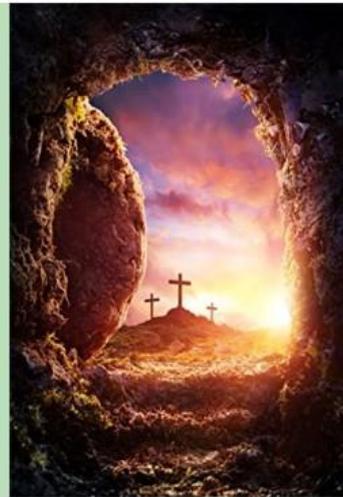




Wishing all of our members a blessed and peaceful Easter

“We focus on Good Friday and Easter Sunday, but we forget to pause in the stillness of the day in-between. Find time today to be present in that place of waiting. There is treasure to be found in the sacred peace that comes as you breathe in that place of quiet surrender. Don't rush through the space called “Between.”

– Katherine J Walden



Resurrection is Coming...

This morning as we awake to Holy Saturday in the midst of a global pandemic, we reflect on the silence of the space *in between*. For the disciples, today was when all hope was lost, an empty day, a day of deep grief and lost hope. Jesus was crucified. This space *in between* is a difficult place to be. Before the signs of new life or the dawn of a new day, desperately needing to know Jesus who brings light to the darkest of our spaces.

God's greatest plan of love was yet to be revealed. In between the suffering of Christ on the cross on Good Friday “it is finished” and the shining glory of our Easter cry “He is Risen,” the Disciples did not know that a hope greater than the one they had previously held onto was about to rise amidst their darkness.

On this Holy Saturday 2021, may we allow those *in between* places in our lives be buried with *Jesus*, resting and waiting for God to raise us up. Perhaps this day can be the dark backdrop against which the bright joy of Easter stands out.

No matter how long the days *in between* may last, they are never the end of the story..... **Resurrection is coming.**

An Easter Prayer

Good and gracious God,
Our most glorious Creator,
As we greet the signs in nature around us:
Of Spring once again regaling us in bloom,
In the songs of returning birds and fields soon to be planted,
We give you praise for an even greater sign of new life:
the resurrection of your Son,
Our Lord Jesus Christ, that we especially celebrate at this time.
The sadness and despair of his death has given way
to the bright promise of immortality.
For the Resurrection is our guarantee that justice
will triumph over treason,
Light will overcome darkness, and love will conquer death.
As we celebrate, we ask for the grace that we may live your promise,
By imitating the life of Jesus may we always reach out to the poor,
the marginalized, the least among us.
We praise you in this Easter season.
Change our lives,
change our hearts to be messengers of Easter joy and hope.
We make our prayer through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord forever.

Amen.

