

Hope Beyond This Life

John 11:17-27

17 On his arrival, Jesus found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days. **18** Now Bethany was less than two miles from Jerusalem, **19** and many Jews had come to Martha and Mary to comfort them in the loss of their brother. **20** When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went out to meet him, but Mary stayed at home. **21** “Lord,” Martha said to Jesus, “if you had been here, my brother would not have died. **22** But I know that even now God will give you whatever you ask.” **23** Jesus said to her, “Your brother will rise again.” **24** Martha answered, “I know he will rise again in the resurrection at the last day.” **25** Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; **26** and whoever lives by believing in me will never die. Do you believe this?” **27** “Yes, Lord,” she replied, “I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, who is to come into the world.”

1. In times of bereavement, our faith community offers the help and support we need.
2. Our natural reaction is to question or become angry with God.
3. Death is not the end but the beginning of another life.
4. Jesus offers hope beyond this life to those who believe in Him.