NEXT STEP: STUDY & SHARE

READINGS

Acts 10:34-43

Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24

This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice & be glad in it. (v24)

1 Corinthians 15:1-11

Mark 16:1-8

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, you gave your only Son to suffer death on the cross for our redemption, & by his glorious resurrection you delivered us from the power of death. Make us die every day to sin, that we may live with him forever in the joy of the resurrection, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives & reigns with you & the Holy Spirit, one God, now & forever. Amen.

SERMON TEXT- Mark 16:1-8

¹When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, & Mary the mother of James, & Salome bought spices, so that they might go & anoint [Jesus' body]. ²And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. ³They had been saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?" ⁴When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. ⁵As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; & they were alarmed. ⁶But he said to them, "Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. ⁷But go, tell his disciples & Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you." ⁸So they went out & fled from the tomb, for terror & amazement had seized them; & they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

LISTENING TO . . .

GOD- Christian life is rooted in the Father, Son, & Holy Spirit

- 1. Review the "Passion Predictions" referenced in v7- Mark 8:31, 9:30-31, 10:33-34, 14:27-28 (see also 1 Corinthians 15:3-4). How do they shed light on the following Old Testament passages which model/prophesy/suggest the Messiah's resurrection (Genesis 3:15, 22:1-18 (cf. Hebrews 11:17-19); Psalm 2:7 (cf. Acts 13:33), 16:1-11 (cf. Acts 2:25-28, 13:35-37), 22:1-31 esp. vv14-15, 25-27, 40:1-3, 110:1; Job 14:4, 19:25-26; Isaiah 53:8-10; Hosea 6:2; Zechariah 12:10; Jonah 1:17 (cf. Matthew 12:40)). Note: at least some are not immediately obvious.
- 2. Compare the resurrection accounts in the 4 gospels (*Matthew 28:1-10*; *Luke 24:1-12*; *John 20:1-18*). What's similar & what's different? What details are you surprised to read about? What is left out? How do they give you a broader, richer understanding together?

EACH OTHER- Sharing & growing with our brothers & sisters in Christ

- 3. What's the best part about Easter to you? What's your favorite Easter memory? Tradition? Song?
- 4. How confident are you in the claims that Jesus was physically, historically, really resurrected? That we too will be resurrected just like him on the Last Day? Remember the claim is that so far Jesus alone has already been resurrected; we will receive it much later. See Isaiah 25:6-9; 1 Corinthians 15:12-28, 51-57; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18; Revelation 20:12-15, 21:1-8

How can you find encouragement toward this simple truth & fact of Jesus' resurrection? See Mark 9:14-29, esp. v24; Small Catechism: Creed SC available <bookfooncord.org>

NEIGHBORS- Bearing fruit for those not yet our brothers & sisters

- 5. Many folks find great comfort & encouragement that they can attend Easter & Christmas worship (& family events) despite their absence the remainder of the year; how can you be a gracious, sharing host & not a guilt tripper?
- 6. What do you learn about "going & telling" in v7? Are the women now pastors? Is the going & telling restricted to trained "ministry professionals"? What is the primary qualification for being a "going & telling" witness? How are they simply joining Jesus on his mission, instead of doing something all by themselves? See Matthew 11:2-6, 18:12-15; Mark 5:14-20; Luke 7:18-23, 13:31-33

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Glorious Festival of Our Lord's Resurrection *Series*: Thrive on the Vine

Rev. Jared Stillions, STS

New Life

Jesus is a living person; he gives his gift of new life to us.

-Notes-

KEY VERSE: But he said to them, "Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him." (v6)

-NEXT STEPS MEMORY VERSE-Christ, our paschal lamb, has been sacrificed. Therefore, let us keep the feast. (*1 Corinthians 5:7, 8*)

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