

Sermon Notes 04/12/26 – *John 20:11-18*

How does this passage point us to Christ?

Christ is the One who enters death fully and overcomes it from within, not by avoiding it, but by transforming it.

Christ is the New Adam, the Gardener of new creation, restoring what was broken in the beginning.

Christ is known through intimate relationship, calling people by name and drawing them into communion.

Christ expands belonging, “my Father and your Father,” opening restored relationship with God.

Christ entrusts the first resurrection witness to Mary Magdalene, affirming that God works through those the world may overlook.

How does this passage form us in the way of Christ?

It invites us to face grief honestly, trusting that Christ meets us within the wound, not outside it.

It teaches us to listen for the voice that calls us by name rather than defining ourselves by what has happened to us.

It invites us into participation with God, not just belief about God.

It loosens our need to control or cling, helping us trust the new life unfolding.

It calls us to become witnesses. Not because we are certain, but because we have encountered something real.