# MEADOWBANK

**Church of Scotland** 

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www.meadowbank.church

Dear friends

### AN 'IN-BETWEEN' TIME

For Jesus disciples the forty days between Jesus' Resurrection and his Ascension must have been the strangest of times—an 'in-between' time. During that time the Gospels tell us

- that he taught them to prepare them for the challenges they would face in the future
- that as well a spiritual wisdom and knowledge he fed them with fish and bread
- that he gave them his peace and hope by his presence where they had been totally bewildered and afraid for their lives.

We are living in an 'in-between' time in these first months of 2020. Many people hope we can learn lessons during this time to build a better future. Surely we have an opportunity now with huge questions for us all to think about

- Should we be better prepared for such a crisis?
- Do we value enough all the work of health workers, emergency services and carers?
- Is there need for more international cooperation as we look to future challenges?
- Is the ecological crisis not bigger even than this virus and do we need to be prepared to change our lives to ensure a sustainable future?

Pray that we can grasp God's values and ways in this 'in-between' time.

My you each know Jesus' light and love

## weekly message

Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast." None of the disciples dared ask him, "Who are you?" They knew it was the Lord. Jesus came, took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish.

This was now the third time Jesus appeared to his disciples after he was raised from the dead—John 21 verse 12-14



In this 'in-between' place is the person

## flying, floating or falling?

In our 'in-between' time are we looking to grab new opportunities to help our world towards a fairer and more just future?



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## **Between Resurrection and Ascension**

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RESURRECTION
RUNNING MAGDALENE
GARDINER WOMEN
GHOST

GUARDS LOCKED FINGER SCARS THOMAS

APPEAR JOY AFRAID
DOUBT PEACE

SCRIPTURES TEACHING

PETER BREAD
FISHING CATCH
EMMAUS CLEOPAS

CLOUD FORTY ASCENSION

## A LIMINAL TIME?

The word **'liminal'** comes from a Latin word

that means 'threshold'.

It is a space of transition and being unsure of what's next.

'...a unique spiritual position where human beings hate to be but where the biblical God is always leading them.

It is when you have left the tried and true, but have not yet been able to replace it with anything else.

It is when you are finally out of the way.
It is when you are between your old comfort zone and any possible new answer.

If you are not trained in how to hold anxiety,
how to live with ambiguity,
how to entrust and wait, you will run
... anything to flee
this terrible cloud of unknowing.'

from Richard Rohr — a Franciscan Teacher

Kjeragbolten is a boulder on the mountain Kjerag in Norway. It famously sits between 2 cliffs with a 3,220 ft drop below. It is very much one of these 'in-between' places.



Some people are scared to stand on the boulder and others do acrobatics, enjoying something which takes them out of their comfort zone.

Where this time of lockdown is a bit like being on Kjeragbolten, we need to help each other whether to cope with fears or to share challenges of the moment.