

## Reflection Friday Easter week 4 - 2021

The preachers in Acts speak often of Jesus' death and resurrection. Life is full of deaths and resurrections not as radical as that of Jesus but radical and challenging for us. Jesus was able to face death because he fully trusted his Father. Jesus invites us to trust him. We are so precious to him that he has prepared a place for us in heaven. Trust me, Jesus says. Trust me!

The pandemic has not only taken the lives of loved ones, it has taken away freedom of movement, of interaction, of meeting and livelihoods. All are deaths in their own way. By placing our trust in Jesus, we can emerge from this death by choosing a new way of living that is respectful of all life including the life of our planet. This is not an option; it is an absolute necessity. We are still destroying our planet and taking away its life. We face not just a climate emergency but the annihilation of all life. Governments are making green promises but not following them up with the speed necessary. Let us not be overcome by the darkness that threatens us. Jesus is light. A light not just for seeing but a light that brings life, heals, forgives and energises. Jesus is a light for the future, trust him. Allow the light of Jesus to work in you and through you to bring new life to the world and to each other. In saving our planet we will save the poorer nations suffering because of our greed and thoughtless abuse of the planet. Let the light of Jesus fill us so we can be a sign of hope for the future; a sign of resurrection.

*Loving God,*

*Lord of heaven and earth, this earth, our home, belongs to you.*

*Give us grace to love it as you do.*

*Give us courage to give ourselves, as you do,*

*for the good of all people and all of your creation.*

*Strengthen us to stand, as you do, with the vulnerable poor.*

*Give us wisdom to know when we have enough,*

*and the voice to say "enough" to all that harms creation and hurts the poorest.*

*This earth, our home, belongs to you. Amen. Credit: Micah Australia*