

Grief Interrupted

It's customary to allow family and friends
an appropriate mourning period.
Time to move through the five stages
following the death of one beloved.

The Lord didn't have time to be customary
- the time was now.
Timing was never the strong suit of the Eternal.

So he burst onto the scene,
walking through locked doors,
breaking bread,
gardening,
cooking fish,
as if all this -
the chaos, the grief, the suffering, the death -
was according to plan.

Interrupting Mary's tears,
Interrupting Thomas' doubts,
Interrupting the fearful faithful
- huddled behind a locked door.
It was time.

Joy breaks in on sadness.
Light breaks in on darkness.
Shalom breaks in on grief.

The intruder speaks and gives himself away,
"Peace be with you."

- Mary Freiberger