

## Daily Reflection

April 11, 2020

Today is Holy Saturday, the "in between" time that connects Good Friday and Easter. The Apostle's Creed declares that Jesus "descended to the dead," and tradition describes this as the "Harrowing of Hell." You farmers out there know that a "harrow" is a tool with spikes that breaks up the soil. It makes the earth ready to yield forth life. Did Jesus similarly disrupt death's hold, opening the way for deceased souls to experience life? Was his journey God's answer to the question posed in Psalm 88:12, "Will your loving-kindness be declared in the grave?"

Scripture says very little about this descent. Ephesians 4:9 affirms that it happened. 1 Peter 4:6 says that the gospel was "proclaimed even to the dead." That's about it. So, while we can imagine, we can't pretend to *know* exactly how it played out.

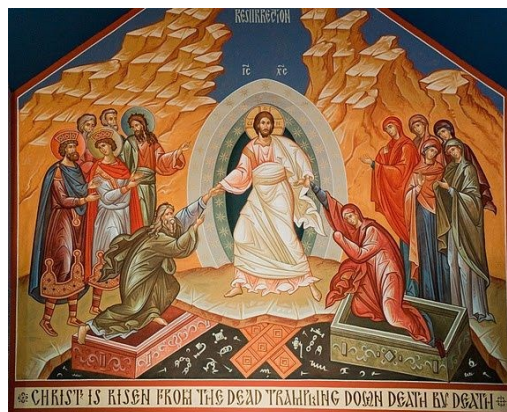
But the New Testament Lesson in today's [Daily Office readings](#) tells us something we *can* know:

"For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who in every respect has been tested as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need." *Hebrews 4:15-16*.

Jesus' mission was to assure we may stand before God with boldness. When we hang our heads in shame or remorse, we frustrate him. Don't frustrate Jesus on Easter. Lay your burden at the cross and dust off your Easter bonnet!

*Pastor Kathleen Kelly,*

Interim Rector



*Please check your email later today for a link to our Great Vigil of Easter service.*