

HOLY SATURDAY – INTO EASTER SUNDAY

Holy Saturday -

Of tombs hewn in stone
Perfectly sealed with stone
Of deathly silence
Except – maybe of a humming bird.

Of ghost towns and eerie streets,
Of - almost a forced silence
Except – perhaps for a pigeon cooing
And a seagull squawking

Of silent homes,
Doors tightly shut
Shutters down, Shielded, sealed,
Empty streets
Except for a lone figure,
The ‘other’, who comes bearing gifts
Missed doses averted, cupboards replenished.
Hunger and thirst conquered.

Of quarantine,
Distance and isolation,
Long forgotten sadness bubbling through
Regardless of the sunshine,
Long forgotten rejection
Somehow finds collusion with the silence and isolation
And they both sing and dance and shout
With piercing ringing above the silence
And pull and twist – at the weary feeble heart.

Then, of Easter hope!
That comes in the far away friends
Who call – and listen.
As long forgotten sadness bubbles through,
They whisper words of comfort and wisdom
Which seem to ridicule and wave away
The clouds of despair
And the mists of grief

Of Easter hope
That comes from the candid friend
Who stops his/her gardening?
With muddy hands, pulls out a mobile phone and
They answer the wailing soul
With songs of hope and love
Like they have YouTube on speed-dial!
And almost philosophically
Remind me a glass of red would do me good!
Friends who remind me of the long forgotten song in my soul
Friends who remind me I’m human.

Easter hope lies in each of us,
For each other
Easter hope lies in each of us – through Christ, in Christ, with Christ
Easter hope lies in the love of God we share together
God with us, in us, around us.

Easter hope lies in us
When we roll the stone away
For others to enter or exit
Into a freedom only known
By those who have known captivity,
In one form or another.

Easter hope lies in the swaddling
And shroud that turn to bandages
That bind our collective and individual wounded-ness
Easter hope is the healing balm
That only comes through the pain of the cross.

Prayer;

Faithful God, we come looking at Jesus,
The pioneer and perfecter of our faith
We come to draw the threads of our lives together
To find wholeness with and in each other through you
May your Spirit be with us as it was in Jesus:
Holding all together in harmony.
The human with the divine,
The stillness of being with the energy of doing,
Speaking with acting,
Death with resurrection.

Faithful God, you show your faith in us
By making us partners in your work
And calling us to continue Christ's mission
Be with us now.
Give us integrity bring us to wholeness
So that our faith may show in quiet and action
As following the way of Christ,
We reach maturity.
Make us your Easter people, who give hope to the hopeless
Who draw others out of despair into peaceful light,
Who roll away the stone, for others to exit the life of sin and broken ness
And enter into life that is liberated by your love and grace.
In Jesus' name we pray. AMEN

Farai Mapamula