

A Meaningful Message

**APRIL 21ST, 2024** 

## WELCOME

The goal of worship at Illumine is that God would give you spiritual rest through prayer, preaching, and his Word. Everything that happens will revolve around a central concept. The service will last for 60-65 minutes.

**Restrooms** are located through the lobby, at the end of the hallway past the kitchen. And a handicap accessible/family bathroom is at the end of the hallway directly out the back of the worship space (Just look for the big orange arrows on the wall—they'll point you in the right direction!).

#### FOR THE CHILDREN

**Activity sheets and crayons** are on the table in the welcome space. They're designed for kids aged 5-9, but anyone can make use of them.

A staffed nursery is available for any parents of kids newborn-age 4 who would like to make use of it—just out the double doors at the back of the worship space. We love having babies and young children in worship (even crying ones!), but we offer a staffed nursery to help enable parents & caretakers to be able to be able to focus and worship as well.

If you have any questions, don't hesitate to ask. Everyone you see around you is working to accomplish the same goal – that we can all be served by hearing what God has to say. If we can take down barriers between you and that message, we will.

Thank you, Nathan Loersch, Pastor (810) 224-1250 nathanl@illuminechurch.com

# **CURRENT SERIES INFO**

# **SERIES:** Resurrection Reality

Paul writes, "Christ has indeed been raised from the dead" (1 Corinthians 15:20). Big word: Indeed! Paul is stressing that we must not think of Jesus' resurrection like a happy ending to another epic fable. The resurrection is not legend—it really happened. Easter is not just a holiday—it is history. On time's infinite line, Jesus' resurrection is the moment that defines reality for us all. If Christ remained dead, he is a fraud and failure. If Christ remained dead, then the grave is the final, ugly, rotten end of us all. But Christ has indeed been raised. So, the reality is: Jesus is exactly what he claimed to be—the Son of God, our Lord and Savior. And his resurrection proves that "all will be made alive" (1 Corinthians 15:22). The reality of the resurrection does not just change our future, but also the way we look at life now.

Today and throughout this series, we will meditate on the breathtaking implications of the resurrection reality.

# **TODAY'S FOCUS:** A Truly Meaningful Message

A platitude is a statement aimed at helping sooth some sort of emotional unease. "What doesn't kill you makes you stronger." Or "Life is a mystery." Or "Good things come to those who wait." While platitudes may be well-intentioned, at best they come off as trite. And since platitudes provide no real help, they can actually make a situation worse. Tell the one whose heart is shattering, "Life is a mystery." They won't appreciate your platitude or you.

The resurrection gives believers the ability to offer more than platitudes. We have a meaningful message to share—of repentance, of forgiveness, of peace, of power. The reality is we have something important to say to every single person that God brings into our sphere of influence. And our risen Savior gives us the courage and power to share that meaningful message.

# ARISE, SHINE, FOR YOUR LIGHT HAS COME

Arise, shine, for your light has come and the glory of God is on you. Arise, see, when the earth grows dark that the Lord will arise upon you. The Lord will arise upon you.

Nations will come to your light.

Lift up your eyes and see!

We'll gather together and come to you, and your love will be all that we know.

Your love will be all that we know.

Arise, come to the open gates, for the Father is welcoming you. Fear not for the Lord brings peace and redemption to all who believe. Redemption to all who believe.

Nations will come to your light. Lift up your eyes and see! We'll gather together and come to you, and your love will be all that we know. Your love will be all that we know.

The sun will not shine cause you'll be all the light that we need and violence will end, all the wars that we wage will cease! The sun will not shine cause you'll be all the light that we need and violence will end, all the wars that we wage will cease! We will glorify your name. We will glorify your name.

Nations will come to your light.

Lift up your eyes and see!

We'll gather together and come to you, and your love will be all that we know.

Your love will be all that we know.

#### WORDS OF THE RESURRECTION

P(astor): We are convinced that one died for all, and therefore all died.

C(ongregation): Christ died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for him who died for them and was raised again. 2 Corinthians 5:14-15

P: As we come into God's presence, confident in the forgiveness of him who lived, died, and rose for us, let us confess that we have often lived for ourselves.

C: Lord of life, I confess that I am by nature dead in sin.

I have not loved you with my whole heart;

I have not loved others as I should.

I deserve your punishment now and forever.

But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins with his innocent suffering and death.

Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me.

P: If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins.

C: But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.

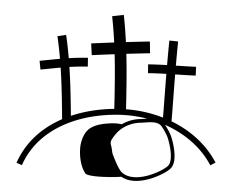
1st Corinthians 15:17, 20

P: After he stopped being dead, Christ commanded his Church to proclaim the forgiveness of sins to all nations, and he promised them that their words were as certain as his. Therefore it is by Christ's command and with his authority that I say to you: In the name of Jesus, your sins are forgiven! Christ is risen!

C: He is risen indeed!

P: We are at peace with God.

C: Amen!





**ACTS 3:11-20** | Peter had healed a crippled beggar, drawing a large crowd. Peter used that opportunity to share a meaningful message about the one the people of Jerusalem asked Pilate to crucify.

11 While the man held on to Peter and John, all the people were astonished and came running to them in the place called Solomon's Colonnade. 12 When Peter saw this, he said to them: "Fellow Israelites, why does this surprise you? Why do you stare at us as if by our own power or godliness we had made this man walk? 13 The God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, the God of our fathers, has glorified his servant Jesus. You handed him over to be killed, and you disowned him before Pilate, though he had decided to let him go. 14 You disowned the Holy and Righteous One and asked that a murderer be released to you. 15 You killed the author of life, but God raised him from the dead. We are witnesses of this. 16 By faith in the name of Jesus, this man whom you see and know was made strong. It is Jesus' name and the faith that comes through him that has completely healed him, as you can all see.

<sup>17</sup> "Now, fellow Israelites, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did your leaders. <sup>18</sup> But this is how God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, saying that his Messiah would suffer. <sup>19</sup> Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord, <sup>20</sup> and that he may send the Messiah, who has been appointed for you—even Jesus.

THE CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

**LUKE 24:36-49** | The risen Savior gives us peace. He also gives us a meaning mission—sharing the truly meaningful message of repentance and forgiveness.

<sup>36</sup> While they were still talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you."

<sup>37</sup> They were startled and frightened, thinking they saw a ghost. <sup>38</sup> He said to them, "Why are you troubled, and why do doubts rise in your minds? <sup>39</sup> Look at my hands and my feet. It is I myself! Touch me and see; a ghost does not have flesh and bones, as you see I have."

<sup>40</sup> When he had said this, he showed them his hands and feet. <sup>41</sup> And while they still did not believe it because of joy and amazement, he asked them, "Do you have anything here to eat?" <sup>42</sup> They gave him a piece of broiled fish, <sup>43</sup> and he took it and ate it in their presence.

<sup>44</sup>He said to them, "This is what I told you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms."

<sup>45</sup> Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures. <sup>46</sup> He told them, "This is what is written: The Messiah will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, <sup>47</sup> and repentance for the forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. <sup>48</sup> You are witnesses of these things. <sup>49</sup> I am going to send you what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high."

#### 1 JOHN 1:5-2:2

<sup>5</sup> This is the message we have heard from him and declare to you: God is light; in him there is no darkness at all. <sup>6</sup> If we claim to have fellowship with him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live out the truth. <sup>7</sup> But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin.

<sup>8</sup> If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. <sup>9</sup> If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. <sup>10</sup> If we claim we have not sinned, we make him out to be a liar and his word is not in us.

<sup>1</sup> My dear children, I write this to you so that you will not sin. But if anybody does sin, we have an advocate with the Father—Jesus Christ, the Righteous One. <sup>2</sup> He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world.

#### THE 2 TEAMS

#1: People who	know they, b	out they're	with it
	#2: people who say they	y don't have	
Don't	things that aren't	;	things that are
Don't be	with	. Be	with

#### **SEE LIFE BETTER**



light I'm known as weak and un-wor-thy but com-for-ted all the light the lies in which I am tan-gled can ea-si-ly be unlight I see the chan-ces he gives me to love as the Sav-ior



same be-cause it shows me Je-sus pro-mis-ing hope that he tied for I am guid-ed by the one in whose mind is the loves and as I do, I know I'll ne-ver run out for he



# **CONNECTION CARDS, PRAYER REQUESTS, & OFFERING**

Please take a moment to fill out the Connection Card in your worship folder OR fill it out on your phone by scanning the QR code below. Filling out the Connection Card helps Illumine serve you & serve with you as well as possible. Thank you!



If you would like to give an offering that supports the ministry of Illumine in Rock Hill & around the world, you can put check or cash in the basket, scan the QR code below (it takes you to the Illumine's Giving Page @ Church Center), or text your donation amount to 84321.



#### **PRAYER**

#### LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

#### THE BLESSING

#### **MAKE ME A LIGHT**



I'm just a mir-ror shi-ning bright with Je-sus' light.



**Sunday, April 21st, 10am** | Worship: Resurrection Reality: A Truly Meaningful Message

Sunday, April 21st, 11:20am | Sunday School for all ages (Relationship study begins in the sanctuary)

Sunday, April 21st, 12:15-1pm | Middle School Catechism

**Monday-Tuesday, April 22-23** | Pastor Nathan attending and presenting at pastor conference in Birmingham, AL

**Tuesday, April 23rd, 11am** | Small Group begins @ Fenstermakers' | 1498 Highcrest Way

**Wednesday, April 24th, 7pm** | Small Group begins @ Pranges' | 260 Pine Eagle Drive

**Thursday, April 25th, 7pm** | Small Group begins @ a brewery (contact Tadd & Melissa Fellers for details)

Sunday, April 28th, 10am | Worship: Beliefs Shape Behavior

Sunday, April 28th, 11:20am | Sunday School for all ages

Sunday, April 28th, 12:15-1pm | Middle School Catechism

### **LOOKING AHEAD**

**June 25th-28th** | International Youth Rally, Fort Collins, CO. Scan QR code for more info! For those finishing 8th-12th grade this spring.



**July 22-26th** | Camp South, Covington, GA. Scan QR code for more info! For those entering 4th-9th grade in fall.





Illumine is a confessional
Lutheran congregation and a
member of the
Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran
Synod, an international body of
over 1,200 congregations.

