



Welcome

‘Welcome to York Minster as we continue our journey through the Stations of the Resurrection’

Through Lent and Passiontide there has been a long tradition in the Church of meditating on the events of the suffering and death of the Lord Jesus, called the Stations of the Cross. In the latter part of the twentieth century a complementary devotion emerged, called the *Stations of the Resurrection* or the *Stations of Joy*.

By using the resurrection appearances of Jesus as a focus for reflection and meditation we have an opportunity to appreciate and celebrate the mysteries of the resurrection of our Lord during the season of Easter, which journeys from Easter Day to Pentecost.

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Alleluia. Christ is risen. He is risen indeed. Alleluia.

Sing for joy, O heavens, and exult, O earth; break forth, O mountains, into singing! For the Lord has comforted his people, and will have compassion on his suffering ones. Isaiah 49.13

Let us pray.

A brief moment of silence follows.

God of glory, by the raising of your Son you have broken the chains of death and hell: fill your Church with faith and hope; for a new day has dawned and the way to life stands open in our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus: Dying you destroyed our death, rising you restored our life: Lord Jesus, come in glory.

The Third Station: The disciples run to the empty tomb

Jesus is the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in him shall never die.
Alleluia.

A reading from the Gospel according to John

Peter and the other disciple set out and went towards the tomb. The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, and the cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed. *John 20. 3-8*



Reflection

Could you dare to go into that tomb, would you dare look in, if you were on your own – if that friend were not running behind you?

I wonder.

I wonder if I could,.

Or if I would wait, and wonder, till someone came by.

What would I find?

What if he's there?

What if he's not?

Daring to hope requires courage, and that courage is easier when friends are there, even if at a distance.

A friend to say: I'm here, for whatever comes of this.

The other disciple went in, saw, and believed.

But that was only the beginning.

What comes after is also easier when there are friends around.

What exactly, does he believe?

What does that belief mean for him, his friends, and those who read the account of the empty tomb?

Many of us will find ourselves outside that tomb, daring ourselves to look and see.

Whilst we each wrestle with hope, and faith, we have never done so in isolation, and we do not stand alone now.

The body of Christ is there to support, sustain, and help each of us.

Let us thank God for the gift of faith, the hope we have in the risen Christ, and those who support us as we live out that faith today.

Let us Pray

We praise you and we bless you, our risen Lord Jesus, King of glory, for in you our God reveals the awesome power of love that is stronger even than death.

As in your dying you destroyed death, so in your rising may we be raised above the trials and torments of this world's woe.

To you, Lord Jesus, the fullness of your life revealed in an empty tomb, be honour and glory, now and for ever.

Amen.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus:

Dying you destroyed our death, rising you restored our life: Lord Jesus, come in glory.