

The Holiest of Days

Jesus has Risen. He will be with us in glory but on this day, Easter Sunday, Jesus Christ has risen!! The cross is empty, the tomb is empty. Jesus Christ is risen. Glory be to God! We celebrate the empty tomb! He has not left us without his love and mercy, he abides with us and intercedes for us. He gives us strength for the day and when we are immersed in sorrow it is Jesus we seek. Who better to comfort us than one who loved us so much that he gave up his life for us. Can you feel him when sorrow seems to be winning in your life, can you feel him when you are at your lowest? He is there holding you in the storms, coming to comfort you. You are his blessed child, and he does not forget his own. We gather to celebrate Easter Sunday, the holiest of days. We sing "Christ the Lord is risen today," and our "Hallelujahs" ring out. Gone is the sorrow of Good Friday and the joy of Easter Sunday is with us. May we carry that joy with us in all our days, may it be in the kindness we show others, in the way we treat those we disagree with, in the ways we are with those who are different from us, in the way we hold all the children, not just our own, in the way we recognize the humanity in each person we meet. I hope on this Easter Sunday you feel Christ's love in your heart.

John 20:26-29 A week later the disciples went to the house again and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here, see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe." Thomas said to him, "My Lord and my God." Then Jesus told him, "Because you have seen me, you have believed. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."

Lord, we thank you for the risen Lord Jesus. He is with us in our days and in our hearts. May we heed the words of Jesus to care for one another. Be with our Pastor, bless him and keep him safe as he serves you and brings us closer to you. Be with his family. Be with our staff and leaders, bless them and guide them. Be with those who are ill and those who grieve, may we give them your comfort and love. Help us to reach out to the hungry and the homeless, the hopeless and the lost. May we give them not only food and clothes but your word in our actions. Be with our church may it be the hands and feet of Jesus Christ. In Jesus name we pray, Amen.

Happy Easter!!

Grace Epperson