



Love. Grow. Serve.

"Where the Word of life gathers, nurtures, and sends us forth to serve."

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What Comes after "Follow Me"?

Our Easter Prayer: that we may see and trust our "all-sufficient Savior"

Easter may be one day on the calendar, but its influence dare not be restricted to only one day! To help us appreciate that reality, the church's year has seven full weeks to celebrate the resurrection of our Lord! And it takes much more time than that--actually for each of us our whole lifetime--to learn the full dimensions of Jesus' rising from the grave.

For that reason, I want to urge you to do two things:

- (a) attend worship faithfully each Sunday to be enriched by the lessons for this Easter season--from John's Gospel, the Acts of the Apostles, and the Revelation to St. John, for they are packed with the wisdom and power of Jesus' resurrection and will help you lead the resurrection life!
- (b) to join us for the five Wednesdays in May at 7 P.M. The first four Wednesdays we will study Paul's Letter to the Colossians and the fifth Wednesday, we'll celebrate the Ascension of our Lord. Each session will end no later than 8:15 P.M. that no one should have to travel home in the dark!

Colossians is a powerful little letter. It shows us the all-sufficiency of the Savior. He is the image of the invisible God, who has created all things. In Him all things (like sickness and health, success and failure, remembering and forgetting, coming and going) hold together. He is the head of the church--isn't that comforting? He is the firstborn from the dead! Death has been defeated; we do not have to fear it. All the fullness of God dwells in Him, and He has reconciled all things to Himself by the blood of the cross. We can live and serve and carry on His mission with confidence, joy and hope. See Colossians 1:15-20.

The Sunday lessons as well provide wisdom, power and encouragement for living as God's Easter people in these troubling, unsettled times in which fear and anxiety, hatred and violence and the like seem to prevail.

By seeing and trusting our all-sufficient Savior, Jesus Christ, we can be the kind of people in the world who

- 1) experience peace; 2) display purpose; 3) exude confidence;
- 4) manifest love; and 5) radiate hope.

May Easter's blessings continue in and through us!

Pastor Michael

We had our first congregational planning session on Wednesday, April 24 to begin the process of pinpointing the direction we want our congregation to take over the next few years. Working within the parameters suggested by Pastor Kress; what are our resources, what are the needs of the community, and what is God's will for us as we move forward, we broke into groups for discussion. We will come together again on Wednesday, May 8 at 6 P.M. with a pizza meal to start, with the various groups providing the feedback they have garnered. All are welcome to attend this important meeting.

A special invitation has been received from King of Kings Lutheran Church in Jasper (now moving to Talking Rock) who will be dedicating their new building Sunday, May 19 at 4 P.M. We are asked to RSVP by May 8, 2019 by either calling 706-301-9191 or emailing them at kingofkingslcmsga@gmail.com. Since this is a "mission congregation" like ours, attending this service will be an encouragement to them, as well as an encouragement to us, and will likely give us ideas as we think of our future at St. Peter Lutheran Church.