

Easter Monday
St. Luke 24:13-35
April 10th, 2023
Sts. Peter and Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church, UAC
Simpsonville, SC
Pastor Jerald Dulas

The Things Concerning Jesus

In Nomine Iesu!

In the Name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Ghost. Amen.

Sermon Text:

And one of them, named Cleopas, answering said unto Him, “Dost Thou alone sojourn in Jerusalem and not know the things which are come to pass there in these days?” And He said unto them, “What things?” And they said unto Him, “The things concerning Jesus the Nazarene, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people: and how the chief priests and our rulers delivered Him up to be condemned to death, and crucified Him.”

Prayer in Pulpit before Sermon:

O Lord, send out Thy Light and Thy Truth, let them lead us. O Lord, open Thou my lips, that my mouth may show forth Thy praise. O Lord, graciously preserve me, lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be rejected. Amen.

Grace, mercy, and peace be to you from God our Father and from our Lord and Savior + Jesus Christ. Amen.

Hallelujah! Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Hallelujah! Two men walked along the road from Jerusalem to Emmaus. The road we are told by the Evangelist St. Luke was “threescore furlongs from Jerusalem.” That is, it was just under seven miles. A road that supplied an ample amount of distance to discuss the things concerning the Lord + Jesus. St. Luke the Evangelist tells us that one of these men was called Cleopas. According to Church tradition the other man was called Simon. Both of which are named among the seventy disciples who were sent out by the Lord + Jesus in the Gospels. These two men discussed the things concerning the Lord + Jesus which had occurred in the last week.

We have also spent the last week considering the things concerning the Lord + Jesus. We have been with Him in Bethany in the home of Lazarus, where his sister anointed the feet of the Lord + Jesus and prepared Him for His burial. He was chosen to be the Lamb of God. He was the pure and spotless Lamb who would be sacrificed at twilight on the Day of the Passover.

This Lamb of God we joined on Palm Sunday, when we held our palm branches and celebrated the victory parade of our Lord + Jesus triumphantly entering into the holy city so that He might redeem us from sin and death. This victory parade was a foreshadowing of the eternal victory parade we will be a part of when our Lord God calls our souls out of this vale of tears to Himself in Heaven. There in Heaven we will join with those who have gone before us in the faith and be clothed in white robes and carry our palm branches and sing eternally with the choirs of Heaven, “All glory, laud and honor to Thee Redeemer King.” Of these things concerning our Lord we have borne witness.

We have joined with the two men on the road to Emmaus in witnessing the Lord + Jesus proclaiming that the heavenly Father will glorify His holy Name. The Voice out of Heaven declared that He has both glorified and will glorify it again. He glorified it at the Lord’s birth with the song of the angel’s

choir when they sang, "Glory be to God on high; and on earth peace, goodwill toward men." The same song during the Divine Service to which we join our voices with the heavenly choir and proclaim that the Lord's Name is glorified. The heavenly Father also glorified our Lord's Name when our Lord + Jesus was offered up as a ransom for us on the tree of the holy cross. And our Lord's Name was glorified even more when He arose from the grave, showing us that death no longer has any power over us. The ruler and prince of this world has been judged, and thrown out of this world. We are now free from the power of sin and death, and from the power of the devil. The Lord's Name is truly glorified among us for that which He did for us.

These things have been revealed to us by the Lord + Jesus through the preaching of the Apostles; through the holy Scriptures which have preached into our ears through the pure proclamation that our Lord has done these things. The two men on the road to Emmaus were sorrowful; they stood still and were sad, when the Lord + Jesus appeared before them, even though they did not recognize Him. They were sad because they had not heard the Scriptures which foretold that all these things must take place. We reflected upon the cross and our Lord's preparation for the cross all last week. We were saddened by this history, too. We were sad not because we did not know that all these things must take place; it was not because we were unaware of the resurrection of the dead. But we were saddened by these events because through faith we know what poor, miserable sinners we truly are. We know that our Lord's suffering was the suffering that we deserved.

We wept tears of joy knowing that even though we were not worthy on account of our manifold sins and trespasses, our Lord + Jesus, the Christ freely and willingly offered up His life in our place to redeem us—to buy us back—from the power of Satan. Such love for us poor sinners is beyond our understanding. Our Lord dies for those who betray Him, who despise Him, who beat, scourged, and crucified Him. He died for us poor sinners out of His great love for us. We wept with rejoicing over the love of our Lord for us. For He suffered and died that we might have life with Him; that we might have an eternal life with Him in Heaven with all the company of Heaven. We will live with our loving Lord God for all of eternity with all of our loved ones who have gone before us because He has drawn us to Himself by His holy word.

The two men, Cleopas and Simon, on the road to Emmaus, were sad because they had only been witness to the death of the Lord + Jesus. To them it was a senseless and cruel death. As they testified, they only saw the chief priests and rulers deliver Him up to be condemned, and have Him crucified. They did not understand at this point that all these things concerning the Lord + Jesus must take place. It behooved the Lord + Jesus to suffer all these things, in order that He might win salvation for all mankind, so that all those who believe on Him might have eternal life.

Therefore, on the way to Emmaus; during the threescore furlong journey our Lord + Jesus preached to them the good news that He must suffer and die and on the third day be raised again from the dead. Our Lord + Jesus taught them from the holy Scriptures. They were taught even as we are taught. We are taught through the pure preaching of the Word of God that our Lord + Jesus must suffer all these things concerning Him. All the things we heard about over the last week, must take place. This was revealed to Cleopas and Simon by the Lord + Jesus on the way to Emmaus. The Lord taught them from Scripture beginning at Moses and the prophets. The Lord + Jesus interpreted the Scriptures concerning Himself.

We also have the holy Scriptures as a testimony that all these things concerning the Christ have been done for our benefit. We even have the eyewitness accounts of the four evangelists, and the Epistles of the Apostles which teach us that all these things that our Lord endured on our behalf must happen to fulfill all of holy Scripture. The things concerning our Lord have happened that we might believe that He has conquered death for us, so that death no longer has any more power over us. The things concerning our Lord have happened that the sins of the whole world have been atoned for, so

that we who have been baptized and believe on the Lord + Jesus know that our sins have been covered over with His righteousness. The things concerning our Lord + Jesus have happened that we might rejoice that since He has conquered death, and paid for our sins, we will have an eternal life with Him in Heaven.

In their joy, the two men on the road to Emmaus ran back the nearly seven miles to Jerusalem, to report all the things concerning the Lord + Jesus that they were told by Him. It is indeed wonderful news! We who are worthy of only death and the grave, have been rescued by our loving Lord + Jesus. This Gospel has been preached into our ears. The Holy Ghost has implanted the Word of the Lord into our hearts, and we have believed that word, and give thanks that our Lord has saved us. It is therefore fitting for us to take the example of Cleopas and Simon and share this good news with those who will listen. For all men deserve to hear the good news that salvation is found in the Christ, the Lord + Jesus, the Son of God. All men deserve to hear the things concerning the Lord + Jesus, for these things speak of their salvation and ours. Hallelujah! Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Hallelujah! In the Name of our Lord + Jesus, the Christ. Amen.

Prayer in Pulpit after Sermon:

Almighty God, be pleased to accompany Thy Word with Thy Holy Spirit and grant that Thy Word would increase faith in us; bring into the Way of Truth all such as have erred; turn the hearts of the unrepentant; and for sake of Thy Name grant succor to all heavy hearts and those who are heavy-laden, that they may through the mercy of the Lord Jesus Christ be relieved and preserved so that they succumb not to the temptation of despair but rather that they gain the victory over the world, the flesh, and the devil; through the same Jesus Christ, Thy Son, our Lord, Who liveth and reigneth with the Thee and the Holy Ghost, ever One God, world without end. Amen.

The Votum:

The peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. Amen.

Soli Deo Gloria!