

Story: All the Things

April 5, 2026

Acts 10:34-43

John 20:1-18

You've heard, I know, that there are some birds that winter with us here in Hawai'i, and that they fly to Alaska for the summer. Those birds might prefer to fly on a big jet, like you and I, but they use their own wings, even though some of them are pretty small birds. The kolea are the best known, but we're also saying farewell to hunakai, 'ulili, and 'akekeke in the next month or so.

An 'akekeke getting ready to fly looks like, well, it looks like an 'akekeke does most of the time. It hops around the sands and stones and grasses near the ocean looking for crabs, worms, small fish, and basically anything it can eat.

A little flock of 'akekeke noticed, however, that one of their number never seemed to pause much. Oh, she'd rest when she needed to, but the rest of the time her beak was pointed down, following her eyes constantly searching out the next worm, or small fish, or crab. She'd pause when she'd really filled herself up, but even with that she was hunting far more than her family or friends.

"What are you up to?" they asked her.

"I'm getting ready for the big flight," she said.

"We all are, but we're not eating all the time. You're eating all the time. Why?"

"I want to make sure I can get all the things before it's time to go," she said.

"What are you talking about?" they asked her. "You can't eat all the things. There's too many things to eat to do that. And where would you put them?"

"I know," she said, "but I'm going to look for as many as I can find, and who knows? Maybe that will be all the things."

Why do I tell you this story? Well, it's because out there along the walkways of the church there are Easter eggs. Some of them are ones you colored yesterday, and they look amazing. Some of them have sweets in them, and the sweets (not the plastic eggs) taste amazing.

What's important, however, is that we find all the things. All the dyed eggs. All the plastic eggs. All the eggs you can use to make egg salad. All the eggs that have goodies in them.

Be like the 'akakeke this morning. Find all the things!

by Eric Anderson