

Where's Your Chair?

Mark 16 1-8



Tremble, O earth, at the presence of the Lord, at the presence of the God of Jacob,
who turns the hard rock into a pool of water, the flint-stone into a springing well.
Psalm 114:7-8

Praising:

Vain the stone, the watch, the seal;
Christ hath burst the gates of hell;
death in vain forbids him rise;
Christ hath opened paradise.

Reading:

Mark 16:1-8
The first Easter

There is no hiding the utter terror of the two Marys and Salome. The stone. The young man in white. What the young man tells them. And then the empty place where Jesus' body should be. None of it makes sense in terms of the normal post-mortem order of things. None of it fits in terms of what Jesus said was going to happen. Or does it? Hadn't Jesus told the disciples that he would be killed? Hadn't he also told them that three days after being killed

he would rise again? The disciples had refused to believe him. Maybe this is what Jesus had been talking about all along. Maybe these three women are the ones who will be the first witnesses to the most incredible thing any one has ever heard of?

Listening:

Praying:

We pray for a sense of the women's amazement

- that the one they had watched die might not be dead any more
- that what they thought might be the end, might actually be a whole new beginning
- that Jesus was, after all, the one he had revealed himself to be

Father: bring me back to the heart-stopping mystery of it, the mind-boggling truth of it, the wordless, speechless joy of it, that Christ has died, and that Christ has risen. Amen

Doing:

Tuesday, 05 January 2016