

## EASTER SUNDAY

APRIL 12, 2020

We are greatly blessed by the Holy Spirit this morning when we confess that, CHRIST IS RISEN AND INDEED HE IS RISEN. Shout it out loud and confess it strongly. The Holy Spirit is moving in you this morning when you do. 1Cor 12-3, "No one can say that Jesus is Lord except by the Holy Spirit."

This small Christian greeting and prayer contains so much power and depth. Not to mention the reality and the gravity of what happened this morning. It is a powerful expression of our faith rooted in the earthly ministry of Jesus. How the Son of God came and taught and ministered to us. That by His death, He has destroyed death. The pits of Hell are empty and the souls that were kept there since the fall have been released. The devil and death have NO power over us. Death has now become just our last breath on earth before we enter eternal life. Rom 10-9, "That if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved."

The fall in paradise has been overcome. The Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil and its fruit has been replaced by the cross in Golgotha. Christ is the fruit of life that hung on this tree. The Garden Tomb has become our Paradise of New Life. Just as humanity suffered the effects of the fall through Adam, all of humanity is saved by the Son of God. All those who were entombed in Hell, those on earth and in Heaven rejoice this morning. All of creation, earthly and celestial, celebrate this morning. It is the dawn of the eighth day of creation. Phil 2-11, And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord to the Glory of God the Father."

Not only has death been transformed, but all of creation. That includes you and I. When we confess that CHRIST IS RISEN, something greater happens at the core of our being. 1 John 4-15, "Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in them and them in God". When we say this prayer and greeting and the reality it contains and expresses, we truly become temples of the Trinity. A place where God abides. We become holy and sanctified by what the tongue confesses and our heart believes. Our faith transforms us and we become a new creation through Christ's resurrection.

CHRIST IS RISEN, INDEED HE IS RISEN, encapsulates Jesus's entire earthly ministry . It is crowned with His resurrection from the dead. This does not end here. This is only the beginning. There is much more to come. In the joy of Easter we are told to be vigilant and to look for Our Lords return. CHRIST IS RISEN was a promise made to humanity and kept. There is no reason not to believe that the promise to return will not be kept too. It will be kept and will probably far exceed our expectations. That is how God has dealt with us in the past. I wish you a healthy and Blessed Easter, INDEED HE IS RISEN.

Pastor D