



Episode 20: Why Are You Weeping?

"They said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them,
"They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him."

{ John 20:13 }

NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION

I've been reflecting on today's gospel reading, one of my favourite parts of the resurrection account. Mary Magdalene is still hanging about the tomb after first telling Peter and John that the tomb was empty and she's weeping.

The angels ask her 'Why are you weeping?' She says she can't find the Lord, 'They've taken my Lord away.' love that she calls him 'My Lord'. Then the Lord himself appears and asks her 'Why are you weeping?' She says the same 'They've taken my Lord away and I don't know where they've put him.' Then He calls her name 'Mary' and just hearing her name called, she knows instantly that it's him. I'm sure there must be many encounters and times spent together with Mary and the Lord that we don't know about but we know she had an amazing conversion experience in meeting him.

For each of us the journey with the Lord is perhaps conversion after conversion and reconversion but we know that we are known by him. We are so well known, better than we know ourselves and when He calls our name, He calls us once more into trust and into life.

Hopefully, through the weeks of Eastertide we'll have a moment that feels like a glimpse into the empty tomb and a moment when we hear the Lord call our name in a way that fills us with certainty in the hope of the resurrection, even in the midst of all we're facing and enduring at the moment. As we continue to endure however many unknown weeks ahead we have of this I'm certain that, just as the Lord said to Mary, 'Do not cling to me', He is reminding us that we can't just sit around feeling sorry for ourselves. We still have the love of the risen Christ to proclaim in the world.

O God, you search me and you know me.
All my thoughts lie open to your gaze.
When I walk or lie down, you are before me,
Ever the maker and keeper of my days.

Although your Spirit is upon me,
still I search for shelter from your light.
There is nowhere on earth I can escape you:
Even the darkness is radiant in your sight.

You know my resting and my rising,
You discern my purpose from afar,
and with love everlasting you besiege me:
In ev'ry moment of life or death, you are.

For you created me and shaped me,
gave me life within my mother's womb.
For the wonder of who I am, I praise you:
Safe in your hands, all creation is made new.

Before a word is on my tongue, Lord,
you have known its meaning through and through.
You are with me beyond my understanding:
God of my present, my past and future too.

O God You Search Me

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How has the Lord called you by name?