

**Sunrise Service**  
**Resurrection Sunday**  
**March 22, 2008**

Greetings in the precious name of the Resurrected Lord Jesus Christ! Thank you for coming out this morning. It is a testimony of your love and your faith in Christ, who has done all that we needed to secure our full acceptance by God and eventual entrance into His heavenly realm.

Let's bow together as we begin in Prayer.

**INVOCATION PRAYER:**

*Almighty God, heavenly Father, we come before you in Holy reverence, with eternal gratitude, and with unspeakable awe, for a love that looked past your own comfort and well being, to a sacrifice of your perfect, Holy life, assuring once and for all, the full pardon for our Sin. Thank you for your love. Thank you for Your Sacrifice. Thank you for your mighty and glorious resurrection and the power over death that it has manifested to men, to angels and to the host of heaven!!*

*Grant us, we pray, the full measure of your indwelling Holy Spirit, may He have full reign in our hearts and minds this day. May we submit our total being to your will and your purpose in today and every day from this day forth. May we humble our selves to accomplish all that you have planned for us in our lives.*

*May we, this day, be more fully convinced of your Power, Presence, Love and Calling, than ever we have*

*before. Lord Jesus, we have gathered this morning to remember the day of your blessed Resurrection and as we remember, we celebrate with Joy, the Glory of your eternal existence, and we look longingly to that day when we will see you face to face, and fall on our knees to join the countless saints who sing the blessed songs of heaven to your praise and glory!!*

*Bless us now with your presence, speak to us in our most intimate being, that we may hear your still small voice and that we may know you and the power of your resurrection. We ask these things in your precious name Lord Jesus, Amen.*

**HYMN                      Low in the Grave He Lay                      160**

*(Mat 28:1-8 NASB) Now after the Sabbath, as it began to dawn toward the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary came to look at the grave. {2} And behold, a severe earthquake had occurred, for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven and came and rolled away the stone and sat upon it. {3} And his appearance was like lightning, and his garment as white as snow; {4} and the guards shook for fear of him, and became like dead men. {5} And the angel answered and said to the women, "Do not be afraid; for I know that you are looking for Jesus who has been crucified. {6} "He is not here, for He has risen, just as He said. Come, see the place where He was lying. {7} "And go quickly and tell His disciples*

*that He has risen from the dead; and behold, He is going before you into Galilee, there you will see Him; behold, I have told you." {8} And they departed quickly from the tomb with fear and great joy and ran to report it to His disciples.*

O beloved, the resurrection is the joy of the true child of God, it is the hope of mankind, it is the promise of eternal life.

The resurrection of Jesus Christ is the great equalizer for mankind!

His life reflected the love, the power and the desire that God has to reunite us with Himself! His resurrection is the means by which this goal is achieved!

You see dear friends Jesus had come and begun a work that only He could do, a work that He called others to join. A work that requires the best that we have to offer, for it requires the total commitment of our self!!

We began our year together here at Connelly, **In the starting blocks**, and we considered **The Christian Curriculum** and how it should direct and teach us and how it should move us to **Walk your Talk** before an unbelieving world. Why? So that they might see the glory of God in Christ and Christ alone, for there is but **One Gospel** and thus, only one way to heaven. The world doesn't like Jesus because they world wants

many ways, but there is only one. Jesus Himself said, "*I am the way the truth and the life, no man cometh unto the Father but by Me.*" And thus, then dear friends the world needs an **Eternal Education** in order that they might know Him, serve Him and most importantly, Love Him. And as they Love Christ and see His eternal love for them, they will then be motivated to live, not out of duty, but **For Love of Jesus**. Once that has been deeply seeded in their life, they will realize that God knows all and see's all and as a result they will begin to truly be **Honest with God**. The only danger then is that we become so comfortable with Him, and so complacent in our walk that we become **Blinded by Blessings** that He daily showers upon us. We dare not loose sight of these magnificent truths. We must constantly keep our focus on Him and on His call to reach out to a lost and dying world and pose the critical question to them...**What do You Want with Jesus** for in FACT, this is the question that Pilot faced, that Herod Faced and in that day, the crowd faced. What Do you Want with Jesus.... CRUCIFY HIM... CRUCIFY HIM....

Do you hear your own voice in that mob....(pause) No... not me... O but surely you do beloved, for like Peter, and those closest to our Lord, you and I have denied Him many times, chosen our will and our purpose over His... Put Our desires, wants and plans on the thrown or our life!! And so, just like the roman guard, we pick up the hammer, we grab the rusty, blood

caked spike and we drive it into our Saviors hands and feet, numb to the anguishing cries of pain. Unaware that the pain of His flesh was inconsequential to the pain in His heart, as He watches our daily disobedience and denial.

*(Isa 53:5-6 NASB) But He was pierced through for our transgressions, He was crushed for our iniquities; The chastening for our well-being fell upon Him, And by His scourging we are healed. {6} All of us like sheep have gone astray, Each of us has turned to his own way; But the LORD has caused the iniquity of us all To fall on Him.*

Take heart... Take heart.... His loving eyes have NOT DENIED YOU!!! His eternal purpose has not failed, for in His holy Perfection, He has kept His word to the Father and honored with His life the payment of the debt we owe!! For He did give His life, but we have gathered today, because not only did He give His life, but beloved, He took His life back up!!!

And on that dark morning, the earth shook, and all heaven would never be the same again!! For Jesus Christ broke the unbreakable chains of death, reversed the irreversible destiny of man. Defeated Satan in the midst of Satans victory party, catching him totally off guard, sending him fleeing, and from that day onward, Satan's defeat has been sure, and he now retreats, dragging all that he can with him, but impotent in the face of the resurrected Lord to snatch any from

His Holy nail pierced hands.

**GLORY Hallelujah!!! PRAISE THE RISEN LAMB!!**  
*(Rom 8:38-39 NASB) For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, {39} nor height, nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

O Dear Friend, the promise of His unwavering presence, we have the hope of eternal life, and in the Joy of His resurrection, we tell the world, He is the King of Kings and Lord of Lords!!

O beloved, Jesus is the Christ, He is the Son of the Living God! He has conquered death! Old things have passed away and new things have come! He is now glorified, for He has put on once again the incorruptible form of His glory! And He is seated at the right hand of the Father making intercession for the saints, and one day beloved, we will be like Him when we pass from this world through death and this perishable body is replaced, we will be with Him forever! 1 Cor 15:54 says,

*"But when this perishable will have put on the imperishable, and this mortal will have put on immortality, then will come about the saying that is written, "DEATH IS SWALLOWED UP in victory. 55*

*"O DEATH, WHERE IS YOUR VICTORY? O DEATH, WHERE IS YOUR STING?" 56 The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law; 57 but thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. 58 Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your toil is not in vain in the Lord."*

**Hymn**

**Victory In Jesus**

**475**