

Resurrection Day Communion **(April 21, 2019 by Rev. Anthony Menzel)**

***I want to wish everyone a Happy Resurrection Day...

***Because it is Resurrection Day and we are having a special communion / testimony service, the children's class for today is cancelled...

***Before we start preparing for the Holy Supper, we also need to close out the prayer fast that we started at the beginning of Lent...

As we close out this prayer fast, we will also start a new prayer fast...

This one will last until the Sunday June 2, which is the Sunday after Ascension Day, the day that commemorates the Ascension of Jesus Christ into heaven after His Resurrection from the dead...

Scripture 1: Acts 1:1-11

The former account I made, O Theophilus, of all that Jesus began both to do and teach, ² until the day in which ^[a]He was taken up, after He through the Holy Spirit had given commandments to the apostles whom He had chosen, ³ to whom He also presented Himself alive after His suffering by many ^[b]infallible proofs, being seen by them during forty days and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God.

The Holy Spirit Promised

⁴ And being assembled together with them, He commanded them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the Promise of the Father, "which," He said, "you have heard from Me; ⁵ for John truly baptized with water, but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now." ⁶ Therefore, when they had come together, they asked Him, saying, "Lord, will You at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?" ⁷ And He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or seasons which the Father has put in His own authority. ⁸ But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be ^[c]witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."

Jesus Ascends to Heaven

⁹ Now when He had spoken these things, while they watched, He was taken up, and a cloud received Him out of their sight. ¹⁰ And while they looked

steadfastly toward heaven as He went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel, ¹¹ who also said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand gazing up into heaven? This same Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will so come in like manner as you saw Him go into heaven."

Our new prayer fast will be a modified version of the old prayer fast in which we commit to pray for the same things, but we only have to use the prayer sheets once a week, now that we are more acquainted with the prayer sheets...

We will dedicate ourselves to praying for the well-being of the unsaved, those whose relationship with the Lord Jesus is weak, and followers or disciples of the Lord Jesus, including salvation and physical healing...

We will also dedicate ourselves to praying with our minor children and studying the Bible with them...

We will also continue the prayer against the powers and principalities of addiction, infanticide (abortion), materialism, prejudice, and sexual immorality...

We will also pray for our church building...

***I have an important announcement about the church building...

Today my family and I are buying the first virtual brick for the building...

My grandmother Minna's birthday is April 25th, so we will be honoring her memory by buying a virtual brick in her name...

On this Resurrection Day, I am so grateful to the Holy Trinity...

Scripture 2: Colossians 1:12-14

giving thanks to the Father who has qualified us to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in the light. ¹³ He has delivered us from the power of darkness and [\[c\]](#)conveyed us into the kingdom of the Son of His love, ¹⁴ in whom we have redemption [\[d\]](#)through His blood, the forgiveness of sins.

Through the Crucifixion of Jesus Christ we have deliverance from sin...

We are also delivered to forgiveness and to being redeemed or bought by God...

We are delivered to being a blessing and to being blessed...

Scripture 3: Ephesians 5:8-21

For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light ⁹ (for the fruit of the ^[b]Spirit is in all goodness, righteousness, and truth), ¹⁰ finding out what is acceptable to the Lord. ¹¹ And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather ^[c]expose them. ¹² For it is shameful even to speak of those things which are done by them in secret. ¹³ But all things that are ^[d]exposed are made manifest by the light, for whatever makes manifest is light. ¹⁴ Therefore He says:

“Awake, you who sleep,
Arise from the dead,
And Christ will give you light.”

Walk in Wisdom

¹⁵ See then that you walk ^[e]circumspectly, not as fools but as wise, ¹⁶ redeeming the time, because the days are evil.

¹⁷ Therefore do not be unwise, but understand what the will of the Lord is. ¹⁸ And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit, ¹⁹ speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord, ²⁰ giving thanks always for all things to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, ²¹ submitting to one another in the fear of ^[f]God.

As we prepare for communion, I think one of the most fitting ways to honor the Lord Jesus is undergo a process of deliverance...

We are going to renounce sin and commit ourselves to good things, using some of the most important scriptures regarding these matters...

Scriptures for the Renunciation of Sin:

Scripture 4: Galatians 5:19-21:

Now the works of the flesh are evident, which are: ^[a]adultery, ^[b]fornication, uncleanness, lewdness, ²⁰ idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions, heresies, ²¹ envy, ^[c]murders, drunkenness, revelries, and the like; of which I tell you beforehand, just as I also told you in time past, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

Scripture 5: James 1:19-20

So then, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath; ²⁰ for the wrath of man does not produce the righteousness of God.

Scripture 6: 1 Corinthians 6:9-10

Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived. Neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor [a]homosexuals, nor [b]sodomites, ¹⁰ nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners will inherit the kingdom of God.

Scripture 7: Revelation 21:8

But the cowardly, [a]unbelieving, abominable, murderers, sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death.”

Please join me in a special prayer of confession based on these scriptures in which we can be delivered by renouncing evil:

Father God, Bless me to renounce all forms of sexual immorality, including all types of sexual activity outside of marriage...

Bless me to renounce having anything or anyone be more important to me than you so that there are no idols in my life...

Bless me to renounce seeking spiritual power outside of the power that You give us in the name of Jesus Christ; bless me to renounce all forms of witchcraft and magic, including tarot cards and horoscopes;

bless me to renounce hatred; bless me to hate people's negative actions and erroneous beliefs without hating people or wishing them harm...

Bless me to seek peace instead of division and arguments; bless me to renounce all violent behavior; bless me to let go of anger quickly and turn my frustrations into prayers, remembering that the wrath of man does not work the righteousness of God...

Bless me to think about others instead of being selfish...

Bless me to renounce false beliefs and believe according to what the Bible says...

Bless me to renounce all vices, including alcohol abuse and drug abuse of every kind...

Bless me to be proud of you instead of cowardly...

Bless me to walk in faith, believing in You and Your Word instead of not believing...

Bless me to renounce lying...

A big part of deliverance is renouncing evil; another big part of deliverance is committing ourselves to good...

Scripture 8: Philippians 4:8

Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy—meditate on these things.

We had been using this verse as our fast for a long period of time, and it should be something we always follow...

Scripture 9: Galatians 5:22-23

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³ [\[a\]](#)gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law.

Please join me in a special prayer of confession based on these scriptures in which we can be delivered by committing ourselves to good:

Holy Father, please bless me to think about good things more and more, until they are what I focus on the vast majority of the time; bless me to think about what is true, good, pure, beautiful, and things that are worthy of praise; bless me to have more and more peace in my life because I focus more and more on You and good things;

Bless me to show more and more love to You by showing more love to others...

Bless me to be more and more joyful because I praise You more and more...

Bless me to persevere in doing good;

Bless me to be nice to others;

Bless me to think, feel, act, and say good things;

Bless me to control myself when I feel negative emotions, such as anger...

Now that we have renounced evil and committed ourselves to good, let us prepare to receive blessings from the Lord Jesus through partaking in the Holy Supper...

Let us receive healing for our spirit, soul, and body as we take in the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ, for where the blood of Jesus Christ is, the life of Jesus Christ is...

Scripture 10: Leviticus 17:11

For the life of the flesh is in the blood, and I have given it to you upon the altar to make atonement for your souls; for it is the blood that makes atonement for the soul.'

Scripture 11: John 1:1-5

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was in the beginning with God. ³ All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made. ⁴ In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. ⁵ And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not ^[a]comprehend it.

Scripture 12: 1 Peter 2:20-24

For what credit is it if, when you are beaten for your faults, you take it patiently? But when you do good and suffer, if you take it patiently, this is commendable before God. ²¹ For to this you were called, because Christ also suffered for ^[e]us, leaving ^[f]us an example, that you should follow His steps:

²² "Who committed no sin,
Nor was deceit found in His mouth";

²³ who, when He was reviled, did not revile in return; when He suffered, He did not threaten, but committed Himself to Him who judges righteously; ²⁴ who Himself bore our sins in His own body on the tree, that we, having died to sins, might live for righteousness—by whose ^[g]stripes you were healed.

***Communion:

Scripture 13: 1 Corinthians 11:27-34

Therefore whoever eats this bread or drinks this cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of the body and ^[f]blood of the Lord. ²⁸ But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of the bread and drink of the

cup. ²⁹ For he who eats and drinks ^[g]in an unworthy manner eats and drinks judgment to himself, not discerning the ^[h]Lord's body. ³⁰ For this reason many are weak and sick among you, and many ^[i]sleep. ³¹ For if we would judge ourselves, we would not be judged. ³² But when we are judged, we are chastened by the Lord, that we may not be condemned with the world.

³³ Therefore, my brethren, when you come together to eat, wait for one another. ³⁴ But if anyone is hungry, let him eat at home, lest you come together for judgment. And the rest I will set in order when I come.

We have examined ourselves extensively today, asking the Lord to bless us to leave evil and commit to doing good...

Finally, let us partake of the Holy Supper together...

Scripture 14: 1 Corinthians 11:23-26

For I received from the Lord that which I also delivered to you: that the Lord Jesus on the same night in which He was betrayed took bread; ²⁴ and when He had given thanks, He broke it and said, ^[d]"Take, eat; this is My body which is ^[e]broken for you; do this in remembrance of Me."²⁵ In the same manner He also took the cup after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in My blood. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

²⁶ For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death till He comes.