

Christ is Risen: Rejoice and Be Glad!



Dear Friends in the Risen Christ,

If I only had a (you name it), then I would be happy; then I could rest easy, be at peace.

It was Plato who once described us as "leaky vessels." We seem to think that one more thing would make us a better person. If only the world would be peaceful. If only our neighbors would be pleasant. If only God would change my heart! The disillusionment is bewilderingly repetitive. But it can be instructive and can prompt us to look again at the Cross.

On Palm Sunday and Good Friday, Jesus, on the Cross, wins our hearts. On Easter, God glorifies him and vindicates his way as **The** way, which if followed even haltingly, leads to a quality of life that can fill our leaky vessels and overcome.

I believe our hearts know, at least in "faith moments", the utter truth that lies within the Maundy Thursday-Good Friday-Holy Saturday-Easter story. It is good that we come together for worship.

The experience of Holy Week deepens the meaning and joy of Easter. Come to Church! Invite a friend! St. John's is *our* beloved Church to share with the world. Please refer to the schedule of services on the worship page of this site. Easter is about rejoicing. Rejoicing because Jesus Christ won for all of us the eternal victory over death and the grave. His life, crucifixion and resurrection have brought us new life.

The Resurrection of Jesus is not a story, or a miracle, or a figure of speech. The Resurrection of Jesus is a proclamation of the conquering of Evil. Through the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus, God 'has and will always overcome' evil. So shall we! Our striving for loving relationships is not in vain. Our hankering for justice and peace is not in vain. We shall overcome. Always! May God grant us all, in this glorious season, some deepened sense of the challenge of Christ and of the peace Gods' amazing grace bestows. Deacon Keith McCoy and Joanna George and the entire staff of St. John's join me in wishing you a joyous Easter. Alleluia! Christ is Risen!

Yours in the Risen Christ,
Father Ron⁺