

NEXT STEP: STUDY & SHARE

READINGS

Acts 9:1-20

Psalm 30

You have turned my wailing into dancing. (v11)

Revelation 5:11-14

John 21:1-19

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Eternal & all-merciful God, with all the angels & all the saints we laud your majesty & might. By the resurrection of your Son, show yourself to us & inspire us to follow Jesus Christ, our Savior & Lord, who lives & reigns with you & the Holy Spirit, one God, now & forever. Amen.

SERMON TEXT- 21:1-19

¹After these things Jesus showed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias; & he showed himself in this way. ...⁴Just after daybreak, Jesus stood on the beach; but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. ⁵Jesus said to them, "Children, you have no fish, have you?" They answered him, "No." ⁶He said to them, "Cast the net to the right side of the boat, & you will find some." So they cast it, & now they were not able to haul it in because there were so many fish. ⁷That disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" ...⁹When they had gone ashore, they saw a charcoal fire there, with fish on it, & bread. ...¹²Jesus said to them, "Come & have breakfast." Now none of the disciples dared to ask him, "Who are you?" because they knew it was the Lord. ¹³Jesus came & took the bread & gave it to them, & did the same with the fish. ...¹⁵When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my lambs." ¹⁶A second time he said to him, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Tend my sheep." ¹⁷He said to him the third time, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third time, "Do you love me?" & he said to him, "Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my sheep. ...^{19b}After this he said to him, "Follow me."

LISTENING TO . . .

GOD- *Christian life is rooted in the Father, Son, & Holy Spirit*

1. What are the precedents for this story? *See Matthew 13:47-50; Luke 5:1-11; Luke 24:36-49*
2. Recall what St. Peter said at the Last Supper (13:37-38) & then what happened (18:33-37). How is St. Peter invited in this gospel episode to carry out his earlier boast (13:37)?

EACH OTHER- *Sharing & growing with our brothers & sisters in Christ*

3. How are vv1-4 ironic in light of *Matthew 4:18-23*? The human mind always reverts to previous training/habits. When have you found yourself returning to old ways, despite Gospel, spiritual enlightenment? *Note: this isn't really about sins as it's about unproductive patterns- even if they were once beneficial for you.*
4. The deepest things are the worthiest, by definition. Jesus shows his command of the depths by calling forth the fish (v5). He then shows St. Peter the depth of faith (vv15-19). What things in your congregation prompt you to consider the depths of faith? *Name at least 6.*

NEIGHBORS- *Bearing fruit for those not yet our brothers & sisters*

5. Inviting someone to eat (v12) seems like the most natural thing to do. How can humbly sharing meals (or even a "cup of coffee") with pre-Christians begin to show them the depths of faith? Name three pre-Christians in your everyday life that you could do this with & then do it.
6. What has God pulled up from the depths (*Psalm 30:3*) to restore you (*cf. John 21:15-19*) so that your wailing becomes dancing & joy (*Psalm 30:11-12*)? How can sharing this story- & what was pulled up for you- help someone else realize the depth of faith in their everyday life?

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Third Sunday after Easter

05.04.25

Series: Growing into New Life

Rev. Jared Stillions, STS

Encounters with the living Lord Jesus

From the Depths

Jesus is the master of the depths; he invites St. Peter into them

-Notes-

KEY VERSE: When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter,
“Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?”
He said to him, “Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.”
Jesus said to him, “Feed my lambs.” (v15)

-NEXT STEPS MEMORY VERSE-

Our hearts burn within us
while you open to us the scriptures. (Luke 24:32)

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