|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Startling And Unexpected**  *Promise: death has been defeated and eternal life is given in Christ* Pastor Timothy A. Duesenberg Isaiah 25:6-9; Psalm 16; 1 Corinthians 15:1-11; Mark 16:1-8 (The Resurrection of Our Lord), 3/31/24)  *And [the women] went out and fled from the tomb, for trembling and astonishment had seized them, and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.* – Mark 1:8  **Lead In –** News of a death, especially when unexpected, can certainly come as a shock. It is always disturbing. But mostly it brings grief and sorrow. The three women we encounter in our Gospel Reading were in a state of mourning as they went to the tomb early on the first day of the week. They wished to do the task the onset of the Sabbath two days earlier had prevented them from doing. They brought burial spices so that they might anoint Jesus’ body. And they were startled and filled with fear by what they found when they arrived at the tomb. Trembling, not joy, was their first experience that first Easter Morn. They were startled by the unexpected.   1. **The Evidence Comes With the Light of a New Day**    1. No accounts of witnessing the Resurrection! …    2. Examples of salvation made visible in the morning…    3. Psalms where mercy becomes evident in the morning… 2. **It Is Important to Understand the First Reaction**    1. It is not the death but resurrection that startles! …    2. All kinds of unexpected things are discovered…    3. The disciples’ lives would never be the same… 3. **The Reluctance to Even Entertain the Possibility**    1. If in fact Jesus rose and is alive…    2. When being startled turns to joy…   **Final Word –** The preaching of the Gospel and the Sacrament of Holy Baptism is the way our Risen Lord joins us to Himself. And it is through these means that we receive the gift of faith. Exercising that gift is how we receive the benefits of Christ’s death, including forgiveness, life, and salvation. Most of you this morning have been baptized. But if you have not I would love to talk to you after the service, or sometime soon. For all of us, I trust you are in touch with the startling aspect of the Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. Our lives cannot remain the same. But once the Holy Spirit helps us to come to terms with this, we wouldn’t want our lives to remain the same. And this gives rise to pure joy! We receive eternal and abundant life. And we joyfully proclaim, “Christ is Risen, alleluia!” “He is…”  **Examples of Salvation Made Visible in the Morning:** 1 Samuel 5:1-5; Isaiah 37:36-38; Daniel 6:16-24; Judges 6:28-29  **Ps 59:16** But I will sing of your strength; I will sing aloud of your steadfast love in the morning.  **Ps 143:8** Let me hear in the morning of your steadfast love, for in you I trust.  **Ps 30:5** Weeping may tarry for the night, but joy comes with the morning.  **Jn 6:22** So also you have sorrow now, but I will see you again, and your hearts will rejoice, and no one will take your joy from you. | **Mark 16:1-8 ESV**  *The Resurrection*  When the Sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. 2And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. 3And they were saying to one another, “Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance of the tomb?” 4And looking up, they saw that the stone had been rolled back—it was very large. 5And entering the tomb, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, dressed in a white robe, and they were alarmed. 6And he said to them, “Do not be alarmed. You seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has risen; he is not here. See the place where they laid him. 7But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going before you to Galilee. There you will see him, just as he told you.” 8And they went out and fled from the tomb, for trembling and astonishment had seized them, and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.  **Re 21:4** He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away.  **Lk 2:9** And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with great fear.  **Mt 14:26** But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, and said, “It is a ghost!” and they cried out in fear.  **Ro 14:7-9** For none of us lives to himself, and none of us dies to himself. For if we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord. So then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died and lived again, that he might be Lord both of the dead and of the living.  **Ac 17:31** [God] has fixed a day on which he will judge the world in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed; and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.  **Lk 12:32** Fear not, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. |