



EVIDENCE OF TRANSFORMATION

April 17, 2024

Lisa Heckman

“Christ Has Risen”

STF 2115 vv. 3-4

*Christ has risen to companion Former friends who fear the night,
Sensing loss and limitation Where their faith had once burned bright.
They bemoan what is no longer, They expect no hopeful sign
Till Christ ends their conversation, Breaking bread and sharing wine.*

***Christ has risen and forever Lives to challenge and to change
All whose lives are messed or mangled, All who find religion strange.
Christ is risen, Christ is present Making us what he has been –
Evidence of transformation In which God is known and seen.***

As we sang this John Bell hymn this past Sunday at Rock Prairie PC, that 3rd line of the 3rd verse popped out at me. Only the subject was changed: “**we** bemoan what is no longer, **we** expect no hopeful sign.” Sadly, we in the church all too often look back, yearning for days past instead of looking ahead for God’s hopeful signs pointing us to new possibilities.

In this season of Eastertide, may we remember the whole story of Easter: that there is resurrection, even after a terrible death or ending. Yet resurrection life is new life, not merely the old life with new air breathed into it.

To that end, may we be inspired by the words of John Bell’s last verse: to be challenged and changed by Christ in order that we may be what he has been – evidence of transformation in which **God** is know and seen.

Grace and Peace.

Lisa

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