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Holy Saturday - Vigil
Mystery and Silence

Shelter-in-Place Meditations for Saturday, April 11, 2020
(or whenever and wherever you are so led to pause, reflect, and pray during Holy Week)

Prepare Your Heart

In the Christian Calendar, Holy Saturday holds the space of great Mystery between the cross and the empty tomb. On this day, we, too, hold our breath between what is Now and Not Yet. So too, this year we stand in the liminal space of Holy Saturday as we shelter in place awaiting the day when we may emerge on the other side of this pandemic. As you keep vigil throughout this sacred day and await the dawn of an Easter not yet here, consider holding space for intentional silence, reflection, and prayer. Offer to God the longing of your heart.

Vigil

I wait, O God,
Hands washed raw, gloves tight,
Mask formed to the contours of my face.
I wait, O God,
for what, I do not know.
Tomorrow is too much to hold right now.
I cannot lift my eyes to the future.
I have only today, this moment, really, to give.
I have only this breath to breathe—the next
may not come.
Tether me not to tubes but to your
heartstrings.
Croon to me in my self-isolation and loneliness
and call me your beloved child.
Ease my aching bones, muscles, and mind
for my grief and fear are embodied, tangible.
Forgive my actions and inactions thoughtlessly
carried out with disregard.
Hold me in this Sacred Silence, this absence.
I need to feel you.
--HCB *4-1-2020*

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