

*And Jesus said to them, 'O foolish ones, and slow to believe all that the prophets have spoken! Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer these things and so enter into his glory?' And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he interpreted to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself.*

Luke 24:25-27.

As the two disciples walk towards Emmaus on the day of resurrection they talk with Jesus about the long history of God's people. He brings them to see that it's not so much that the prophets are speaking of how they will be rescued *from* suffering, but that they will be rescued *through* suffering. Jesus' assertion is that the Prophets are bearing witness to him, and that's one of the reasons why they are such good companions for us through Advent.

The word 'prophet' comes from a word which means 'to speak forth'. The prophets were charged with maintaining a sense of the presence and action of God, and speaking for him, even in times of national crisis and acute anxiety. Some of the prophets see Jerusalem violently destroyed and its people taken into exile, but they continue to hear God and see him at work. We will see this insight of the prophets magnified by Christ's cross. The world may do its worst, but God's purpose of love endures. How can each one of us be a sign of that enduring love this week?