

Easter Scripture Reading

Based on Luke 24

Reader 1: Very early in the morning, Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary, and other women took the spices to the tomb. But when they entered, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus.

Reader 2: They stood there not knowing what to think.

Reader 1: Suddenly, two men in clothes that gleamed like lightning stood beside them.

Reader 2: In their fright, the women bowed down with their faces to the ground.

Reader 1: The men said to them: "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here, he has risen."

Reader 2: The women returned from the tomb and told all this to the eleven and all the others. But they did not believe the women, because their words seemed to them like nonsense.

All: Why do you look for the living among the dead? Jesus is not here. He has risen!

Reader 1: Two men on the road to Emmaus, their faces downcast, said to the one who had joined them:

Reader 2: Some of our women have astounded us. They went to the tomb but didn't find his body. Angels declared that Jesus was alive!

Reader 1: Jesus said to them, "How foolish you are and how slow of heart to believe!" Then he took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and their eyes were opened and they recognized him.

Reader 2: Were not our hearts burning within us while he talked with us and opened the Scriptures to us?

Reader 1: The two returned at once to Jerusalem to where the eleven were assembled with their companions, saying:

Reader 2: It is true! The Lord has risen and has appeared to Simon.

Reader 1: Suddenly Jesus stood among them. "Peace be with you. Why are you troubled? Why do you doubt? It is I myself!"

Reader 2: They were startled and frightened, thinking they saw a ghost. They still did not believe it, because of joy and amazement.

Reader 1: Then Jesus opened their minds so that they could understand the Scriptures, saying

Reader 2: You are witnesses of these things.

All: We are witnesses of these things! Jesus has risen! Jesus is alive!

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