

May 12, 2024

“Jesus is Coming Back, So Look Busy!”

FORT COLLINS MENNONITE FELLOWSHIP

300 E. Oak Street, Ft. Collins, CO 80524

Worship: 10:00 AM

Pastor: Steve Ramer

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SEASON OF EASTER

A very large stone was used to seal Jesus’ fate as just another tragically failed Messiah — dead, entombed, and soon forgotten. Yet it could not contain him nor the new questions that carries us into the Easter Season. The women wonder as they approach, "Who will move the stone for us?" The figures in dazzling apparel ask, “Why do you look for the living among the dead?” Perhaps the power of love can bring us new life!

1. GATHERING

Musical Prelude (John)

Call to Worship: #919 (Steve)

Opening Prayer: #1014 (Steve)

“Get busy living, or get busy dying.”

— Stephen King

Congregational Singing (Cathy)

Welcome and Passing of the Peace

Leader: May the peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also, with you.

All: Let us offer one another signs of peace, reconciliation, and love.

“'Crazy-busy' is a great armor, it's a great way for numbing. What a lot of us do is that we stay so busy, and so out in front of our life, that the truth of how we're feeling and what we really need can't catch up with us.”

— Brene Brown

Scripture: Acts 1:1-11

Theophilus, in my first book I wrote about all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning until the day when he was taken up to heaven (which by the way, we call the Gospel of Luke) ...

Following his suffering and death Jesus presented himself alive by many convincing proofs, appearing to many for forty days and speaking further about the kingdom of God.

While he was still with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for the promise of the Father. "This is what you have heard from my very own lips" he said, "John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit in a few days."

But instead they asked him, "Lord, is now the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?"

He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that God's will, will be done. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you; and you will be my witnesses here in Jerusalem, then in all Judea and Samaria, and finally to the very ends of the earth."

Then suddenly, in the clear light of day, he was lifted up and the clouds took him out of their sight. As they were gazing up into the heavens, suddenly two men in white robes stood next to them and asked, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand there looking up into the sky? This Jesus, who has disappeared into heaven, will come back someday in the same way as you have just seen him leave."

SERMON: "Jesus is Coming Back, So Look Busy!"



Are you standing around only looking to the sky focused on life in the sweet by and by? Or are we supposed to spend our time focusing in on living life now to the fullest? A full life here and now which includes serving and loving others.

"Half an hour's meditation each day is essential, except when you are busy. Then a full hour is needed." — Saint Francis de Sales

3. RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

Congregational Singing (Cathy)

Response

Joys and Concerns

Offering & Music (John)

In a world where we so often dwell on what we lack, you are a God of abundance. In the face of hunger, you call us to share food. In the face of poverty, to share resources. In the face of despair, to share hope. Accept these offerings as a sign that all we have is yours. We trust in your abundant love that flows in us and through us. — Amen

Sending: #1066 (Steve)

May the Christ who walks on wounded feet
walk with you on the road.
May the Christ who serves with wounded hands
stretch out your hands to serve.
May the Christ who loves with a wounded heart
open your hearts to love.
May you see the face of Christ in everyone you meet,
and may everyone you meet see the face of Christ in you.

"Life is what happens while you are busy making other plans." — John Lennon

