

Sermon Notes April 21st, Easter Sunday

Focus God is risen, Jesus is risen indeed

Lectionary Readings

https://www.lectionarypage.net/YearC_RCL/Easter/CEasterPrin_RCL.html

Easter is a simple story about Jesus coming back to life. Simple, but following through is hard. The first Easter touched hundreds, then thousands, and Carl Sagan style, now billions. It all started with an empty tomb. Death does not have the last word. This new word of life gives us a mission to share the Resurrection in our everyday lives - with God's help.

Empty Tomb points to Mission

Resurrection is mission. We have the privilege to carry Christ to every place God sends us - softball tournaments, ER's, sweating at Fitness 19, our SRUSD schools, the terrible commute involving cars, BARTs, and trains...don't forget the worst - homeowners' associations and little league meetings.

Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here.

The Gospel of Luke does not want to encourage you to worship at the shrine to the risen Jesus. The Gospel of Luke wants you to seek out the living Christ outside the empty tomb in the highways of life.

Church can help

My whole goal of being a pastor is to give you the tools to *be* Jesus in the world. I would dearly love you to come back every other week of the year. If this Sunday helps you bring a little more life, a little more love, a little more healing, a little more resurrection into your waking hours, then I will have done my job. I will accomplish my goal, if you can wedge a little more love into crannies of the day-to-day life of the people you know.

Christianity is not all that spectacular; but it is very effective in the grind/ in the daily. Resurrection is practiced at the company keurig machine. It is practiced when your family has an addict. It is practiced when you stand up for the voiceless. It is practiced when you love the unlovely. You could be hearing me say "muscle up", but nope. I am praying for you to have resurrection right here, right now, in order to love people naturally.

- That's a gift.
- Resurrection is a gift
- Love is a Gift.

God is risen, Jesus is risen indeed.

Todd