

Grain

"We're going to remember Jesus commands us to feed the hungry and give the thirsty drink, and to clothe the naked, and visit those who are in prison, and welcome the stranger. We're going to do all those things. It's who we are as a church. No election decides what our mission is. No election decides who we are as a church or who is in or who is out as a church because we are inextricably woven together as a church." "Bishop Elizabeth Eaton (Looking toward Advent)

Field

13 As he came out of the temple, one of his disciples said to him, "Look, Teacher, what large stones and what large buildings!" ² Then Jesus asked him, "Do you see these great buildings? Not one stone will be left here upon another; all will be thrown down." ³ When he was sitting on the Mount of Olives opposite the temple, Peter, James, John, and Andrew asked him privately, ⁴ "Tell us, when will this be, and what will be the sign that all these things are about to be accomplished?" ⁵ Then Jesus began to say to them, "Beware that no one leads you astray. ⁶ Many will come in my name and say, 'I am he!' [a] and they will lead many astray. ⁷ When you hear of wars and rumors of wars, do not be alarmed; this must take place, but the end is still to come. ⁸ For nation will rise against nation and kingdom against kingdom; there will be earthquakes in various places; there will be famines. This is but the beginning of the birth pangs. Mark 13:1-8

Thoughts by Minister Venice Williams, The Table, Milwaukee (written the day after the election) You are awakening to the same country you fell asleep to. The very same country. Pull yourself together.

And, when you see me, do not ask me, "What do we do now? How do we get through the next four years?"

Some of my Ancestors dealt with at least 400 years of this under worse conditions. Continue to do the good work. Continue to build bridges not walls. Continue to lead with compassion. Continue the demanding work of liberation for all. Continue to dismantle broken systems, large and small. Continue to set the best example for the children. Continue to be a vessel of nourishing joy.

Continue right where you are. Right where you live into your days.

Do so in the name of The Creator who expects nothing less from each of us.

And if you are not "continuing" ALL of the above, in community, partnership, collaboration? What is it you have been doing? What is it you are waiting for? Happy Monday!

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Many blessings upon you,

Minister Venice Williams