



river west church

Walking with Christ the Risen Lord

Matthew 28:16-20

Pastor Guy Gray

Easter Sunday | 4.4.2010

Worship Christ – The Risen Lord!

Welcome to River West Church, and thanks for joining us for our Easter Worship Service! There's always a special sense of excitement and celebration for Christians on Easter Sunday. We believe this day marks the culmination of the greatest events in all of history – Christ's sacrificial death on the Cross and His resurrection victory over sin, death and evil. No wonder we want to worship! When Christ first appeared on Easter Sunday to His disciples, the Bible tells us they were overwhelmed with joy, and they worshipped Him. Worship is our first and foremost response to Christ our risen Lord. We believe that we are not alone. Christ is alive and He is present with us as we gather together today. He comes in power and love to meet with us. This is why we sing, celebrate, praise and pray with enthusiasm.

Receive the Message of the Gospel

Every Sunday at River West we open up the Bible and listen to the Word of God. We do this because the Bible is the ultimate witness to the message and the meaning of Christ for our lives. With all of our hearts and minds, we want to know, trust and experience Christ. The Gospel tells us that Jesus Christ is the risen Lord! But what does that actually mean for our lives in this world and what does it mean for our eternal future? Clear and powerful answers to these questions are found in God's Word. So join us as we open our Bibles and explore the message of the Gospel. Open your heart and mind to receive. Say a prayer. Ask God to help you understand the power and the promise of the Gospel for your own life.

Respond in Faith

Ultimately, each one of us needs to decide to respond in faith to Jesus Christ. The hope of Easter is only an idea, until you come to Christ personally in faith. The Bible says that if you, "Confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you shall be saved" (Romans 10:9). Jesus said, "Behold I stand at the door and knock, if anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in" (Revelation 3:20). Have you opened the door of your heart to Jesus Christ? There will never be a better day than today for you to respond in faith to Christ. The grace, promise and power of Christ are being extended to you as we worship and listen to the message of the Gospel today. Respond in faith! Pray. Tell Jesus that you do believe that He is the risen Lord. Open your heart. Invite Him in – as Savior and Lord. Walk forward into a life of ultimate hope through Jesus Christ our Lord.

A Community of Christ for the World

At River West Church we are, "Building a community of Christ for the world". We invite you to become a part our community of faith. In the foyer you will find 3 books: one white, one blue, one brown. These are designed to give you an idea of what we believe; how to get involved in community at River West; and how you can join us in our mission of redemptive love to the world. Easter Sunday is the ultimate day of new beginnings. Easter Sunday launches us into a whole new life of trusting, loving, and serving Christ's mission in our world. At River West we

do this together in Community. Next week we will be back again to worship Christ, receive His Word, respond in faith and step out to change our world. Hope to see you then!

NEXT STEPS

Beginning a Relationship with Jesus Christ

The Good News of the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ is sort of like a present. You only get the full experience if you open it up. So, how can you respond to the message and the Gospel? Romans 10:9 says, "That if you confess with your mouth, 'Jesus is Lord', and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved." This is how you respond to what Jesus has done. Put your hope and your faith in Him. Commit your life to Him.

Believe It

The first step is that you believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead. This belief is so important because it allows the power of the Resurrection to touch your life. Call out to Him in prayer. Just believe.

Say It

The second step is that you need to confess with your mouth in prayer that Jesus is Lord. This means submitting and committing your life to Him. This might sound scary, but Jesus is the one person you can submit to and be totally safe; totally cared for.

Dive into the Life God has Waiting for You

The best way to learn about Jesus is to read what the Bible says about His earthly ministry and the Gospel of Mark is a great place to start. Get yourself a Bible. Read a chapter a day. Get with a Christian friend or one of the Pastors and talk about Jesus over coffee. We would love to meet with you. The key is to get started. We promise, you will never be the same!