

A Note from the Pastor

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I hope you all had a blessed Holy Week. This is always a weird time for pastors where we transition into the rest of the year. The chaos of Advent, Christmas, Epiphany, Lent, and Holy Week are over...now what? We reflect on what it means for us to be an Easter people!

I don't know about you, but our Holy Week services inspired me this year. Our shared meal and foot washing on Maundy Thursday reminded me of the importance of service in community. The solace and emotions of Good Friday allowed me a space to grieve in a world that experiences so much death of God's children. Easter sunrise reminded me that all things are made new each morning, and our explosion of joy in our Easter Sunday worship enveloped me in hope. We confirmed two amazing young people into the life of the church, the chancel choir sang their hearts out, and the bell choir rang proud. You could feel the church come alive!

As I said in my sermon on Sunday, we are a people of resurrection. But it isn't easy to know what that means, is it? The lilies may have faded and the alleluias are a little softer, but we remember that Easter isn't confined to a single day, or even the fifty days between now and Pentecost! To be a resurrection people is not simply to remember that Christ is risen, but to live as though that truth reshapes everything: our fears, our relationships, our priorities, and our hope.

We will be spending the coming weeks exploring the interactions of the risen Christ with those that desperately try to figure out what it means! Do you wrestle with what it means to be an Easter people? That's alright! We will explore it together.

In the Gospel accounts, the risen Christ meets disciples in very ordinary places: along a dusty road, beside a charcoal fire, behind locked doors. These encounters remind us that resurrection is not distant or abstract. It comes into spaces marked by grief, confusion, and even failure. Thomas doubts. Peter carries regret. The others wrestle with fear. Yet each is met with peace, invitation, and renewed purpose. Resurrection people, then, are not those who have everything figured out; they are those willing to encounter Christ honestly and receive new life in the midst of real circumstances. The season after Easter is an invitation to continue the story—not as spectators, but as participants. Christ is risen, and that reality shapes who the church is and how it lives. In worship, in service, in community, and in hope, resurrection people bear witness: new life is not only promised; it is already breaking in. Come and see!



