



EDDIE'S EMBRACE

A REFLECTION ON EASTER SUNDAY

Gospel:

Luke 24 1-12:

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him." Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went toward the tomb. The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, and the cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead.

Reflection:

It was still dark when Mary of Magdala came to the tomb and found the stone moved away. Her first thought was not the resurrection, but that someone had taken Jesus' body, so she ran to get help. When Peter arrived, he saw the burial cloths. When John arrived, he saw the same scene, but 'he believed'. John known as Jesus' beloved disciple saw with the eyes of his heart and just knew that God had raised Jesus from the dead. Easter Sunday celebrates that darkness was overcome by light. But Easter is not a once-only event. We catch something of the reality of resurrection whenever we experience new life emerging from hopelessness. This transformation can be personal to our own circumstances when relationships break down or disaster of one sort or another strikes. And it can be global. What about the Good News stories that emerge from violent situations and crises like pandemics? It is all a matter of seeing reality through the eyes of our heart. *This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad*

Prayer:

Lord God, you loved this world so much that you gave your one and only Son, that we might be called your children too. Lord, help us to live in the gladness and grace of Easter Sunday, every day. Let us have hearts of thankfulness for your sacrifice. Let us have eyes that look upon your grace and rejoice in our salvation. Help us to walk in that mighty grace and tell your good news to the world. All for your glory do we pray, Lord, Amen.

- Rachel Marie Stone

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