

Station Fourteen of the Cross | April 9

He is Risen

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. Then the disciples returned to their homes.

But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. They said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him." When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?" Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away." Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned and said to him in Hebrew, "Rabbouni!" (which means Teacher). Jesus said to her, "Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'" Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord"; and she told them that he had said these things to her.



Encouragement for the Lenten Journey:

When Easter finally came, the first day of the week, the women found that Jesus Christ had indeed risen from the dead, just as He had told them He would. Pick up a stone and hold it in your hand—feel the coldness of the tomb. Then rub it together in between your hands and you will feel the warmth that comes when it is rubbed against the flesh and blood that is alive. He is Risen. Risen Indeed.

Prayer

Good and Gracious God, we thank you for sending your own Son to live in this earth, to die on the cross, and then to rise to join You, bringing reconciliation and salvation to us. Help us to feel the excitement that Mary and the others felt that first Easter morning to know that You were and are the sufficient sacrifice for the cleansing of all of our sins and wrongdoings and that death holds nothing over You or us because of Your sacrifice. We look forward to the day when we will rise again to join you in the eternity that You have waiting for us.

*It takes a lot of everything to **create home and healing** for the foster children, our neighbors, served at Morningstar Children's Home.*

We invite you to join others in giving \$1 per day during Lent to help support the needs of the children.

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