



Raquette Lake Chapel Sunday Blast

June 2, 2024

"The Good News: Salvation and Eternal Life"



It is Humbling... for me to write this concluding Sunday Blast discussing how we understand the Good News, the Gospel. The Good News is awesome, and it is hard for me to put it into my words, which can, in no way, do the Gospel justice. So, let's read together through scripture for the Gospel message:

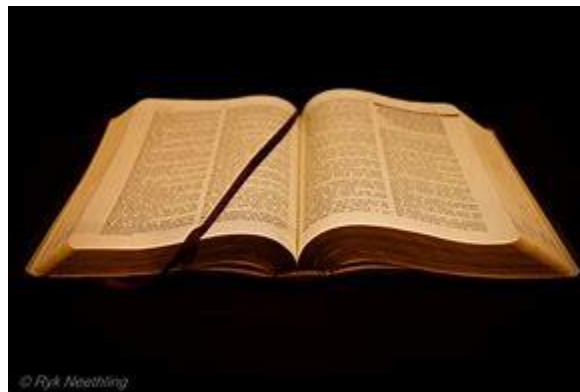
As Jesus teaches Nicodemus... "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him." (John 3:16-17) God's grace alone draws us into existence with our creator...forever.

Later in the Gospel... Jesus, while saying goodbye to his disciples, answers Thomas' question about how can we follow you to the Father's house: "Jesus answered, 'I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.'" (John 14:6) At this point we observe the mystery of the Trinity, as Jesus says "Don't you believe that I am in the Father, and that the Father is in me? The words I say to you I do not speak on my own authority. Rather, it is the Father, living in me, who is doing his work. Believe me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in me..." (John 14:10-11)

After Jesus' resurrection and ascension... Paul reminds the Romans, "If you declare with your mouth, 'Jesus is Lord,' and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved." (Romans 10:9) Our belief that Jesus is the Christ and we will be saved, by the grace of God.

Finally, we should take to heart... this brief message: "He saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit." (Titus 3:5)

The risen Christ..., God's gift for all, past, present and future, forgives us, saves us, and sustains us through the Holy Spirit: "Surely your goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever." (Psalm 23:6) May it be so. Amen.



Prayer Box: pray for healing for Holland, Gail, Barbara, Keith, Mia, Elizabeth, Patti, Joyce, Joe, Florence, Debbie, and John; pray for those who are traveling, especially Maggie, and Vance; pray for those suffering from depression; pray for all struggling families; pray for all who grieve.

Lord, hear our prayers!