



Racine Dominicans
Committed to Truth + Compelled to Justice

PRAY, PONDER, PREACH AND PRACTICE THE WORD OF GOD

Facilitated by Racine Dominican Preaching Committee

April 2021

Easter Ministry

The Light of the World came to us in the Christmas Season. That was Good News. But that infant Light grew up. As a migrant on the run, as a home-town boy, as the son of a skilled laborer, Jesus was pretty incognito. Then the people of his time tried pretty hard to put out the Light altogether. But the Love that fuels the light knew what to do with sin and death. It becomes fuel for forgiveness and mercy.

Easter is a Sonburst that will never go out. Love has conquered sin and death. It's done. Fragments, like the cut-up pieces of a snake, wiggle their way through history putting on a show of power. But don't be fooled. It's a lying seduction. Don't be deceived when it shows up on the news. Shake your head when you hear about it in government or in business. No, the battle has been won. Now, what do we, who have that baptismal cross of oil gleaming on our foreheads, do about it? We settle in for the long haul doing Easter Ministry. We 'put feet on the talk.'

Easter ministry is reconciliation. We reconcile. Watch the readings that come our way during the month of April this year. They are bathed in Easter light. That light allows for no division. That light unifies. It brings broken things together. It heals. The apostles were shattered and scattered. Easter brings them together. There is no shaming, no blaming. There is only forgiving and forgetting. There is truth-telling. Even winter itself yields to the green bursting from buds.

What do we need to reconcile? Do we need to speak with someone we've avoided? Can we disagree with someone and still respect them? Can we give them a sense that there is room for them in our heart even though we disagree with them? What is broken that we can mend? It's time for Easter ministry. It's time for healing, for mending, for binding up what is broken.

*We're in pieces, Lord.
Broken hearts and broken relationships.
Broken cities and broken borders,
Counties that can't be home anymore.
Women against men,
White against Black.
Asian bullying.
Shine on us
In all your risen beauty
Where every wound is healed.
Bind up our brokenness, Risen Lord,
Help us to shine.*

Thank you to Associate Catherine Gundlach for the April reflections.

Easter Sunday, April 4, 2021

John 20: 1-9

"...he saw and believed." John 20:8

The beloved disciple saw the evidence in the empty tomb and believed. He saw that the stone was rolled away, the tomb was empty, and the head cloth was separate from the other burial cloths. He saw and believed. What evidence do I need to believe?



*"I am the
resurrection
and the
life."*

John 11:25

Divine Mercy Sunday, April 11, 2021

John 20: 19-31

"Peace be with you." John 20:19,21,26

Not once, but three times Jesus greeted his disciples this way providing them a sense of security and safety. As followers, do we hear these reassuring words throughout the rhythm of our day?

Third Sunday of Easter, April 18, 2021

Luke 24: 35-48

"...it is I myself." Luke 24:39

Jesus assured his disciples that he was alive. His marks on his hands and feet were evidence enough along with the consumption of baked fish. Do you feel his tangible presence in the sacraments today?

Fourth Sunday of Easter, April 25, 2021

John 10:11-18

"I am the good shepherd, and I know mine and mine know me." John 10:14

He wills to lay down his life for me. In this intimate relationship, I have come to recognize my good shepherd's voice. How do I, in return, lay my life down for him?