

Epiphany/Tres Reyes 2021

It's been quite a day in our nation's capitol. No one alive today will forget what some experienced first-hand, and most observed through various media outlets. A sitting President of the United States of America incited and encouraged his followers to start a riot and storm the Capitol building, because he was not re-elected in the 2020 general election.

Tragically, none of what I watched unfurl today surprised or shocked me. Where else were the last 4+ years of this President's hate rhetoric, science-denying, fact-faking, nationally disloyal, narcissistic agenda going to lead, but to destruction and death, and an outright assault on our democract process and the place that symbolizes it.

Words matter. Words have power. Words create and cause things to happen. God knows this truth. Genesis confirms it. God uttered a word and created light and darkness, the heavens and the earth, water and sky, fish and birds, plants and animals, human beings and sabbath. And, God used a word to bless creation and to name it good.

God knows that words can also destroy. Our forebears in the faith, particularly the ancient prophets and authors of the gospels, understood that the princess of darkness would have their day, but they would never have the last word. John said it best, "The Light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it." (1:5)

On this Epiphany 2021, this Three Kings Day, we remember that words matter, especially the words of kings. They have power. They can create, and they can destroy. So let us choose our words carefully, and align them with deeds reflective of the Prince of Peace, whose example shows us the way forward to a better day and a better way.

May God bless you and keep you, and may God grant you deep peace--peace that the world can't give or take away.

Pastor Arlene