

April 20, 2025

**Resurrection Sunday: Christ Collides with Death!**

**FORT COLLINS MENNONITE FELLOWSHIP**

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

**Worship:** 10:00 AM

**Pastor:** Steve Ramer

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**LENT: CHRIST COLLIDES**

This Lent we will explore some of Jesus' parables. It has been said that the origin of the word parable is two things that collide. In many parables, Jesus intentionally means to shock by using stark contrasts, reversals of fortune, humor, and surprise endings. Often we encounter his teachings colliding with our own assumptions and what is considered the "conventional wisdom" of our world.

**1. GATHERING**

**Prelude:** Stan

**Call to Worship (Steve)**

**One:** The stone is rolled away!

**Many:** Why look for the living among the dead?

**One:** Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**Many:** Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

**One:** No nonsense here! Christ collides with death, affecting the universe.

**Many:** Christ collides with death, affecting each of us.

**One:** Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**All:** *Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!*

**Congregational Singing (Stan)**

**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.



## Confession and Words of Assurance (Steve)

**All: Loving and merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you.**

**One:** We have not loved you with all our thoughts, words, and actions.

**Many:** We have sinned through what we have chosen to do and what we have chosen to neglect.

**One:** We have not fully accepted your love for us. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

**Many:** We linger in the shadows of fear and death, afraid to fully embrace the love you showed us through the resurrection.

**All: We repent before each other and before you, our loving God. Please help us open our hearts to your**

**love. Help us fully live in the love you showed us in Jesus' death and resurrection so we may better share your peace in your world, rejoicing in your name. Amen.**

(Pause to consider what areas of your life need to be "born again")

**Leader:** Now hear these words of assurance: God tells us that we are created in God's image. God created us for relationship with God and each other. In this, we know that God will never break our relationship. God's steadfast love endures forever.

## 2. HEARING GOD'S WORD

**Scriptures: Luke 24:1-12**

But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, they came to the tomb, taking the spices that they had prepared. They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they went in, they did not find the body.

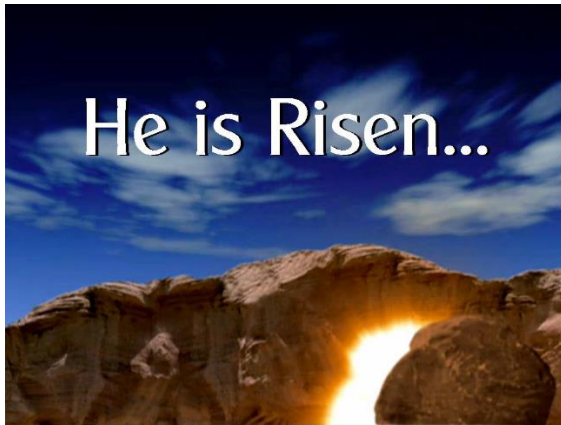
While they were perplexed about this, suddenly two men in dazzling clothes stood beside them. The women were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen. Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee,

that the Son of Man must be handed over to sinners, and be crucified, and on the third day rise again."

Then they remembered his words, and returning from the tomb, they told all this to the eleven and to all the rest. Now it was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the other women with them who told this to the apostles.

But these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them. But Peter got up and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; then he went home, amazed at what had happened.

**Sermon: "Dead or Alive!"**



Believing in the power of resurrection is more than just spouting a simple formula of words. It is, in the end, expressed in how we live our lives. To the extent we believe that Jesus rose from the grave and to the extent we believe in the possibility of resurrection, our belief is expressed in the extent to which we are living lives that are actually and truly alive!

*"Nations, like stars, are entitled to eclipse. All is well, provided the light returns and the eclipse does not become endless night. Dawn and resurrection are synonymous. The reappearance of the light is the same as the survival of the soul." — Victor Hugo*

## 3. RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

**Communion**

**Congregational Singing (Stan)**

**Response**

**Joys and Concerns**

**Offering & Music (Stan)**

**Sending (Steve)**

As we journey, Jesus collides with our death. New life comes forth in this collision! In resurrection hope, go, growing peace! Go and live a new life!

