

Easter, 2020

by [Marda Messick](#) in the [March 24, 2021](#) issue

First Easter without  
(he died in the summer)  
and alone

although  
in her driveway my neighbor  
offered at arms' length  
a loaf of new bread

and I took the bread  
in the same way  
and at my table broke it  
with gloved hands

and processed  
like a Mary  
to my friend  
and gave her portion

saying  
Take and eat  
this is for you

and taking the bread  
with bare hands  
O gracious she said  
I am hungry

and praises arose  
like leaven  
in our hearts.