

THE WORD AT HOLY COMMUNION

"This is the day of light: let there be light today; (Hymn 46, CH3)

O Dayspring, rise upon our night, and chase its gloom away"

The disciples we meet in the dark light of Easter morning are like people who seem to have forgotten something: they can't seem to find what they left buried in the ground. They don't know where to ask - or who it is coming to meet them. "I'll show you where Jesus is: I won't show you a dead body, but I'll point you to the living One".

Remembering starts with God. He brings light into dark places, like the sunrise over a dark earth. And he doesn't ask for acrobatic feats of memory, like diving into the depths to bring back the yesterday things, nor climbing into the skies for tomorrow: but He says, "The Word of life is here: do it, have it, it's for you". How do you remember a lesson you first learned a long time ago? You go over the words again, and it all comes back to you. You can even recall the actual voice of the person who told you, and the people who were there with you. Some people can remember the page of a book: others remember the book falling off the desk! Today the minister isn't going to do his own remembering - he's going to ask God to put the actual words of Jesus on to our lips. Then he will "all come back to us" . "All" includes what he said and what he did and what he promised, in his life. "This is the day of prayer: let earth to heaven draw near; Lift up our hearts to seek thee there, come down to meet us here".

A.W.M.