

basket
of
prayers + concerns + joys

Our Lenten journey can be something like the change of seasons, as we go forward remembering Christ's journey to Jerusalem and the cross. The terrain was bleak. What about the terrain of our lives? Are we in a wintry season of the soul, trudging through difficult terrain – perhaps stepping amidst some unexpected potholes, or feeling as if we're frozen in a landscape of flickering hope, or yearning for friendlier turf?

As we round the bend into Holy Week reflecting upon Jesus' self-giving of his life on the cross, we know that there's more to the story. We continue on through Maundy Thursday's upper room, Good Friday's mourning and the empty tomb in hopeful anticipation of Easter morning's alleluías.

We go forward with anticipation, hopefulness – and yes, newness of life – trusting in the One who raised Christ Jesus from the grave, offers salvation by grace through faith, and whose promised presence continues to guide, encourage, strengthen, and comfort us in all seasons of our lives.

So we continue our journey through the passion of Christ – through the shrouding darkness of his suffering, anguish and death – into the breaking-through of Easter morn's resurrection light. Then we can joyfully sing out our Easter alleluías, for Christ is risen! He is risen indeed!