha and Mary were thinking, as they waited for Jesus to arrive?  
2. Why do you think Jesus wept?  
3. With whom do you identify in this story? How would it have felt to be in the crowd that day?  
4. Are we afraid when something truly powerful, truly astonishing, happens?  
5. What is the Still -Speaking God saying to you today?*