

Easter Sunday - Resurrection – the Empty tomb

Look at the empty tomb. Think about going to visit the grave of someone you love.

How would you feel to find it empty?

Read John 20.1-18

Reflect and discuss:

1. Think about Mary Magdalene. What were her emotions at the various stages in this story - going to the tomb, meeting the angels, talking to Jesus? how do these encounters change her? How does encounter with Jesus make us different?
2. Think about Simon Peter and the other disciple (almost certainly John himself). They both ran to the tomb but what was different in their responses? what was the significance of the wrappings left in the tomb? What did it mean for John to 'believe'? How does faith in Jesus need to 'click' for people?
3. Think about the angels. What does the presence of angels at an event signify? How do they help Mary?
4. Think about Jesus. What do we learn about Jesus from his attitude to Mary? What do we learn about him from his words?

Look at the empty tomb and the symbols around it. What does it mean for you that the tomb is empty and that Jesus is alive?

Reflect on the words:

No more we doubt thee, glorious Prince of Life;
life is nought without thee: aid us in our strife;
make us more than conquerors, through thy deathless love:
bring us safe through Jordan to thy home above.
Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son,
endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won.
(Edmond Budry)

Experience Easter.

<https://www.gloucester.anglican.org/content/pages/documents/1359106616.pdf>

