



Cherish All Children

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Wednesday Prayer – Resurrection of our Lord

Now there was a garden in the place where he was crucified, and in the garden there was a new tomb in which no one had ever been laid. And so, because it was the Jewish day of Preparation, and the tomb was nearby, they laid Jesus there. John 19:41-42

But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, they came to the tomb, taking the spices that they had prepared. They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they went in, they did not find the body. While they were perplexed about this, suddenly two men in dazzling clothes stood beside them. The women were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen. Luke 24:1-5

Christ has risen! **He has risen indeed!**

A blessed Holy Week and Easter to you and to the whole world.

Barbara Brown Taylor, in her book, Learning to Walk in the Dark, writes of the significance of Jesus' resurrection taking place in a dark place. Alone, in the dark, in a tomb, Jesus sighs the first breath of his resurrected life. Jesus sits in the dark, folds his wrappings neatly and breathes again. There is no spectacle to this moment, but there is hope for all of us who dwell in darkness and the shadow of suffering and death. For all of us who see our vocations to be to willingly share in people's darkness, injustice and pain, we trust in the hope that emerges from the darkness. We cling to the folded cloths of the tomb as we enter the darkness of trafficking, addiction, exploitation and pain, knowing that Jesus sits in the darkness with us. He sighs the first breath of his resurrected life into us that we might share that life with others. Welcome to the darkness, where we share in the coming light.

Gracious Christ breathe into us the breath of your new life. Dwell with us as we join you in the darkness. Give us hope in your beginning breath and keep us from fear. Give us courage and grace, and guide us by your hand, for we cannot see what you see. May your peace dwell in our hearts, and your glory be made known to all. Amen.

Written by Pastor Nathan Tuff, Olivet Lutheran Church, Sylvania Ohio & Cherish All Children Advisory Board Member.