



Hallelujah!

The Lord is risen indeed.

LUKE 24:34

April 8, 2025

“Very early on the first day of the week, just after sunrise...” That’s the way that the Gospel of Mark describes the time of day that the women who followed Jesus started out for the tomb.

This Easter Eve will mark the 32nd anniversary of my mother’s death. It’s okay, it’s not a sad thing anymore. I carry her with me always and who she was still influences who I am. I remember so clearly waking up the morning after she died and being absolutely astonished that the sun actually came up. But it did, and I got up and went about doing all the things that needed to be done.

I wonder if it was like that for those women who would go to the tomb at sunrise that first Easter morning. What had they thought when the sun came up on that unthinkable Sabbath morning after Jesus’ death? Had they gotten up and done the things that needed to be done? What about the next morning? Had they awakened in the grey, pre-dawn darkness with that same astonishment that day was returning, knowing that they were called by faith and love to the tomb to do what needed to be done?

In the darkest of times, we find that the sun keeps coming up and we as Christians keep going out to do what we need to do. Throughout Holy Week, we trace Jesus’ path to the cross, and we mourn his death. And then every Easter morning we find the tomb empty just as those women did. And just as they did, we carry Jesus with us always and we make it our work to allow who he is to influence who we are. We rejoice in his resurrection as they did. We continue to spread the good news as they did. We continue to love our neighbors, pray for our enemies, and help those who need our help even when the world urges us to do otherwise.

Just like those women who went to the tomb early on the first day of the week, let us do what we are called by faith and love to do – proclaim Jesus’ resurrection joyfully and be known in the world by our love.

Looking forward to celebrating the joy of Jesus’ resurrection with you all on Easter.

The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Theresa Hoyt- Chattin

Verger and Interim Ministry Coordinator