

Morning Worship

April 16, 2017

Pastor — Allan Lane

Organ --- Alva Lou Schottel

Worship Leader — Tim Waters

Piano — Sharon Waters

As you enter for worship, please silence your cell phones.

(CCLI permit # 424692 covers all copyright song lyrics)

Celebrate the Risen King!

Welcome and Fellowship Allan/People

Hymn # 159 *Christ the Lord Is Risen Today* Tim/People

Offering/Worship Prayer Allan Lane

Tithes and Offerings People

Offering Music Sharon Waters

Easter Musical **Because He Lives** Worship Choir

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Because He Lives (Amen)

Worthy is the Lamb

Blessed Assurance (My King is Coming)

Oh, the Wonder

Because He Lives

Finale: Alleluia! Alleluia!

Scripture Reading Allan/People

Message **Because He Lives** Allan Lane

Hymn # 320 *Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus* Tim/People

Prayer Concerns Allan/People

Chorus # 533 *He Lives* Tim/People

Because He Lives

John 20:19-31 Easter Sunday

Does Easter really matter? Does it impact the way you live your life on a daily basis? Even people who believe Jesus rose from the grave on the third day sometimes have difficulty articulating its relevancy to their lives. So whether you are a follower of Christ or are still examining His claims, travel back with me to that first Easter morning—Resurrection Sunday—when Jesus appeared to His faithful followers and explore the significance of the resurrection and the difference it can make in your life. When Jesus got up and walked out of that tomb, he changed everything—for you, for me, for the whole world. Because He lives . . .

1. We have Peace .

John 20:19

When Jesus appeared to His disciples that first Easter Sunday, the first words out of His mouth were, “Peace be with you” (John 20:19). The peace Jesus spoke of was more than just a sense of calmness or tranquility. It was the Hebrew word shalom and

it was pregnant with meaning. It meant wholeness, completeness, serenity, and harmony of life. At the very center of this peace is peace with God—reconciliation with the one who breathed life into the universe.

In my many years as a pastor it's been my privilege to officiate several funerals. When the person who died wasn't religious and didn't attend church, often one of the family members will tell me that he or she made their peace with God. The truth is, though—we can't do that. We're not in a position to make peace with God.

When God created mankind, Adam and Eve, He gave them the Garden of Eden as a perfect paradise. He came and walked with them and talked with them and they had peace with God. Then came the tragedy of sin, and humanity was alienated from God. That wonderful peace was shattered. The earth, the animals, mankind, the entire universe was then cursed and we all now live in an imperfect world. Every one of us since then has sinned and our sins have put a chasm between ourselves and God. No matter how hard we try or what we do, we always fall short and those short comings result in everlasting death. It is a tragedy and we can do nothing about it.

But here's the good news. Our sins separate us from God, so if peace with God is ever going to be restored it's up to Him to find a way. That's where Jesus comes in. For God so loved the world, that he gave his one and only Son. Jesus died on the cross to pay the penalty for our sins. His shed blood was our only way out of this mess. Jesus died and rose from the grave so that you and I could have peace with God. Because he lives, I have peace with God. Because of him, I have a relationship with the Creator of the universe and so can you. You can know him personally. You can talk to him. You can ask his forgiveness. You can lean on him in times of trouble. You can experience his love, grace and compassion.

2. We have a Purpose .

John 20:21

Catch the next thing Jesus said. He tells his disciples: "As the Father has sent me, I am sending you" (John 20:21). Where was he sending them? Everywhere. In other words, they were going to become ambassadors for Christ. Their mission, should they choose to accept it, was to spread the word about the cross and the empty tomb—to share the message of Jesus with their friends, neighbors, and relatives. They would use their love, their lives, and their lips to testify about power of the cross and the promise of eternal life.

Colossians 1:15-16

It's all about Him. The Bible says, "Christ is the visible image of the invisible God. He existed before anything was created and is supreme over all creation... Everything was created through him and for him" (Colossians 1:15-16 NLT). Because of Jesus, we know why we exist and what we're supposed to do with our time here on earth.

3. We have a Promise .

John 20:31

At the end of this encounter with the risen Christ, John tells us, "these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name" (John 20:31 NIV).

John 3:16

That's the promise of John 3:16 too, isn't it? "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son that whoever believes in him shall not perish, but have everlasting life" (John 3:16 NIV).

John 10:10

All throughout His ministry Jesus promised life-everlasting to those who believe in Him. Jesus said so clearly, "I have come that they may have life, and that they may

have it more abundantly" (John 10:10 NKJV). It's that abundant life that we anticipate as believers. Many people today hope for a long and happy life, but Jesus offers so much more. He offers forever—eternity, life without end. The promise of life everlasting is the heartbeat of hope. And the resurrection of Jesus insures that we too will be resurrected.

Think of it this way—a Muslim in Africa became a Christian and some of his friends asked him, "Why have you done such a thing?" He answered, "Well, it's like this: Suppose you were going down the road and suddenly the road forked in two directions. You didn't know which way to go, but there at the fork were two men—one dead, and one alive—which one would you ask for directions?"

Conclusion:

Easter is so much more than candy, colored eggs, and cartoon bunnies—Easter is the cornerstone of the Christian faith; the celebration of Jesus rising from the grave, conquering death and giving us peace with God, a purpose for life and the promise of heaven.

That's what today is really all about. That's why we're here, why this building exists, the greeters, the ushers, the choir members, the Sunday school teachers—all of us who follow Jesus. We are here to encourage others to put their faith in the resurrected Christ.

Come to Faith in Christ!

Easter Reflections

Welcome to Easter Sunday at Calvary Baptist. Allow me to take a moment to thank everyone for choosing to spend Easter morning here at Calvary. Whether you've been worshiping here all your life, or this is your first time visiting, or you just haven't been back since last Easter—(just kidding)—We're glad you're here because Easter is the celebration of the resurrection of Jesus Christ and it's the capstone in the arch of Christianity.

A Sunday School teacher once asked her class to write one sentence on "What Easter Means to Me." One student wrote: Egg salad sandwiches for the next two weeks.

Another Sunday School teacher asked her class, "Why do we celebrate Easter?" The children gave a variety of answers: because of the Easter bunny, Easter eggs, candy, spring, etc. Then the teacher said, "No, those are Easter traditions and symbols, but what is the reason why we celebrate Easter?" One little girl raised her hand and said, "Easter celebrates Jesus coming out of the tomb." The teacher exclaimed, "Yes!" excited that the correct answer finally surfaced. Acting just a little bit boastful for having the right answer, the little girl continued, "Then Jesus looks to see if He can see His shadow, and if He can then we have six more weeks of winter."

Have you ever wondered what bunny rabbits and colored eggs have to do with the resurrection of Jesus? The short answer is—nothing. The longer answer is that rabbits and eggs were both symbols of springtime and new life in many ancient near-eastern cultures. In fact, some historians claim that the tradition of hiding colored eggs in a field for children to find dates back to ancient Babylon many centuries before Jesus was born. And no one is quite sure where the name Easter comes from either. There are several theories about it. Some say that it comes from the ancient Germanic calendar because their word for *April* is actually *Easter*. Others believe the name Easter is derived from the *Eostre* or *Esther*, the Anglo-Saxon goddess of spring, for whom a spring festival was held annually. Still others see a connection to the Babylonian goddess of spring, called *Ishtar* or the Phoenician goddess *Astarte*.

But far from attempting to Christianize pagan springtime festivals, early Christians intentionally choose to establish a rival celebration of the resurrection of Jesus which took place on the Sunday morning following the Passover celebration in early spring. Jesus usurped springtime celebrations of all sorts all across the globe. Early Christians readily adopted the eggs as symbols of new life and birth. And while the world has all but forgotten the Greco-

Roman gods of ancient mythology, they are annually reminded that two thousand years ago Jesus Christ rose from the grave and changed the world.

What difference does Easter make to you? Today we are invited to travel back to that first Easter morning and explore the significance and the difference it makes in your life.

God Bless You!

Bro. Allan

Opportunities For Service

Living out Your Spiritual Commitment . . . and Fulfilling Christ's Divine Plan

Sunday, April 16, 2017

Happy Easter!

Breakfast.....8:15 am

Choir Rehearsal.....9:00 am

Sunday School.....9:15 am

Morning Worship.....10:30 am

Nursery: Volunteers as needed

Ushers: John Lewis, Gary Yarbrough, Joseph Coats, Isaac Waters

Alternate: Larry McKahan

No Evening Worship.....

Wednesday, April 19

Youth Bible Study.....6:30 pm

Bible Study.....6:30 pm

Adult Choir.....7:30 pm

Thursday, April 20

O Team.....6:30 pm

Sunday, April 23, 2017

Choir Rehearsal..... 9:00 am

Sunday School 9:15 am

Morning Worship.....10:30 am

Nursery: Volunteers as needed

Ushers: Larry McKahan, Isaac Waters, Ken Kirkpatrick, Bill Schottel

Alternate: Ken Nice

Diversicare.....2:30 pm

No Evening Worship....

Wednesday, April 26

Youth Study..... 6:30 pm

Prayer / Bible Study6:30 pm

Adult Choir 7:30 pm

Thursday, April 27

W Team.....6:30 pm

Up-Coming Events.....

April 16 — Easter Breakfast 8:15 am followed by our regular schedule

Sunday morning

April 20—Special Called SJBA Executive Board Meeting to

Meet and

Greet prospective DOM candidate— **6:45 pm at First Baptist Church, Saint Joseph**
April 23 — Diversicare 2:30 pm
April 28-30 — Thunder on the Mountain
April 30 — SJBA Semi-Annual Meeting Fairport Baptist Church **6:30 pm**

GROW Team

Commit to **GROW!** **Everyone make a contact!** Invite someone to Bible Study and Worship this week. ☺

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Sunday Nights

We will not have service tonight. Have a Happy Easter!

Wednesday Night Prayer and Bible Study

We have one more week in the study entitled *Grace*. This week we view the seventh session of the study by Max Lucado as we journey to discover the depth of God's grace—*more than you deserve, greater than you can imagine, and all that you need*. Hope to see you here at 6:30 pm!

North American Missions And Annie Armstrong Easter Offering

**Envelopes are in the pews
for your convenience.
Our goal: \$1,500.00
To Date: \$ 1,466.00**

Food Pantry Collection Is Today, April 16

You may place your non-perishable items in the basket in the hallway. Thank you for giving.

Diversicare Nursing Home April 23, 2017 2:30 pm

Please join us as we minister to those who can no longer attend their own churches.

Saint Joseph Baptist Association Workday and Spring Cleanup!

Saturday, April 22, 2017
at 9am

For the Record-

Attendance: April 9, 2017

Sunday School.....	40
Visitors.....	4
Total.....	44
Contacts Made.....	7
Morning Worship.....	57
Children's Worship.....	12
Wednesday Night	15
Prayer Warriors.....	11
Maundy Thursday	25

Financial Record:

Weekly Budget	\$ 2,040.52
Offering Received ...	\$ 1,362.58
Annie Armstrong	\$ 1,466.00

Offering Received by Mail:

April Counting Team:

Don Beavers and Jordan Lane

April Van Driver:

Mike Green

Remember to call 232-3747
before 8 am if you need a ride.

April Member Birthdays:

05... Datha Dillon
13... Alice Coats
15... Larry McKahan
25... Jo Mayse
29... Lois Pace
30... Daniel Waters
30... Nikki Garber

April Anniversaries

Joe and Pam Battreal
April 17, 1999
Bill and Juanita Haskins
April 17, 1948
Joseph and Alice Coats
April 29, 2000

Prayer Requests ...

Rosella Davis—Flo Conard's sister
Pat Means—Mary Sharp's Sister
Stephanie and Jason Terpack
Mary Sharp's brother-in-law Jim
Don and Marcia —Don's Health
Troy Griswold—surgery recovery
Rev. A. B. Brown
Tracy Maisel and Tim Ford
Juanita and Bill Haskins—adjustments
Tim Izer
Gary & Peggy Fewins, Byron & Joel
George Ferbert—strength
Nellie Reynolds
Larry Danner—cancer treatment
Cynthia Burdick—cancer recovery
Jim Winans
Karissa and Matt Long and family
Betty Campbell
Lisa Bowers—Jack and Flo's daughter
LoLeta Middleton—strength
Ellen Blanton and Lois Ulmer—
Elvera's daughter & daughter-in-law
Stella Davis and Linda Rails—Doris
Richardson's sisters
Madeline Swink Ann Riddle
Kathryn Beavers Keon McKahan
Louanne Laurence Leona Reynolds
Jozy Winans Kenny Duty
Kevin Duty Buddy Means
Bill Haskins Debbie Sands
Pat Puckett Judy Anderson
Brenda Burgess Roscoe Lane
Carolyn Houts
Missionaries Don and Diane Combs
Nickolay Nazaruk, Peski 2 Church
David and Deborah Grace
Jeanette Swackhamer—Beja People
Our Nation and Leaders
Our Military Service people
Today's Prayer Requests ...

Our Nation and our Leaders ...

Five More New Families...
