

Easter Vigil  
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Trinity Episcopal Cathedral  
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Jesus Christ is Risen today. Jesus. The Christ. Is here. With us! Jesus: the embodiment of love, and care, compassion, healing, justice, Presence, power. The very embodiment of God. Is here. With us. Now.

“Christ is here,” writes Robert Frost, “to introduce a break with logic.” “Christ is here to introduce a break with logic that made all outrage seem as child’s play....” He continued.

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All outrage: All the outrage surrounding Jesus and his death – the conflicts and confusions, the collision of worlds and kingdoms, the rivalry of Lordships, betrayals and fears, the beliefs and unbelief, culminated in his violent execution and death. But all that outrage seems as child’s play... on this night.....

What a break with logic! what we proclaim tonight. World shaking, world shattering... Nothing has turned out the way we thought: Death is not death. The tomb is not a tomb. Stones are not just stones. Jesus is not dead. They are all doors. Windows....Portals....

Do not miss the beauty of the light that has come upon the earth. Because in this light we see everything.... as it truly is. We see everything this night as it truly is.

Everything dances. The whole of creation soars and surges. Soars, surges, dances in resurrection. If Jesus lives. Everything lives. If Jesus rises from the dead. Everything rises from the dead....

So we can rise this night...So can we rise this night from all our distress and despair. And take heart again. We can renew our trust that we have not missed our way. We are not lost. We are not dead. You are not dead. You are alive. You are alive with Christ.

Once again, you can walk with Christ the companion of your soul to whatever lies in store for you.

This night we see in new light. It is the most holy of nights.

We see, after all... that nothing can separate us from the God. Nothing.

Not death nor life, nor what has been nor what is to come...

Neither height nor depth nor power nor principality nor pain nor suffering or anything else in all creation.... can separate us from the love of God. In this light we see light....

So what.... We are not alone? We are not alone. And we will not be left. Alone. "I never left you," says the Lord our God. Maybe you have not always seen me, but I never left you.

You will not be abandoned. Forsaken. Forgotten. You are not invisible. You will not be rendered invisible. You matter. And I will show you the way. I will show you the way.

Nothing can separate us from the love of God... because we are intrinsically and exquisitely part of God.

Whatever outrage we may encounter and endure, it is child's play compared to the Love of God. Truly I tell you, nothing can separate you from God.... If this is a break with logic then so be it. It is the wisdom that has been from the beginning.

Tonight we see in the morning of light. And we see a new land:

The machinery of death is overpowered. Violence is not victorious. Loss is not the last word. Nothing can separate us from the love of God. Jesus lives. And so can we. We can live. And no longer under the weight of bondage and shame, shadow and mask.

The dark valley of despair has become the bright mountain of hope. The midnight of desperation the daybreak of joy as Martin Luther King Jr. put it.

To hear this may be solace for some.... But for all of us we have to know what this means for ourselves, first hand. In our own flesh....that Jesus Christ is Risen. That Jesus lives.

Unless we have an experience of God, the very One of whom it is said we live and move and have our being, unless we have an encounter with the Living One, unless we can see Jesus ourselves, tonight's "good news" will be by tomorrow yesterday's old news. And nothing will have changed. Just more of the same.....

So, go and see for yourself the Beauty of the light on this earth. Do not miss it. Make a break with logic. As you have known it. Go. See for yourself....With the eyes of your heart enlightened..... God is with us. And always has been. Always will be. It is all right. You are all right.

Be attentive to the many ways that God will appear to you. And God will. This is the season. This is the time. Eastertime.

God will appear to you. It may mean a break with logic. But you will never be so sure of anything in your life.

Suffering is not Do not look for the living amongst the dead. Do not look for life in fear or death or hopelessness or powerlessness or loneliness or emptiness or despair. Do not look for life in the tombs. Jesus is not there. Look for life where there is life. What is alive and life giving

Tonight we are set free from our bondage. We break free. From fear and death. Hopelessness and powerlessness. Loneliness and emptiness. We can rise from our distress and despair. And take heart again. We can walk with Christ the companion of our souls to whatever lies in store for us We can renew our trust that we have not missed our way. We are not lost. God is not lost.

Tonight doors are not just doors. And windows are not just windows. Tombs are not just tombs. And stones are just not stones. And Jesus is not just Jesus