



Raquette Lake Chapel

April 4, 2021
Easter Sunday



Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

After the sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. And suddenly there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. He is not here; for he has been raised..." Matt 28:1-6

That old hymn has the line: "were you there when they crucified my Lord?" Had we been there with Jesus and the disciples during this past week, we would have experienced joy at the triumphant entry into Jerusalem, vindication seeing Jesus challenge the money lenders and the religious and political authorities, confusion at the words we heard at the last supper, fear as the soldiers arrested Jesus in Gethsemane, and horror at the crucifixion.

We would have felt profound grief as we made our quiet trip on the third day to the tomb to care for the remains of our friend, teacher, Rabbi, and Lord. What would have felt upon seeing and hearing the angel in the empty tomb? "Do not be afraid!" would have echoed in our ears and hearts to the end of our earthly lives.

And for us today 2000 years later we have retold these ancient stories and vicariously relived this dramatic week, feeling the whole range of emotions from the past. But we must remember for us, today: Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

May it be so for us today, tomorrow and until the day we join the Lord in the Lord's house. May it be so. AMEN.



Special Prayers: for those suffering from illness, poverty, discrimination, and repression of any kind; for all first responders who put their lives on the line every day to protect us; for all in medical professions who stay by us and our families and friends when sickness strikes us; for all religious leaders that they may continue to teach peace and love for each other; for all leaders in the world that they may be guided by the will of God to be wise and just leaders. We pray for all the members of our Chapel community.
