



Diocese of Eastern Newfoundland and Labrador
THE ANGLICAN CHURCH OF CANADA

My Dear Friends,

Alleluia! Christ is risen! He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

The message of Holy Week is not only that Christ suffered and died for us, but that he also rose from the dead for us. We remember the past, what the Lord has done for us; we celebrate it in the present; and we believe.

In a world where so many people die in hopelessness, where people are poisoned by cynicism and defeated by disillusionment we have to tell our story, we have to sing our song. “We are an Easter people and Alleluia is our song” concludes St. Augustine. But being an Easter people means that resurrection is part of our life experience, part of who we are, part of what it means to be us. Easter celebrates how Jesus dies and rises in each of us, in our personal lives, in family, church, parish, community. It celebrates how Jesus dies and rises in our daily work, in our home life, in our relationships, in the joys and sorrows of the world.

Confidence in the resurrection of Jesus is not based on wishful thinking. It is founded in truth and it is honed in experience – the experience of light following dark, of joy following pain, of hope out of defeat, of warmth beyond cold, of life out of death. We have a story to tell and a song to sing – the story of our risen Lord and a song of alleluia that should ring in the world's ears!

The faith of Anglicans through the centuries is built on belief in the amazing grace of the passion, death, and resurrection of Jesus. May this reality of Easter morn be spoken not only on our lips but be the song of our hearts. In the midst of many conflicts – in our church and in our world – may this be the message we bring and bear witness to - Christ is risen. Let us rejoice as we celebrate throughout the fifty days of the Easter season this gift of new life in Christ. “Alleluia, Christ is risen! The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!”

As the Easter season unfolds consider how your daily living can be an act of greater life for others. How can you be the sacrament, the outward and visible sign, of the grace that you know in the resurrected Christ? In other words, how can your living let others live more abundantly?

May God bless you and keep you and fill you with the joy and peace of his presence.

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