

NEXT STEP: STUDY & SHARE

READINGS

Isaiah 65:17-25

Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24

This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice & be glad in it. (v24)

1 Corinthians 15:19-26

Luke 24:1-12

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, you gave your only Son to suffer death on the cross for our redemption, & by his glorious resurrection you delivered us from the power of death. Make us die every day to sin, that we may live with him forever in the joy of the resurrection, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives & reigns with you & the Holy Spirit, one God, now & forever. Amen.

SERMON TEXT- Isaiah 65:17-25

¹⁷I am about to create new heavens & a new earth; the former things shall not be remembered or come to mind. ¹⁸But be glad & rejoice forever in what I am creating; for I am about to create Jerusalem as a joy, & its people as a delight. ¹⁹I will rejoice in Jerusalem, & delight in my people; no more shall the sound of weeping be heard in it, or the cry of distress. ²⁰No more shall there be in it an infant that lives but a few days, or an old person who does not live out a lifetime; for one who dies at a hundred years will be considered a youth, & one who falls short of a hundred will be considered accursed. ²¹They shall build houses & inhabit them; they shall plant vineyards & eat their fruit. ²²They shall not build & another inhabit; they shall not plant & another eat; for like the days of a tree shall the days of my people be, & my chosen shall long enjoy the work of their hands. ²³They shall not labor in vain, or bear children for calamity; for they shall be offspring blessed by the Lord—and their descendants as well. ²⁴Before they call I will answer, while they are yet speaking I will hear. ²⁵The wolf & the lamb shall feed together, the lion shall eat straw like the ox; but the serpent—its food shall be dust! They shall not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain, says the Lord.

LISTENING TO . . .

GOD- *Christian life is rooted in the Father, Son, & Holy Spirit*

- Review the “Passion Predictions” referenced in *Luke 24:6-7*, *Luke 9:22*, *9:43b-45*, *18:31-34* (see also *1 Corinthians 15:3-4*). How do they shed light on the following Old Testament passages which model/prophesy/suggest the Messiah’s resurrection? *Genesis 3:15*, *22:1-18* (cf. *Hebrews 11:17-19*); *Psalms 2:7* (cf. *Acts 13:33*), *16:1-11* (cf. *Acts 2:25-28*, *13:35-37*), *22:1-31 esp. vv14-15*, *25-27*, *40:1-3*, *110:1*; *Job 14:4*, *19:25-26*; *Isaiah 53:8-10*; *Hosea 6:2*; *Zechariah 12:10*; *Jonah 1:17* (cf. *Matthew 12:40*)
Note: at least some are not immediately obvious; check surrounding verse for additional context.
- What do *Ezekiel 40:1-2*, *48:30-35*; *Zechariah 14:10-21*; *Revelation 21:2--22:5*, *esp. 21:10*; add to *vv18-19*? Remember Jerusalem is built on a hill/mountain (Mt. Zion) & the Temple is as well (Temple Mount/Mt. Moriah). See also *Isaiah 25:6-10a*, *42:9*, *48:6*

EACH OTHER- *Sharing & growing with our brothers & sisters in Christ*

- What’s the best part about Easter to you? What’s your favorite Easter memory? Tradition? Song? How can you pass on those traditions to the next generation of your family & friends, without causing them to “look for the living among the dead” (cf. *Luke 24:5*)?
- How confident are you in the claims that Jesus was physically, historically, really resurrected? That we too will be resurrected just like him on the Last Day? Remember the claim is that so far Jesus alone has already been resurrected; we will receive it much later. See *Isaiah 25:6-9*; *1 Corinthians 15:12-28*, *51-57*; *1 Thessalonians 4:13-18*; *Revelation 20:12-15*, *21:1-8* How can you find encouragement toward this simple truth & fact of Jesus’ resurrection? See *Mark 9:14-29*, *esp. v24*; *Small Catechism: Creed*; *SC available* bookofconcord.org

NEIGHBORS- *Bearing fruit for those not yet our brothers & sisters*

- Many folks find great comfort & encouragement that they can attend Easter & Christmas worship (& family events) despite their absence the rest of the year; how can you be a gracious, sharing host & not a guilt tripper?
- V25 recalls *11:6-8* & anticipates *John 10:16*; *Romans 3:29-30*; *1 Corinthians 12:12-13*; *Galatians 3:28*; *Ephesians 2:13-22*; *Colossians 3:11*; how can you & your congregation work toward this reconciliation locally?

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First Sunday of Easter

04.17.22

Series: Worship- Heaven on Earth

Rev. Jared Stillions, STS

New Life

Resurrected life is beyond death, weeping, mourning, & violence

-Notes-

KEY VERSE: I am about to create new heavens & a new earth; the former things shall not be remembered or come to mind. (v17)

-NEXT STEPS MEMORY VERSE-

Christ, our paschal lamb, has been sacrificed.
Therefore, let us keep the feast. (1 Cor. 5:7, 8)

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