



### EASTER BLESSINGS!!

*“I will hold the Christ light for you in the night time of your fear: I will hold my hand out to you, speak the peace you long to hear”* (The Servant Song, #500, vs 3 Common Praise)

As I write this the world is so very still. It wasn't so long ago society was filled with rising voices concerned with pipelines, education and political agendas. It felt as if we were being tossed around in a storm that was gaining strength each day in an overwhelming fury. It made one wonder how long we could ride that storm without depression and anger becoming the outcome of a daily battle that seemed to be going nowhere.

Then people on the other side of the world got sick and while we watched it moved toward us too. The storm dissolved, and our lives slowed down bit by bit into quiet isolation. There are challenges with this: loneliness, loss of income, depression, fear, especially for those with mental illness or other conditions. Still there is tremendous care, empathy and compassion arising, people drawing together, watching over one another...maybe we were more isolated during the storm.

While we are cautious and fearful, there is great love. The disciples were faced with isolation and fear after Jesus was arrested. Death was all around and they drew closer to each other. They wondered and waited for what would happen next. What happened next was beyond anything they imagined....He was alive. All of a sudden death was not the final word on life. He promised he would be with them always, reassured them, ate with them and loved them. Little by little the fear was replaced by faith, and they walked forward into new life.

Spring is arriving despite a virus, despite self -isolation, everything is filled with life. . Death has no power here. We may be far apart yet we are closer than before. He is risen and we have risen with Christ into a world that has taken a deep breath of the quiet after the storm reaching out to one another filled with the hope of Resurrection. In the words of Richard Rohr, “life is headed somewhere good, into new forms of Love making itself known.”

I am missing our gathered community and am sending you all prayer and love as we walk forward together.

Peace,

Rev. June