Group Bible Study/Discussion:

- 1. Read John 20:1-18. What questions immediately come to mind? What do you find most challenging? Why?
- 2. Why do you believe Christ was raised from the dead? What does his resurrection do for you in your daily living?
- 3. Why do you think Mary came to the tomb so early? Realizing Jesus body was gone, how does she react? What does she think? Is that reasonable? Why?
- 4. Why do you think Jesus chose Mary (or the women in the other gospel accounts) to be the first witnesses to the resurrection? How does this challenge the cultural expectations of Jesus' day & affirm his deep friendships with those on the lowest rungs of the social ladder both then & now?
- 5. What did Peter and John do when they heard Mary's report? How do you account for their reaction? What effect did the empty tomb have on the disciples? How are they different in this than Mary? What do they all eventually "need" before they fully believe Jesus has risen from the dead?
- 6. What term does Jesus use to describe his disciples? (v 17) How is this different from how he speaks of his followers elsewhere in the gospels? What do you think accounts for this shift in relationship?
- 7. What piece of evidence do you find most compelling for the conviction that Jesus truly rose from the grave? How would you respond to a friend who said, 'surely we can't believe that Jesus really rose from the dead?'
- 8. Why do you think John makes special note of the grave clothes & other details?
- 9. Why is it important that we know that Jesus was in fact resurrected? Please read 2 Cor 4:14; 1 Cor 15:13-19 as you discuss your answers.
- 10. What does this text call you to do?



EASTER SUNDAY

COME TO JESUS

EASTER GREETING:

Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed!

Where shattered hearts are made whole, where wounded souls are healed, where life is stronger than death:

there, the stone has been rolled away.

Where the lonely become our friends, where a stranger is welcomed home, where hope is stronger than despair, there, Jesus walks with us.

Where closed wallets are opened, where the anxious find serenity, where love is stronger than hate: there, lesus opens our hearts.

The stone has been rolled away!
Jesus is our companion on the journey!
Our eyes are opened to the new life he gives!
Alleluia! Christ is risen!

SONGS: Come Lord Jesus Come (AT 20)

WELCOME & PRAYER:

GROWIN HIS GRACE

THE GOOD NEWS: John 20:1-18

CHILDREN'S TIME:

SONG: Glorious Day

THE MESSAGE: The Truth: Jesus is Lord!

OFFERING SONG No other Name

PRAYERS:

HOLY COMMUNION:

Words of Institution & 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 during distribution:

To The Table (Zach Williams)

GOINHISPOWER

WE BLESS EACH OTHER:

_____, child of God,
The resurrection life of Jesus lives in you!

THE SENDING:

P: Go out with great joy! The risen Jesus goes before you to lead you.

He goes behind you to encourage you & give you hope.

He goes above you as protector & guardian.

He is beneath you to carry you when you are weary & to catch you when you stumble & fall.

Go knowing that Jesus is alive & traveling beside you as friend & companion on your journey.

Go with the risen Jesus inside you; Lord of the universe & Lord of your heart & life. Christ is risen!

C: Christ is risen indeed! ALLELUIA!

A REMINDER FROM GOD'S WORD:

Hebrews 2:14-15

Announcements

SONG: Yours is the Glory (LHS 770)

SHOWHISLOVE