

Embracing Easter

Reflection:

An Easter Embrace

I welcome you Easter and invite your many gifts to the deep, deep recesses of my soul.....

Easter Light....bathe me in the warm, nurturing radiance of your glow; burn passionately through me, proclaiming the dazzling wonderment of resurrection

Easter Word.....echo again and again the story of our salvation – yesterday, today and forever; resound from every heart, from womb to tomb, the sacred story which is ours to share

Easter Water.....douse, drench, drown me in your water of life; cleanse my soul and wash over me with the torrents of your love that bring me to birth once more

Easter Bread.....break open my body to receive your nourishment, strengthen me to share in building your body here on earth; bring to life the wilderness and the city with the manna of faith in Christ

Easter Wine.....pour forth your love to the desert and the ocean, flow freely through us, that all may drink deeply from the cup of life

Easter Cross.....proclaim in your height and your depth, your width and your breadth, the transformation of all who embrace you; from shame to glory, from passion to resurrection, from agony to ecstasy, stand visible through your people, as a sign of redemption and hope

I welcome you Easter, I sit in your presence and contemplate you awhile and truly I exult: Christ is risen; Deo Gratias; Thanks be to God

Prayer:

Dear God, you raised your Son from the dead. You gave hope and salvation to all people. Grant that we may truly become Jesus' presence in the world. Jesus, you are alive! You are filled with light, a light which death cannot overcome. Touch us, Jesus, turn us into Easter people. Make each one of us an ALLELUIA person. Fill us with your hope and peace. Amen

Scripture: Luke 24: 13-35

Reflection

Intentions:

Response: **Jesus, help us to recognize your hope-filled presence in our lives**

Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God".....**response**

The two disciples said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?"**response**

Jesus said to them "I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture."**response**

Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me"**response**

Jesus said to them, "If you love me, you will keep my commandments"**response**

And Jesus came and said to them, "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit"**response**

Jesus said to them, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you"**response**

Jesus, you are risen. You are with us. Keep us ever mindful of how you are a part of our lives in such a deep and profound way. Surprise us with a touch of your love in places where we never thought we would find you. Fill our hearts with hope. May the gift of your presence transform every ordinary moment of ours into a sacred place where you dwell. Help us to see the gift of YOU with eyes of faith. Fill us with your peace. Amen

Our Father

Sign of Peace

Prayer:

Christ Jesus, you call us to bring your joy to the world. ALLELUIA

You invite us to be your body on earth. ALLELUIA

You mission us to reach out to the fearful and weak. ALLELUIA

You empower us to reveal your presence to a weary world. ALLELUIA

You enthuse us to enter deeper into a life assured of resurrection. ALLELUIA

Be with us Lord as we continue our pilgrim journey as an Easter people.

Guide our footsteps with the light of Easter faith, that we may walk in your ways. Amen

Song:

Alleluia, alleluia give thanks to the risen Lord

Alleluia, alleluia give praise to his name

Jesus is Lord of all the earth, He is the King of creation

Alleluia, alleluia give thanks to the risen Lord

Alleluia, alleluia give praise to his name

Spread the Good News o'er all the earth, Jesus has died and has risen

Alleluia, alleluia give thanks to the risen Lord

Alleluia, alleluia give praise to his name

We have been crucified with Christ, now we shall live forever

Alleluia, alleluia give thanks to the risen Lord

Alleluia, alleluia give praise to his name