

“TAKE 10”- Worship While Away! (Sunday, April 7, 2024)

Share:

Jesus said,

**“Follow me.”**

Jesus said,

**“Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid.”**

Jesus said,

**“Forgive seventy times seven.”**

Jesus said,

**“Feed my sheep.”**

In response, we say:

**“Here’s my heart. Take and seal it. Seal it for thy courts above.”**

Let us worship God with all our hearts.

Read these words from a hymn:

*Christ Has Risen While Earth Slumbers*

Christ has risen while earth slumbers, Christ has risen where hope died,  
as he said and as he promised, as we doubted and denied.

Let the moon embrace the blessing; let the sun sustain the cheer;  
let the world confirm the rumor. Christ is risen, God is here!

Christ has risen for the people whom he loved and died to save;  
Christ has risen for the women bringing flowers to grace his grave  
Christ has risen for disciples huddled in an upstairs room.  
He whose word inspired creation is not silenced by the tomb.

Christ has risen and forever lives to challenge and to change  
all whose lives are messed or mangled, all who find religion strange.  
Christ is risen. Christ is present making us what he has been –  
evidence of transformation in which God is known and seen.

Read this scripture from worship:

John 21:1-19, *The Message*

<sup>1-3</sup> After this, Jesus appeared again to the disciples, this time at the Tiberias Sea (the Sea of Galilee). This is how he did it: Simon Peter, Thomas (nicknamed “Twin”), Nathanael from Cana in Galilee, the brothers Zebedee, and two other disciples were together. Simon Peter announced, “I’m going fishing.”

<sup>3-4</sup> The rest of them replied, “We’re going with you.” They went out and got in the boat. They caught nothing that night. When the sun came up, Jesus was standing on the beach, but they didn’t recognize him.

<sup>5</sup> Jesus spoke to them: “Good morning! Did you catch anything for breakfast?”

They answered, “No.”

<sup>6</sup> He said, “Throw the net off the right side of the boat and see what happens.”

They did what he said. All of a sudden there were so many fish in it, they weren’t strong enough to pull it in.

<sup>7-9</sup> Then the disciple Jesus loved said to Peter, “It’s the Master!”

When Simon Peter realized that it was the Master, he threw on some clothes, for he was stripped for work, and dove into the sea. The other disciples came in by boat for they weren’t far from land, a hundred yards or so, pulling along the net full of fish. When they got out of the boat, they saw a fire laid, with fish and bread cooking on it.

<sup>10-11</sup> Jesus said, “Bring some of the fish you’ve just caught.” Simon Peter joined them and pulled the net to shore—153 big fish! And even with all those fish, the net didn’t rip.

<sup>12</sup> Jesus said, "Breakfast is ready." Not one of the disciples dared ask, "Who are you?" They knew it was the Master.

<sup>13-14</sup> Jesus then took the bread and gave it to them. He did the same with the fish. This was now the third time Jesus had shown himself alive to the disciples since being raised from the dead.

<sup>15</sup> After breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon, son of John, do you love me more than these?"

"Yes, Master, you know I love you."

Jesus said, "Feed my lambs."

<sup>16</sup> He then asked a second time, "Simon, son of John, do you love me?"

"Yes, Master, you know I love you."

Jesus said, "Shepherd my sheep."

<sup>17-19</sup> Then he said it a third time: "Simon, son of John, do you love me?"

Peter was upset that he asked for the third time, "Do you love me?" so he answered, "Master, you know everything there is to know. You've got to know that I love you."

Jesus said, "Feed my sheep. I'm telling you the very truth now: When you were young you dressed yourself and went wherever you wished, but when you get old you'll have to stretch out your hands while someone else dresses you and takes you where you don't want to go." He said this to hint at the kind of death by which Peter would glorify God. And then he commanded, "Follow me."

#### Talk together:

- What's going on with the disciples? Are they taking a break from ministry? Are they still confused and disillusioned? Are they returning to what they know in order to find a "new normal"? Are they uncertain about what to do next?
- Have you ever had to make up for something you did to hurt a friend?
- Do you think the disciples now "remember" all that Jesus had told and shown them? Is this when they finally see the events of the past few days with clarity? Do they finally understand?
- What does it look like for you to "tend" and to "feed" God's sheep in your own life?
- What kind of love is Peter promising? What kind of love does Jesus have in mind?
- As we move forward in our faith journeys, how can we let love lead the way?

#### Pray together:

God of second chances and God of new life, we have spent our days wandering. Like Peter, we have milled about through nearly every state of faith. We have had courageous days and convicted days, learning days and questioning days. We have had days where we run to you, days for diving out of the boat, days for deep joy, and days where the pain of the world feels too close to bear. So, as we bring our wandering hearts to you, we ask that you draw us in. Allow this story to spark something new in us. Allow this story of grace to give us pause and pull us in. We are listening. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

#### Resources Used:

*Sanctified Art*

*The Message*

*Feasting on the Word, Worship Companion*

*Glory to God, The Presbyterian Hymnal*