

ourselves. Simply doing the best we know how,

How well has humanity done living the best we know how? Wars, rumours of wars. Death and destruction. Greed, reducing everything to a dollar value, dehumanising each other into commodities for our personal consumption. How well has humanity done doing their own thing; and this has been with God's intervention as he seeks to win our heart and soul. As he has been revealing his heart and soul. In Jesus we see, we experience, we know in the depth of our heavenly Father's passion for us. We see his heart and soul.

Can you imagine what things could be

like left totally to ourselves, in an existence where everyone is simply out to do the best they can for themselves? We've only got a taste of what people are capable of when they live for themselves. I certainly don't anymore than a taste.

Thank God, Jesus has been raised, and resurrection is a reality. In Jesus we have so much to look forward to. So much life; life lived in Father's loving embrace. Sharing his love in everything we do and say, because his nature is now our nature.

Jesus invites you to trust him, today. To trust in the risen one, so that you might be living with him today. So that you might

begin living life the best he knows how, in his power and authority, and with Jesus enjoy being Father's loved child, in whom he delights.

Jesus is risen; what life we have to live. What hope we have for today, for tomorrow, forever.

Please don't let anything or anyone rob you of this great life, this wonderful hope. Don't fall asleep at the wheel, or get sucked in by the devil's lies. Jesus has been raised; the resurrected life is yours in him.

Today make time to talk with Jesus about life inviting him to send the Spirit to lead you into all that he is making possible.

17 February 2019

RESURRECTION

1 Corinthians 15:12-20



Why do you think Jesus resurrection is so important? Of course resurrection means more than just existing for ever.

Guess what, everyone will be existing forever; in what state is another matter.

In the bible it is suggested that those who will be in the worst state are Christians who have given up on their faith. They won't be raised to life, as much as exist in a permanent state of regret.

Imagine existing forever knowing you had it all, but let it slip through your fingers, or gave it up in exchange for a few fleeting moments of pleasure, or rage and unforgiveness got the better of you. I hate

the thought of being able to see God's love, wanting it with all your heart, but never living in it, only looking on as an outsider. That is the ultimate hell.

Jesus offers resurrection to new life. Life lived in the fullness of God's loving presence. Life flowing free and abundant from God's living presence. Jesus offers life; life rich and satisfying, with him, Father and the Spirit.

What an amazing life Jesus invites us to share with him. What an amazing life Jesus has made possible through his crucifixion. That's the implication behind your sins being forgiven. All that robs you of life, of life lived up close and personal with God, in

Jesus, is removed. Is replaced with that most wonderful, personal, intimate, relationship of love.

And not just with God, but with all the 'Body of Christ'. The very love of God will be flowing through us like a rushing river, nothing stopping it. What an amazing community that will be to live in; God's love, unfettered, running free, in us and through us. What a fantastic future Jesus paints for us; invites us to enjoy with him.

But if Jesus isn't raised, then we won't be raised. If Jesus isn't raised, by who's power and authority do I access Father's presence. If Jesus isn't raised how do I access Father's presence other than in fear.

Christ Church Lutheran

Worship Times - 9.00am & 10.45am
Pastor: Tim 0427326553



Jesus' disciples multiplying disciples

What sort of world does fear create?

I run across people all the time who deny resurrection; I'm sure you have too. People who say we come from nothing and we go to nothing. I always find that such a depressing faith.

Notice it is a faith, not a fact, a faith people seek to hold to, I'm not sure why. It offers me no peace of mind knowing I count for nothing. What a wonderful judgement to pass on those you love. You can proudly stand at their funeral and declare they came to nothing.

Add nothing to nothing and what do you get? I've just judged you worth nothing, which to me means you might as well never have existed. Which says to me, your life was a waste of time. What a wonderful judgement

to pass over those you love.

Jesus offers you more. Jesus offers resurrection; life lived with Father in his loving embrace, a life of amazing worth and purpose, where everything you do becomes filled with Father's passion for life. What life Jesus

Jesus is Risen!

has made possible for us to enjoy and share with him; living as he does in Father's loving presence.

That is the life I'm after. But if Jesus isn't raised from the dead, then this life doesn't exist. If there is no resurrection we simply come to a dead end. Our life is judged no more than a momentary distraction. Worth, purpose, value are robbed of any real meaning, after all

without resurrection you're here today and go tomorrow, and soon forgotten.

I don't want to believe that life is a waste of time. When I look at you I don't want to believe you're a waste of time; just filling in space between the cradle and the grave.

Thank God, Jesus, comes with a much, much, more fulfilling faith for us to live in, and

place our hope in; for Jesus has been raised from the dead. Jesus is alive, and at the right hand of God the Father. Jesus' kingdom is a reality; and he has opened the door for us to be legal citizens of heaven, where we get to share life with him in a wonderful conversational relationship of love and affection, living out his supernatural love, quite naturally.

I'm forever grateful that Jesus has been

raised from death by the power of the Father. And that the risen and very much alive Jesus sits enthroned as King. The King who Father anointed, not a self-appointed messiah, but Father's chosen one.

If Jesus isn't risen then the kingdom he came to set up has no head; how well does that work?

But Jesus has been raised, and he does reign as King, he does have the power and authority to do what he says.

Good News, your citizenship of heaven is not powerless, isn't fraudulent. Our King, Jesus, reigns, alive, and in him that is our future. In Jesus that is also our present, as we have begun living under his reign.

In Jesus, your sins are forgiven, you are loved by God the

Father, you are legal citizens of heaven. Today you can be living under Jesus kingship, living in his power and authority, because he is alive. Jesus has been raised, and in him you to are raised to new life.

We die to sin and are raised to life in Jesus.

In Jesus the resurrected life is yours!

That is a common thought in the New Testament. If Jesus wasn't raised, then that would be a lie.

Good News, Jesus has been raised, and in him we have begun living that new life. All be it just baby steps, but we are in Jesus, so we are Father's loved children in whom he delights. In Jesus we are citizens of heaven so we can share life with him, inviting him in, as he

has invited us to be part of his life.

If Jesus wasn't raised from the dead, that's where all your prayers would be going, into the grave, speaking to a dead person. And that would be a total waste of time.

Nobody would be listening, let alone be able to do anything.

Good News, Jesus is alive. He has been raised. Raised to reign as King. That's who we are talking to in prayer, and who is sharing his hopes and dreams with us.

Jesus has been raised to live life with the Father, as King of God's kingdom. And in Jesus we are raised legal citizens of heaven. We live in his power and authority.

If Jesus hasn't been raised from the dead, he has no power and authority and we're left simply relying on