



LIFE TRANSFORMED: THE WAY OF LOVE IN LENT

SESSION SEVEN / WORSHIP THE EMPTY TOMB

ENTERING THE WAY (Opening Prayer)

Almighty God, who through your only-begotten Son Jesus Christ overcame death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life: Grant that we, who celebrate with joy the day of the Lord's resurrection, may be raised from the death of sin by your life-giving Spirit; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen. (Book of Common Prayer, p. 222)

REMEMBERING THE WAY (Scripture Reading and Teaching)

Scripture Reading Luke 24:1-12

But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, they came to the tomb, taking the spices that they had prepared. They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they went in, they did not find the body. While they were perplexed about this, suddenly two men in dazzling clothes stood beside them. The women were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen. Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, that "the Son of Man must be handed over to sinners, and be crucified, and on the third day rise again." Then they remembered his words, and returning from the tomb, they told all this to the eleven and to all the rest. Now it was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the other women with them who told this to the apostles. But these words

seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them. But Peter got up and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; then he went home, amazed at what had happened.

Teaching (Father Rob+)

EXPLORING THE WAY (Reflections in smaller groups)

In the last few weeks, we have journeyed together in the Way of Love.

(1) What part has been most surprising or life-changing?

(2) Where do you think you will go from here? Are there particular barriers God is inviting you to cross, or particular places of brokenness God is inviting you to enter and help to heal?

(3) Are there any new actions, social justice initiatives, or habits that you would like to adopt?

FINDING OUR WAY TOGETHER (Sharing with the larger group)

PRACTICING THE WAY AT HOME (A Practice to Take Home)

Easter is not just one day. It is a season of 50 days, significantly longer than the 40 days in Lent. Our Church's calendar is designed this way to help us remember that we are called to GO and live a life that is centered more on resurrection joy than on fear.

Try the following: During this Eastertide, find ways to live into the Way of Love you have walked this Lent. The end of our Lent journey is only the beginning, as we take all the transformation we have experienced and imagined and use it to join God in healing and reconciling the world.

How will you continue to walk the Way of Love for your whole life?

Who will be your companions along the way?

BEING SENT ON THE WAY (Closing Prayer)