

# Peace Be With You — Thoughts

By Bryan Moyer Suderman



For years my mother has done hospice work — accompanying people who are dying. She knows how important a person’s last words often are to the folks who know them. These words somehow have a “sacred” quality — they seem to have more authority than words spoken at other times. We pay attention.

Now, what about the first words of a resurrected person? The first words of somebody who used to be dead, but isn’t anymore?

When the resurrected Jesus met up again with his friends, it seems his favourite greeting was “Peace be with you.” And Christians have been saying those words to each other — “passing the peace” — ever since.

Here’s a call-and-response song for “passing the peace.” Pass it from leader to group and back, from person to person, with a handshake or a hug or, who knows, maybe even a “holy kiss”...!