

Looking for the Light

a devotional from
ST. CHARLES AVENUE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Wednesday, April 15, 2020

by Michele Murphy



Aimeel and Michael Bell want to make sure all know that a better time is coming and share their 3-word sentence to all who pass their home.

Read:

Matthew 28:1-10
The Resurrection of Jesus

28 After the sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. ² And suddenly there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. ³ His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. ⁴ For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. ⁵ But the angel said to the women, “**Do not be afraid**; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. ⁶ He is not here; for **he has been raised**, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. ⁷ Then go quickly and tell his disciples, ‘**He has been raised** from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him.’ This is

my message for you.”⁸ So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples.⁹ Suddenly Jesus met them and said, “Greetings!” And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshiped him.¹⁰ Then Jesus said to them, “**Do not be afraid**; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me.”

Reflect:

This story of the resurrection is comfortable and well known. We are just a few days past Easter Sunday, but these words still come to have new meaning for me. This past Advent, I led the fourth and fifth graders on a journey to the manger where everyone was told “Do not be afraid” -- Mary, Joseph, the shepherds, and the Wise Men. They all had to step out and do something that was different and scary. Mary Magdalene and the other Mary also stepped out of their comfort zone to prepare Jesus’ body, and were told “do not be afraid.”

In this time of quarantine, I am comforted by the words, “do not be afraid,” for I have seen that every time these words were used, God provided a path to a better place, a place where “he is risen.” It helps me travel this uncertain road of virtual services, remote learning, spouses and children all under one roof again, and social distancing.

During this time, there are so many examples of hope for the future, when we finally get to go back to our social lives. Michael Jenkins quoted a song lyric during his Easter Sunday Class which I would like to share again. The last verse reminds me of “He is risen.”

Mose Allison – Ever Since the World Ended (select lyrics, [click here to listen](#))

*Ever since the world ended, I don't go out as much.
People that I once befriended, just don't bother to stay in touch.*

*Ever since the world ended, there's no more black or white
Ever since we all got blended, there's no more reason to fuss or fight.
Dogmas that we once defended, no longer seem worthwhile.
Ever since the world ended, I face the future with a smile.*

Let us pray:

Loving Lord, there is so much happening in my life now. Changes seem to be taking place in every area of life – family, work, school, illness, isolation – but my hope and trust is in You.

As I step out into the future in the face of all the changes and challenges that are taking place all around me, I pray that You will continue to be with me to lead and to guide - to help and to protect – to comfort and support. Lord I cling to You, for You are the Rock of my Salvation.

Thank You Lord that in this world of flux and change You are the same yesterday, today and for ever. Thank You that You are with me in all the changing scenes and situations of my life in Jesus name I pray,
Amen

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If you would like to contribute to our daily devotionals, please email Pastor Sarah, sarah@scapc.org.

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