

# Invited to Pray: Reflection and Discussion Guide

Prepared by Abi Trevathan

## Reading 1 - Mark 16:1-8

### The Resurrection

<sup>1</sup> Saturday evening, when the Sabbath ended, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome went out and purchased burial spices so they could anoint Jesus' body. <sup>2</sup> Very early on Sunday morning, just at sunrise, they went to the tomb. <sup>3</sup> On the way they were asking each other, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?" <sup>4</sup> But as they arrived, they looked up and saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled aside.

<sup>5</sup> When they entered the tomb, they saw a young man clothed in a white robe sitting on the right side. The women were shocked, <sup>6</sup> but the angel said, "Don't be alarmed. You are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He isn't here! He is risen from the dead! Look, this is where they laid his body. <sup>7</sup> Now go and tell his disciples, including Peter, that Jesus is going ahead of you to Galilee. You will see him there, just as he told you before he died."

<sup>8</sup> The women fled from the tomb, trembling and bewildered, and they said nothing to anyone because they were too frightened.

## Reading 2 - Romans 8:26-27

<sup>26</sup> And the Holy Spirit helps us in our weakness. For example, we don't know what God wants us to pray for. But the Holy Spirit prays for us with groanings that cannot be expressed in words. <sup>27</sup> And the Father who knows all hearts knows what the Spirit is saying, for the Spirit pleads for us believers in harmony with God's own will.

## Questions for Reflection and Discussion

- What do you think about the idea that God is already at work and we are simply invited to join in the "divine dance"?
- Thinking about your own prayer life, is there something that you could do to practice simply being in God's presence this week?

- Who or what do you think God could be inviting us as a community to bless through prayer?

## A Prayer to Say Together

God who is beyond our imagination,

You are holy.

We long for your kingdom to arrive.

We want to be aligned with your heart for our world,  
may it be so.

May you give us all we need for each day.

Forgive us when we mess up,

Remind us of your grace, so we can extend grace to those who hurt or offend us.

Keep us on your path, with our eyes fixed on you.

Keep us continually attuned to what you are doing and to your invitation to us to be present in  
your world.

Amen.