



Easter 2017

Dear Friends,

As we enter the glorious relief of entering into spring we are reminded that – as we journey through Lent – anticipated light holds us in darkness, anticipated love holds us in brokenness, anticipated hope holds us in suffering, anticipated joy holds us in sadness, anticipated promise holds us in loss, and anticipated resurrection holds us in death.

As we have been studying the book of Revelation through this season of Lent we are reminded of the big picture or overarching point of the book, “God wins.” It was a book written to seven churches in the Roman Province of Asia that recognized their suffering or their anticipated suffering at the hands of the Roman Empire. The intention of the book was not to plunge them into gloom or fear at the anticipated outcome, but rather to inspire them with the realization that even in the midst of the worst that life could throw at them God wins. And, by implication, they and we are offered light, love, hope, joy, promise and resurrection.

The journey from Lent into Holy Week and Easter is a liturgical reenactment of that profound theological truth: God wins and, in grace and through faith, takes us into victory. Christ – in journeying through the crucifixion - is victorious over darkness, brokenness, suffering, sadness, loss and death and offers us light, love, hope, joy, promise and resurrection through his own marvelous grace.

My hope and prayer is that as you take the opportunity to journey with your family of St Margaret’s and St Giles’ through Holy Week and Easter, you would know that you are held by Christ in the midst of all the hard realities of life and carried to the dawn of Easter and all the hope it promises.

Yours in Christ

Simon+