



"The angel said to the women, 'Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. He is not here; he has risen, just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay.'"
Matthew 28:5-6

Dear Friends

As we approach Good Friday, we are drawn sharply to suffering, the suffering servant, to the suffering in our world, and the need for redemption. We will take seriously the pain and the agony suffered by millions due to war, famine, the realities of displacement. The anguish of feeling isolated and alone, due to a myriad of social and economic factors. We recognize the voice within us which may rally against God in these times.

Jurgen Moltmann gives an interesting reflection:

"People who suffer always first think that they have been abandoned by God and then all the good things in life are in eclipse. People who cry out for God in their suffering can find that they are joining in Christ's death cry. They discover in the suffering Christ, the God who understands them and suffers with them. Once we sense this, we perceive that God is not a cold, remote force of destiny whom we have to accuse and cry out against, but in Christ he becomes the human God who cries out with us and in us, and who intervenes on our behalf."

The resurrection does not forget the suffering, but places before us firmly the truth that things can be transformed through the resurrection and by the power of Jesus' life and death, and the transformational presence of the Holy Spirit. A God who cries out against the injustices in this world and in essence invites us to do the same.

On the morning of the resurrection we encounter hope in all its richness, the realisation that what was once lost is now found, the newfound implications of living a life with the Risen Christ and the joy of experiencing the intimacy of our relationship with an eternal God. This is hope at its best, God will surpass our own expectations, continually offering us new possibilities beyond the very moments of our suffering, that we and the world can be changed.

"Don't be afraid, for I know you are looking for Jesus," this Easter let's be open to receiving that which God wishes to reveal to us, *"come and see."*

Open to you from Celtic Roots and Rhythms heart cry, Nick and Anita Haigh

*My eyes be open to your presence
My ears to hear your call
My heart be open to your love
And in your arms to fall
My mind be open to your word
My soul to heaven's cure
That I may be open to you lord
This day and evermore*

*My life be open to your leading
My hands to do your will
My lips be open in your praise
And for your truth to tell
My home be open in your name
For weary ones and poor
That I be open to you lord
This day and evermore*



*My door be open to the other
Wherever we may meet
My arms be open to the one
In whom I am complete
Myself be open to your world
And in it see your face
That I be open to you lord
Held fast in your embrace*

With every blessing this Easter

A handwritten signature in black ink. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style. It appears to read 'Kim Money' with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

Revd Kim Money
Moderator Northern Synod