

HOLY WEEK

WITH NORTHWAY CHURCH

Day 7 - Saturday

Bible Reading: John 3:16-17

"For God so loved the world that He gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through Him."

Bible Reading: Matthew 28:1-20

"After the Sabbath, at dawn on the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to look at the tomb. There was a violent earthquake, for an angel of the Lord came down from heaven and, going to the tomb, rolled back the stone and sat on it. His appearance was like lightning, and his clothes were white as snow. The guards were so afraid of him that they shook and became like dead men. The angel said to the women, 'Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. He is not here; He has risen, just as He said. Come and see the place where He lay. Then go quickly and tell His disciples: 'He has risen from the dead and is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see Him.' Now I have told you.' So the women hurried away from the tomb, afraid yet filled with joy, and ran to tell His disciples. Suddenly Jesus met them. 'Greetings,' He said. They came to Him, clasped His feet and worshiped Him. Then Jesus said to them, 'Do not be afraid. Go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me.' When they saw Him, they worshiped Him; but some doubted. Then Jesus came to them and said, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.'"

Bible Reading: John 1:1-5

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it."

When God created humanity, He didn't need us—He wanted us. God is love, and when He created us, He invited us to know love by knowing Him.

But we rejected God's perfection, and the weight of our wrongdoing crushed us. Our defiance led to our downfall, and the world lived in a constant state of fear and separation from its loving Creator.

So God showed us what perfect love looked like by sending His only Son to us.

And Jesus - so in love with His Father and us - willingly sacrificed everything for the sake of the world. He took the punishment of our wrongdoing so that we could know God intimately, for all time. And when He rose from the dead, He made it possible for us to have a close relationship with Him.

God has made a way for us to know Him, but we get to choose to accept or reject this gift.

Accepting the gift means we can't use our good deeds, degrees, or connections to earn our way to an eternal relationship with God. We just have to accept what Jesus did for us on the cross and believe He defeated death through His resurrection. So today, take a moment to thank God for the gift of eternal life you can have through His Son. And then, celebrate Jesus' resurrection by praying this prayer:

A Prayer of Celebration

Jesus, Thank You for becoming "God with us" and "God for us." There is no one who compares to You! Thank You for showing me what unconditional love looks like. I don't want to take this for granted, so today, I choose to celebrate who You are as well as what You have done. You are the conqueror of evil and the overcomer of death and destruction. You are the God who saves, heals, restores, and redeems. You are all-powerful and indestructible. Death could not defeat You. The devil cannot beat You, and nothing can stand against You. The resurrection proved that, and my life gets to display that. So today and every day, I want to worship You. You are alive, and You choose to live in me! Amen.

We can't wait to celebrate the risen Savior with you tomorrow at Northway Church!