



Raquette Lake Chapel Sunday Blast

April 27, 2025 – A New Year

Collect for the 2nd Sunday After Easter

“Almighty and everlasting God, who in the Paschal mystery established the new covenant of reconciliation: **Grant that all who have been reborn into the fellowship of Christ's Body may show forth in their lives what they profess by their faith**; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.”

A New Year?

You know, I feel like this past week should be celebrated as the beginning of a new year, not on the calendar, of course, but because Easter is a reminder of the turning point evidenced in the Resurrection. One commentary I consulted for my guest sermon this upcoming Sunday reads, "The texts chosen for the Sunday following Easter converge in their common interest in the way believers respond to the resurrection of Jesus."

The texts referred to for this Sunday are:

- Acts 5:27-32 Peter and the disciples appear before the council and declare “We must obey God rather than any human authority.”
- Psalm 118:14-29 “Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.”
- Revelation 1:4-8 “I am the Alpha and the Omega.”
- John 20:19-31 To Thomas, “Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.”

As we begin this “new year,” how do we respond to the Resurrection?

Those words from Psalm 118 were shouted in celebration as Jesus rode into Jerusalem on the young colt a week ago. “Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.” Now, in the light of the Resurrection, those words carry even more weight. The stone that the builders rejected really did become the cornerstone. This wasn’t just long-ago poetry; it was prophetic.

So, yes, this feels like a new year. Because it is...in our hearts, in God’s Kingdom.

The tomb is still empty...Jesus is still alive... And we are still called. So, ... let’s go live like it.

God’s Peace. Vance

Prayer box: Let us pray for healing for Mia, Brenda, Bruce, Patti, John H., Holland, Steve, Debbie, John C., and Lynn. Let us give thanks for healing, especially Maggie, Vance, Connie, and Joyce. Give thanks for new beginnings for Jill and Kyle. 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 those who seek God or a deeper knowledge of God.

Lord, hear our prayers!