

Behold,
I am
making
all things
new

REVELATION
21:5

INTRODUCTION

Lent is a season rich in imagery. As we reflect on the life and ministry of Christ, and remember His suffering and resurrection, we are reminded of the darkness that pervades our world, as well as the hope of new creation.

We remember the band of Palestinian followers who travelled with Christ, nomads proclaiming a message of deliverance, restoration, peace and new life. We remember the personal and systemic resistance that Christ and His first followers encountered. We remember those early days when the message of God's coming kingdom seemed that it might be snuffed out before it could even come to bloom. And we remember that surprising Easter morning when, just as the darkness was greatest, new life leapt from the grave.

The UNHCR estimates that there have already been more than 2,000 new refugee arrivals in Europe in 2018, while approximately 200 more have perished at sea along the journey. But arrival in Europe is far from the end of the journey. Ongoing survival is defined by struggle, fear and hardship.

The Apostle Peter addresses Christ's followers as "elect exiles," reminding us that, though we may live in the land of our birth, our heavenly citizenship marks us indelibly as pilgrims, exiles and wanderers. And so it is appropriate that, as we reflect on Christ's journey to the cross and to the resurrection, we would also identify with those living among us as refugees, exiles and pilgrims. As we reflect on the hope of our salvation, let us also cry out for those wanderers among us who do not yet know Christ.

INVITATION

During Lent 2018, we invite you to journey with **HowWillTheyHear**, in partnership with **TEAM**, as we reflect on the immigrant experience and pray for God's kingdom to come and His will to be done in our broken world. We will provide weekly prayer guides, and two weekly devotional meditations from immigrant stories, missionary encounters, and stories of how God is at work today. During Holy Week, we will post daily meditations to fuel your prayer.

Though the brokenness is real, this season reminds us that God is at work, and He is making all things new. Would you consider praying with us to that end?

All
things
new

