

Living Water Fellowship

Worship with Holy Communion

7th Sunday in Easter – 29th May 2022

COME TO JESUS

Gathering Songs: Come Praise and Glorify

Welcome & Prayer:

GROW IN HIS GRACE

Bible Reading: Revelation 21:1-7

¹ Then I saw a new heaven & a new earth, for the old heaven & the old earth had disappeared. The sea was also gone. ² And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven like a bride beautifully dressed for her husband.

³ I heard a loud shout from the throne, saying, "Look, God's home is now among his people! He will live with them, & they will be his people. God himself will be with them.

⁴ He will wipe every tear from their eyes, & there will be no more death or sorrow or crying or pain. All these things are gone forever."

⁵ The one sitting on the throne said, "Look, I am making everything new!" Then he said to me, "Write this down, for what I tell you is trustworthy & true." ⁶ He also said, "It is finished! I am the Alpha & the Omega—the Beginning & the End. To all who are thirsty I will give freely from the springs of the water of life. ⁷ All who are victorious will inherit all these blessings, & I will be their God, & they will be my children.

Song: How Deep the Father's Love for us

Bible Reading: Revelation 22:1-7

¹ Then the angel showed me a river with the water of life, clear as crystal, flowing from the throne of God & of the Lamb. ² It flowed down the centre of the main street. On each side of the river grew a tree of life, bearing twelve crops of fruit, with a fresh crop each month. The leaves were used for medicine to heal the nations.

³ No longer will there be a curse upon anything. For the throne of God & of the Lamb will be there, & his servants will worship him. ⁴ They will see his face, & his name will be written on their foreheads. ⁵ There will be no night there—no need for lamps or sun—for the Lord God will shine on them. And they will reign forever & ever.

⁶ Then the angel said to me, "Everything you have heard & seen is trustworthy & true. The Lord God, who inspires his prophets, has sent his angel to tell his servants what will happen soon." ⁷ Look, I am coming soon! Blessed are those who obey the words of prophecy written in this book."

The Message: *IN CHRIST'S HANDS: GROWING DESTINY*
Offering Song: Lord Whose Love in Humble Service

Prayers:

The Communion:

Preparation:

Since we have been raised with Christ Jesus, let us set our minds on heavenly things, not on the things that are on earth. Let's pray together...

Gracious God, in our wanderings & selfish desiring we often forsake fellowship with our families, our friends, & our neighbors; we neglect our communion with you, choosing worldly pleasures over truth, justice, & righteousness. In a world of plenty, we hoard our earthly blessings while others lack. Free us from such bondage, that we may truly reveal the presence of Christ in our lives. Amen.

Christ gave to the church the bread of heaven, his flesh & blood, for our forgiveness, life & salvation. Paul records that gracious gift with these words:

For I pass on to you what I received from the Lord himself. On the night when he was betrayed, the Lord Jesus took some bread and gave thanks to God for it. Then he broke it in pieces and said, "This is my body, which is given for you. Do this to remember me." In the same way, he took the cup of wine after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant between God and his people—an agreement confirmed with my blood. Do this to remember me as often as you drink it." For every time you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes again.

Where is another God like you, who pardons the guilt of the remnant, overlooking the sins of his special people?

You will not stay angry with your people forever, because you delight in showing unfailing love.

Once again you will have compassion on us.

You trample our sins under your feet and throw them into the depths of the ocean!

(Micah 7:18-19)

The Lord's Prayer:

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, & the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

Worship video during Communion: "MY REVIVAL" (Lauren Daigle)

GO IN HIS POWER

The Blessings:

**(Name), † child of God,
By the work of Christ, your destiny is with the Father!
Amen.**

Announcements:

Song: Let Your Kingdom Come

SHOW HIS LOVE

Group Bible Study/Discussion:

1. Read Revelation 21:1-7, 22:1-7. What questions immediately come to mind? What do you find most challenging? Why? Read also Rev 3:7-13. How do these texts relate?
2. Once all the judgments were completed, what did John see? Why is that significant? What does that suggest to you about God's final plan for all he has made?
3. Reflect on the 3rd Article of the Creed's affirmation "the resurrection of the body, & the life everlasting." How do today's texts point toward & prepare you for that personal experience of the life-giving-restoring power of Jesus?
4. Read vs 4 again. Of what in this "old order" will you be happy to be rid once & for all? What might you miss most? Describe the differences between the Garden of Eden and the New Earth? How will living without fear of curse affect your outlook on each day?
5. How do you think the early Christians received the promises of this vision? How do you? Note also John 14:1-3...How does it feel know you have a uniquely prepared place in God's house waiting for you?
6. Revelation 21:3 at the very heart of what salvation is all about. True? False? Why?
7. In all of these visions John received, which is most encouraging to you? Why?
8. Jesus repeatedly promises, "I am coming soon." How do you hear that promise having spent time reflecting on his promises in John's vision?
9. How do you perceive the broken state of the world & the presence of evil in it now that you have shared at some level in John's vision & Jesus' promises?
10. How has this seven-week exploration of Revelation affected your understanding & appreciation of Jesus? ...about the totality of the gospel's claim on our world? ...your trust in the Father?
11. Rather than a book of fearful predictions, how would you describe the book of Revelation to someone you know who may not yet trust in Jesus as Lord & Saviour?