

**Contemplative Service, May 8. 2024**

***The new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here~***

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**First Reading**: “A Better Resurrection,” by Christina Rossetti

I have no wit, no words, no tears;

My heart within me like a stone

Is numb'd too much for hopes or fears;

Look right, look left, I dwell alone;

I lift mine eyes, but dimm'd with grief

No everlasting hills I see;

My life is in the falling leaf:

O Jesus, quicken me.

My life is like a faded leaf,

My harvest dwindled to a husk:

Truly my life is void and brief

And tedious in the barren dusk;

My life is like a frozen thing,

No bud nor greenness can I see:

Yet rise it shall—the sap of Spring;

O Jesus, rise in me.

My life is like a broken bowl,

A broken bowl that cannot hold

One drop of water for my soul

Or cordial in the searching cold;

Cast in the fire the perish'd thing;

Melt and remould it, till it be

A royal cup for Him, my King:

O Jesus, drink of me.

*Silence.*

**Music:** “In Christ Alone” sung by Lauren Daigle

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3ch6ehttps://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Hjw4zacAFR4XkQWU8](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3ch6eXkQWU8)

*Silence.*

**Second Reading**:1 Peter 1: 23

For you have been born again, not of perishable seed, but of imperishable, through the living and enduring word of the Divine One.

*Silence.*

**Music**: “Now the Green Blade Riseth”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Hjw4zacAFR4>

**Silent Meditation**

As you enter a time of private meditation, I invite you to use the first verse of

“Now the Green Blade Riseth” as a centering resource.

*Now the green blade rises from the buried grain,*

*What that in dark earth many days has lain;*

*Love lives again, that with the dead has been;*

*Love is come again like wheat arising green.*

**Community Blessing**

Loving Friend, Guide Through All Turmoil, be with us. We want transformation, but also fear it. Because your love is not magic, but real, transformation happens in its own time. Even miracles can grow slowly. Show us the way and guide us into our fullest selves. We wait to understand our complicated lives and your intentions. But we do not need to wait for you love. It is here, now. We open ourselves to the transformation of union with you. Amen.

**Music**: “O Iesu Mawr” (Welsh Hymn) sung by Katell Keineg

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l9HjvHF7s-s>

*Go in peace. May you feel God’s love accompanying you always.*