

Where's Your Chair?

Easter Thursday



You brought me up, O Lord, from the dead;
you restored me to life from among those that go down to the Pit.
Psalm 30:3

Praising:

Christ is risen, we are risen;
shed upon us heavenly grace,
rain and dew and dreams of glory
from the brightness of thy face;
so that we, with hearts in heaven,
here on earth may fruitful be;
and by angel-hands be gathered,
and be ever, Lord, with thee.

Reading:

Luke 24:36b-48

Jesus appears to the disciples

St Luke is at pains to show that the disciples' encounters with the risen Jesus are not just interior spiritual experiences for the individuals concerned. Far more than moments of personal devotion or private mystery, they are meeting Jesus in a shape and form that is both real and verifiable. Scotching any idea that Jesus is now some kind of ghost

or spirit, Luke is insistent that Jesus has not come back temporarily from the realm of the dead. On the contrary, Jesus has come from the realm of life, life in all its pureness and fullness. He has left death behind for ever and is embodied before them in a completely new way. They will struggle to describe it and fail to explain it, but, crucially, they will never be able to deny it.

Listening:

Praying:

Lord we rejoice and take comfort in the risen body which Christ models for us all

- a body rather than a disembodied soul or spirit
- a body over which disease, destruction and decay are powerless
- a body which will leave death permanently behind and be alive for evermore

Father: those who saw Christ dead, saw him alive again – living and breathing, walking and talking. Lord though I cannot begin to imagine it, I thank you that I shall be as Jesus is. Amen

Doing:

Thursday, 31 March 2016