

Sunday Service Summary – The Triumphal Entry & The Resurrection

Overview

This service centered on Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem, the miraculous raising of Lazarus, and the essential message of the resurrection. The pastor highlighted the significance of belief, confession, and the personal acceptance of Jesus' sacrifice and lordship.

Core Scriptures

- **John 11–12** (Raising Lazarus, Triumphal Entry)
- **Zechariah 9:9–10** (Prophecy of the King on a donkey)
- **Romans 1:1–4** (Jesus declared Son of God by resurrection)
- **John 3:13–18** (Necessity of belief in the Son)
- **Acts 2:36–39** (Call to repentance and baptism)

Announcements

- **Good Friday Service:**
 - Simple family gathering, no separate children's ministry
 - Worship, scripture readings (Last Supper through crucifixion), communion, gospel sharing, closing worship
 - Friday at 7:00–8:00/8:30 p.m. at the church
- **Language Services:**
 - Live transcription and translation available via QR code and earbuds
 - Useful for the hard of hearing or bilingual attendees
- **Home Groups:**
 - Special gathering for Liz's birthday tonight at the pastor's home (Sweden Road)
 - Jake & Sarah Winona's home group (Prescott) at 6:00 p.m. tonight
 - Dell & Michelle's home group (College Place) Thursday at 6:30 p.m.

- **Wednesday Night Service:**

- 7:00 p.m. this week at the church

Message Highlights

Setting the Scene: From Sorrow to Joy

- **Context:**

- The raising of Lazarus (John 11) sets the tone for the triumphal entry.
- Jesus arrives after Lazarus' death, demonstrating power over death and deep compassion.

- **Martha's Faith:**

- Martha expresses belief in Jesus' power, even amid grief and confusion.
- Jesus declares, "I am the resurrection and the life"—the heart of Easter's hope.

The Anointing at Bethany

- **Mary's Act:**

- Mary anoints Jesus' feet with costly oil, a powerful act of love and preparation for His burial.
- The fragrance fills the house, symbolizing the lasting impact of sacrificial worship.
- Jesus affirms Mary's act as timely and meaningful, foreshadowing His death.

The Triumphal Entry

- **Public Declaration:**

- Jesus enters Jerusalem on a donkey, fulfilling Zechariah's prophecy (Zech 9:9–10).
- Crowds shout "Hosanna! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!"
- Lazarus' presence is a living testimony to Jesus' authority over death.

- **Mixed Responses:**

- Many rejoice, yet religious leaders plot against Jesus and Lazarus.
- Some believe in secret, fearing social and religious repercussions.

The Meaning of the Resurrection

- **Jesus' Mission:**

- His death is necessary for the expansion of His kingdom to all peoples—including Gentiles.
- “Unless a grain of wheat falls into the ground and dies, it remains alone...”

- **God's Declaration:**

- The resurrection is God's public affirmation of Jesus as His Son and the world's Savior (Romans 1:4).

- **Call to Respond:**

- Belief and confession are both required—private faith alone is insufficient.
- The promise of salvation extends to all who repent and confess Jesus as Lord.

The Urgency of Personal Faith

- **Invitation:**

- The pastor invites anyone who has not personally accepted Jesus to do so openly, emphasizing the importance of both belief and confession.
- He encourages honest, heartfelt surrender—comparing it to signing a consent form for life-saving surgery.

- **Assurance:**

- One act of true faith and confession is sufficient; Jesus' sacrifice is complete for all who trust Him.

Key Takeaways

- Jesus is the resurrection and the life; belief in Him brings eternal life.
- The resurrection validates Jesus' identity and authority.
- Confessing faith in Jesus is essential—faith must be personal and public.
- God's promise of forgiveness and new life is available to all, regardless of past rejection or failure.
- The story of Lazarus, Mary's anointing, and the triumphal entry all point to Jesus' unique, saving work.

Closing Prayer

- Gratitude for Jesus' sacrifice and the gift of eternal life.
- A plea for anyone hesitant or afraid to come to Jesus, that they would find courage to respond.
- Blessing over the congregation and their fellowship.