

Where's Your Chair?

Easter Friday



You have turned my mourning into dancing;
you have put off my sackcloth and girded me with gladness.
Psalm 30:11

Praising:

Suffering servant, scorned, ill-treated, victim crucified!
Death is through the cross
defeated, sinners justified:
Yours the glory and the crown,
the high renown, th'eternal
name!

Reading:

John 21:1-14
Jesus appears by Galilee

The disciples only recognise Jesus when he tells them to cast out the net once more. Yet there is this strange quality about their risen Lord. They want to ask if it really is him, though they stop themselves from doing so because in their hearts they know that it absolutely is. It's something about the way Jesus is coming and going. When he is with them, he is in every sense physically

real and totally present. And yet he seems somehow free of the normal constraints of being mortal flesh and blood. This element of complexity and mystery is common to all the Gospel resurrection accounts, and it has long been taken as proof that the accounts themselves are true. If you were going to make it up, you simply wouldn't leave this kind of room for ambiguity.

Listening:

Praying:

With the disciples, we open our hearts in faith to the risen Christ

- unable to explain his universal presence yet conscious of his nearness and closeness
- unable to prove he is alive yet conscious of his living power to cleanse and to heal
- unable to avoid death ourselves yet conscious of his everlasting arms around us

Father: make your Son known to me again in the fullness of his risen truth, and then, though I struggle to understand it and express it, give me the wisdom and words to try. Amen

Doing:

Friday, 01 April 2016