



Raquette Lake Chapel Sunday Blast

April 20, 2025 – Easter Sunday

“He is Risen!”



“When the sabbath was over...”

... Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices so that they might go to anoint Jesus’ body. ... when they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had been rolled away. As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man dressed in a white robe sitting on the right side, and they were alarmed.

“Don’t be alarmed,” he said. “You are looking for Jesus the Nazarene, who was crucified. He has risen! He is not here. See the place where they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter, ‘He is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him, just as he told you.’” Trembling and bewildered, the women went out and fled from the tomb. They said nothing to anyone because they were afraid. [Mark 16:1-8]

Mark’s telling of Holy Week ends abruptly. If you saw Mel Gibson’s movie “The Passion of Christ,” you may remember it ended abruptly too with the crucifixion and a mere hint of the resurrection. If you felt like something was missing at the end of the movie, you were not alone! Verses 9-20 tell of several major events important to Christians: the risen Lord appearing to many in public, the Lord’s command much like the Great Commission in Matthew (Mark 16:15 – “He said to them, ‘Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation.’”), and the Lord’s ascension into heaven.

The earliest manuscripts of Mark and some other sources do not have verses 9–20 at all. Some manuscripts added this verse at the end of Mark instead of verses 9-20 (Imagine it’s verse 9):

“Then they [the two Marys and Salome] quickly reported all these instructions to those around Peter. After this, Jesus himself also sent out through them from east to west the sacred and imperishable proclamation of eternal salvation. Amen.”

Though Mark’s gospel is not as elaborate as the other gospels, this simple verse captures the gospel message! Let us remember: Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia! May you have a blessed Easter! - Vance

Prayer box: Let us pray for healing for Mia, Brenda, Bruce, Patti, John H., Holland, Steve, Debbie, John C., Lynn, Maggie, and Vance. Let us give thanks for healing, especially Connie and Joyce. Let us pray for the souls of our departed friends and family members, and those who mourn. Pray for Israel, Palestine, Ukraine, Russia, and the United States. Pray for those suffering from natural disasters. Let us pray for all churches seeking pastors. Let us also pray for a deeper understanding of Scripture. Lord, hear our prayers!