

“Easter Message”

Devotion for April 2015

Hymn: VU 155 Jesus Christ is Risen today

Scripture: Mark 16: 1-8

Reflection:

Unlike the Christmas story, all four gospels relate the crucifixion and resurrection, and even parts are found in Acts. The details vary quite a bit, but the underlying message, dying on the cross, buried and risen is the same. If you read religious books, or otherwise, about this part of Jesus life you will get any number of variations. Almost all world religions from Judaism to Islam have their own take on Jesus, who he was, or not, and the effect he has had for over a couple thousand years. No Jesus as the son of God and therefore no United Church, so you know where our faith stands. The more we learn about whom we are, where we supposedly came from, our differing beliefs around the world, questions keep arising. Definite answers are fleeting and hence we have faith. Was Jesus really who our church teaches he was? Was he really crucified, and more importantly, did he escape the tomb and rise into heaven? Like the rest of the rest of world we each have our own individual thoughts. One thing is clear though, just a good story or the real thing, Jesus set an example for the world and we can do worse than believe the Easter message and follow the teachings of Jesus.

Discussion:

Where does the Easter message fit into your faith system?

Scripture: Acts 1: 4-8

Hymn: "Because He lives" Not in VU but you can get the music and lyrics easily on the internet.

Prayer:

For the gift of Jesus Christ we are truly thankful. Help us Lord to remember the Easter message throughout the whole year. amen