



St. Boniface Episcopal Church

"Eastertide Elevation"

I write to you on this quiet, quarantined Monday of Holy Week as our nation braces for the brunt of this infectious assault that has been among us for several weeks now. It is hard to believe how long we have been out of circulation in terms of employment, economics, education and anything else that involves groups of people outside sequestered residential life. One account related to Easter that connects, at least emotionally, with our own situation is the Emmaus road encounter captured at the end of St. Luke's Gospel.

Two of Jesus disciples walked along the Emmaus road solitary, sad and struggling concerning the death and disappearance of the Christ. Like many today they were physically separated and psychologically suffering due to events that are difficult to discern and digest. Into this chaotic and confused context comes the Christ bringing clarity, courage and cognition. He walked alongside them clarifying, counseling and encouraging them in their pilgrimage.

We are somewhere in the nadir of this dark storm, but we are climbing toward the other side where an exit is highlighted by a shaft of light. It is no doubt time to pray; pray for our leaders, our nation, our families knowing that as Christ rose victorious from death's darkness He will lift us up into Easter's splendid light. Like the travelers along the Emmaus road who met the Christ in the "opening of the Scriptures" and in the "breaking of bread" we too walk with the Christ in our tempest today and in our triumph tomorrow. Hang in there as we will be back in action soon with the joy of Easter's eternal life in our hearts and in our minds. See you soon.

In Christ,

Father Steven ✝